



**Course Specification  
for**

**MSc Crowded Places and Public Safety Management**

**EECT031**

**AND**

**PG Cert Crowded Places and Public Safety Management**

**EECT032**

**Faculty of Engineering, Environment & Computing;**

**School of Energy, Construction & Environment.**

**Academic Year: 2021/22**

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

We regularly review our course content, to make it relevant and current for the benefit of our students. For these reasons, course modules may be updated.

More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the Module Information Directory (MID), student module guide(s) and the course handbook.

The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University and may be verified by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

Coventry University's accreditation with CMI is currently ongoing for the relevant modules and is regularly reviewed and monitored by the CMI through their quality systems. Whilst Coventry University anticipates that these reviews will continue to be successful, if they were to be unsuccessful, the relevant module in this course would no longer be accredited and we would notify applicants and students of this change as soon as possible.

## PART A Course Specification (Published Document)

### MSc and PG Cert Crowded Places and Public Safety Management

#### 1. Introduction

The new MSc in Crowded Places and Public Safety Management extends our provision in the emergencies field by appealing to professionals in the protective security and events industry. It takes the building blocks for which Coventry is well known, and augments them with module content designed to meet the most pressing needs of event security landscape; including the management of crowded places, and an ever evolving threat landscape.

The course is designed to give students the knowledge, skills and competencies necessary to work in partnership with organisations who hold duties arising from civil contingencies, sporting and health and safety legislation. It aims to equip students to prepare for known and emergent risks; deliver more effective responses to realised risks and threats and plan for and implement successful recovery strategies.

The MSc covers a range of pertinent specialist topics for crowded places, public safety, emergency planning, risk and incident response. The aim is to provide those new to the field and those currently working in the sector with the skills needed to analyse approaches, identify good practice and facilitate change for the better. Many of the course team undertake relevant research and consultancy which informs module content, provides a network of guest speakers and influences the course structure.

A wide range of students enrol on our courses – UK/EU and International; those at the start of their careers, and experienced practitioners. Historically, the diversity of student body on related courses has provided excellent networking opportunities, valuable classroom discussion and peer learning opportunities which serves to foster a stimulating and supportive ‘learning community’. Although international students must attend classes on a weekly basis, the block teaching format and flexible duration suits part-time students. It allows busy professionals to fit their studies into their other ongoing commitments. The course includes tutorial support and module follow-up webinars where students can discuss aspects of module content and receive support with assignments.

The course of study has been designed both for professionals currently working in safety and security, and for individuals who wish to enter this field. Many of our students are currently employed in the sector and are looking to postgraduate study to give them a formal qualification relevant to the sector in which they work, to gain a specialism or to aid career progression. Our graduates are sought after by a range of organisations with safety and security duties, such as crowd safety consultancies, sports stadia, private security providers, local government, the uniformed services, high risk and reliability industry, other public sector agencies, as well as risk and security companies.

#### *Innovative and Distinctive Features*

- The course supports focused vocational postgraduate Certificate qualification. Those having completed the PG Cert can “top-up” for the MSc after waiting one year in line with university regulations.
- The course allows students to choose a more flexible approach with classroom block teaching which allows “release” from work for several days at a time.
- Modules reflect the needs in the sector, national standards and specialisms of the course team.
- Modules make use of the facilities at the university for practicals, table top exercises and virtual emergency and crisis simulations using the Sim Centre.
- The Coventry courses emphasise the importance of the analysis of a complex threat landscape as the key to effective preparedness which ensures effective response and minimises impacts and shortens recovery.
- Staff are expert facilitators and recognise the value of the experience of participants in the cohort. Opportunities for sharing experience and learning from one another is one of the highlights of the course.
- The course team are a mix of academics and “pracademics”, we have an auspicious alumni from existing courses and engage a range of guest speakers to provide insight into current issues and research in the sector.
- Students who enrol on the campus version of the MSc can also enrol on university wide Global Leaders Programme (GLP), a series of challenging and inspiring workshops at the advanced Diploma level covering topics such as Managing Communications; Leading & Managing Teams; Leading Change; Management Consultancy; Presentation Skills; Intelligent Networking. Points towards GLP award can also be gained through participation in field visits arranged by The Centre for Global Engagement, who

may also support independent international travel for work experience or research (subject to application). See website for details.

As part of this course you will undertake a professional development module which is currently accredited by the Chartered Management Institute (CMI). Upon successful completion of the module, you will gain the CMI Level 7 Certificate in Strategic Management and Leadership Practice at no additional cost.

#### *Meeting external requirements*

There are no subject benchmarks for crowded places and public safety. There are National Occupational Standards (NOS) for Civil Contingencies hosted by Skills for Justice (SfJ). Skills for Justice define a series of nationally recognised certificates and diplomas, no existing certificates or diplomas focus on civil contingencies (those in other disciplines tend to be FHEQ level 5 rather than 7); only generic strategic management diplomas are specified at FHEQ level 7. Hence there is currently no overarching external accreditation that covers the whole curriculum despite the NOS being in existence. The current emergency planning sectors of the curriculum are mapped to the NOS and modules are explicit where they cover strategic management skills required in the sector.

