

The Assessment & Accreditation of Professional Practice :

Connoisseurship or Prescription?

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What did our potential students tell us?

- They need a part-time route to Masters level education that fits busy professional lives
- The award needs to recognise their skills and knowledge and focus on their professional (rather than technical) expertise – i.e. not content-driven
- It needs to equip them for future postgraduate study
- It needs to be able to be completed within a reasonable timeframe



Some of the Key issues for faculty...

- Can (and should) 'professional learning' be accredited within an academic award?
- If so, can that award *really* be a research degree?
- How can the learning from professional practice be captured for assessment purposes?
- What academic standards are applicable and what award is appropriate for experienced professionals?




Master of Research in Professional Practice

If you are aiming to develop your career as an aspiring professional in a middle or senior management position, whether you work in a school, local authority or hospital, this research degree will enable you to build the necessary skills within your developing professional portfolio.

This award is based on professional practice and is designed to recognise your prior achievements. It is designed to capture and evidence advanced professional skills including research informed practice, leadership and critical thinking.

If you are looking to develop your academic career, the Master of Research can also be used as a stepping stone to doctoral level research. Unlike a traditional masters which can take up to three years to complete, if studied part-time, our new Professional Practice award can be completed within a year.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Start date:
February and October

Length of study:
One year part-time

Location:
Headingley Campus

Cost:
£2,800

Key Features of the M.Res in Professional Practice Award

- It enables the accreditation of professional practice
- It can be completed within a year
- It has no taught content and is therefore not dependent on the discipline background or professional context of participants
- It operates under the university's research award regulations



Routes to completion of the award

1. Retrospective – for experienced practitioners, drawing upon their prior professional experience
2. Prospective – for early career practitioners, drawing evidence from a work-related project or task



Assessment for the award

- **A portfolio of supporting evidence**
 - Designed to capture advanced professional skills including research informed practice, leadership and critical thinking
- **A 7K word critical, reflective commentary on the portfolio evidence**
 - written to Masters level standards and drawing upon appropriate academic and policy literature



Support for participants

- Induction – evening session to help with orientation at the start of the enrolment period
- Library – physical and virtual resources
- 'Skills for Learning' site
- 'My Beckett' VLE access
- Tutor – to provide guidance whilst collecting evidence and writing the commentary



To find out more...

The award webpages are at:-

www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/mres

Fees are for home students are £2,090
(2017-18) per year (US\$5,720)