## **2 Available Award(s) and Modes of Study**

Title of Award	Mode of attendance	UCAS Code	<a href="#">FHEQ Level</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSc Crowded Places and Public Safety Management</li> </ul>	FT 1 year; PT normally 2 years		Level 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PG Cert Crowded Places and Public Safety Management</li> </ul>	FT (normally 1 year); PT (normally up to 2 years)		Level 7

<b>3 Awarding Institution/Body</b>	Coventry University.
<b>4 Collaboration</b>	N/A
<b>5 Teaching Institution and Location of delivery</b>	Coventry University Delivered via classroom based learning with online pre-module learning support.
<b>6 Internal Approval/Review Dates</b>	Date of latest review: (December 2017) Date for next review: (Academic year 2023-4)
<b>7 Course Accredited by</b>	
<b>8 Accreditation Date and Duration</b>	
<b>9 QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external factors</b>	There are no applicable QAA benchmark statements for this subject area. The QAA Qualifications Framework has been considered in developing this Programme Specification.  Because crowded places and public safety, alongside emergency planning and management, are fields that are interdisciplinary in academic terms, and fragmented professionally, there is no professional benchmark that is universally accepted and relevant to the entire breadth of the course teaching and learning. Where possible and appropriate, however, the Intended Learning Objectives of the course and some modules have been informed by the National Occupational Civil Contingencies Standards and the Emergency Planning Society standards.
<b>10 Date of Course Specification</b>	April 2020
<b>11 Course Director</b>	Ms Emma Parkinson

## 12 Outline and Educational Aims of the Course

The courses are designed to equip graduates and professionals, with the necessary knowledge to identify, critically analyse, evaluate and successfully manage an increasingly complex and dynamic range of risks and emergencies for crowded places and public safety, and to operate confidently in management and policy sectors. The overall aim is to foster a strengthening of community, professional, organisational and government capacity to deal with these complex multi-factoral risks and emergencies from local to national level. In line with the University's mission statement the course intends to:

- ensure Coventry University maintains its established position in offering high quality educational provision in emergency and resilience.
- provide an educational experience that meets students' needs and expectations and those of the sectors' employers.
- provide an up-to-date curriculum that articulates the current challenges and good practice in risk, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery and resilience policy and practice;
- provide an in depth understanding of the benefits of taking a resilience-based approach in a world of complex and emergent risk that cannot be quantified, where a different way of working is demanded.
- develop a detailed understanding of the social, political, technological, legal and environmental influences on risk, preparedness, response, recovery and resilience.
- ensure students' capacity to evaluate, review and improve approaches and systems and apply learning effectively at an appropriate level using relevant methodologies, ensuring continuous improvement.
- develop personal, technical and management skills that enable highly competent graduates to apply professional knowledge, skills and excellent practice across the world.
- develop abilities in rigorous and valid independent investigation and research.

## 13 Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the course, a student should be able to demonstrate:

PG Cert Modules cover

1. A comprehensive evaluation of risk, its components and influencing factors, approaches to assessment, prioritisation and role in planning and managing crowded places.
2. An in-depth knowledge of policy and approaches for mitigating, preparing for and managing crowded places for the private sector, responding agencies and organisations and other affected stakeholders.
3. A thorough comprehension of approaches to assessing complexity and interaction, and developing, monitoring and evaluating processes, systems and organisations within the sector from known and emergent threats in a sustainable way.
4. A detailed analysis of multi-stakeholder engagement, communication, co-operation and governance in all aspects of policy and strategy, implementation and management at all scales.
5. An ability to manage information, evaluate uncertainty, ambiguity and complexity in knowledge, method and management, and make appropriate and defensible decisions.

In addition for those that continue to the MSc

6. A critical awareness of issues and challenges at the forefront of research and practice in crowded places and public safety.
7. An ability to evaluate and use appropriate methods of enquiry and analysis, and progress good practice in the discipline over the course of their career.
8. The skills demanded to research, evaluate high level material in order to produce an independent working paper that meets ethical requirements of the university, synthesises both academic and sector perspectives and presents findings and recommendations in a professional way.
9. Critically evaluate the principles for leading and developing people and equality, diversity and inclusion at a strategic level.

## **14 Course Structure and Requirements, Levels, Modules, Credits and Awards**

### 14.1 Course Structure

The structure of the course is designed to provide core knowledge and skills and an understanding of the interrelationship of specialist areas with one another and for safety, security, emergency preparedness and resilience as a whole. The named postgraduate certificate is designed to meet the needs of the sector – short courses that allow those studying to achieve a credit bearing FHEQ level 7 qualification which cover the essential requirements of the sector.

The module Risk, Incidents and Leadership is a practical module which allows the development of the leadership and cognitive, decision making skills so much in demand in the sector. The course team and online learning specialist have developed an innovative exercise that can be delivered online to complement the incident response exercise delivered in the on campus version in the simulation centre.

Training & Exercise Design and Delivery is a unique module in postgraduate degrees in this sector. The course team has partnered with a private sector emergency response organisation and simulation software designer to design the module that not only provides CPD opportunities as a standalone module but also research opportunities in this under researched area as tutors work with practitioners to revise and improve a model for exercise design, delivery and evaluation.

#### *Delivery Pattern – Classroom*

Classroom delivery is normally via intensive blocks so as to allow those PT professional students to engage. This is a model that we have found to be very successful and a key to success of the PT route. The block delivery is scheduled at approximately 3-week intervals ensuring that students have three weekends from the end of the module to submission complete assignments.

Course based support follows an identical pattern to those doing online modules, with weekly events alternating between module based seminars and Transition and Research Skills APTs.

#### *Course Duration*

PG Certificates are normally completed within 1 year. Part time students should expect to take two years to complete the course – i.e. if they did one each semester over a two year period to complete the four mandatory modules.

Full-time MSc students are expected to fully complete their programme of study (including both taught modules and dissertation) within one year (12 months).

Part-time students may take between two and three years to fully complete their programme of study (including both taught modules and dissertation). Subject to the timetabling of taught modules (which may vary from year-to-year), part-time students may take any module in any year of their programme of study. It is expected that 7094EXQ Researching Perspectives & Practice will normally be taken and passed prior to studying 7122EXQ Working Paper. It is expected that part-time students will normally take 7122EXQ – Working Paper in the final year of their programme of study.

There is more than one entry point to the course during any one calendar year, normally September, January and May. A module timetable for the 12 months following each entry point will be made available to students at or, where possible, prior to the commencement of their year or study (or, in the case of part-time students, at or, where possible, prior to the commencement of each year of their study). Personalised timetables will also be issued to students after enrolment and prior to (each) year of study. Modules may not be scheduled to take place on the same dates during successive academic years.

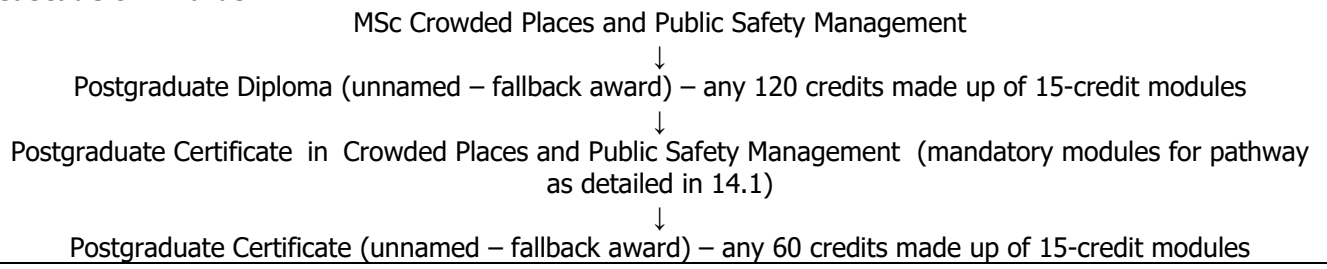
Modules within the courses, the pathways, the level at which they are studied and their credit value are identified in the table 14.1 below. No modules are condonable.

All postgraduate students are also eligible to enrol and be a part of the Global Leaders Programme (GLP)

Those enrolling directly on a PG Cert must pass all four mandatory modules for the award. Students may choose not to take the award and progress directly onto the MSc. If a student takes the award of PG Certificate they must wait a period of one year before returning to continue on to the MSc. In order to achieve the award of MSc Crowded Places and Public Safety Management students who commenced on the PG Cert must ensure that they have completed all the mandatory modules for their pathway to MSc.

Those enrolling directly on the MSc “Taught” can do the 15-credit modules in any order so long as they pass all the required mandatory modules.

**Cascade of Awards:**



<b>MSc Crowded Places and Public Safety Management</b>				
<b>Module credit level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>	<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>
7	7089EXQ	Risk, Incidents and Leadership	15	1, 4, 5
7	7047EXQ	Emergency Planning for Public Safety & Security	15	1, 2, 3, 4, 6
7	7021EXQ	Managing Crowded Places	15	1, 2, 5
7	7045EXQ	Public Safety & Security	15	3, 4, 6
7	7103EXQ	Business Continuity & Crisis Management	15	1, 2, 5
7	7158EXQ	Foresight, Insight & Strategy	15	3, 4, 6
7	7093EXQ	Training & Exercise Design and Delivery	15	1, 2, 3
7	7084EXQ	Supporting Transition to Postgraduate Study (APT)	0	5
7	7095EXQ	Researching Perspectives & Practice	15	3, 5, 6, 7
7	7074EXQ	Preparing to Research (APT)	0	3, 5, 6, 7
7	7122EXQ	Working Paper	50	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
7	7049CRB*	Leading Diverse Workforces	10	9

\* Students who successfully complete the module and meet the CMI learning outcomes will gain a Level 7 Certificate in Strategic Management and Leadership Practice based on the following CMI units: Leading and developing people to optimise performance (unit 702); Strategic approaches to diversity and Inclusion (unit 715). Students who successfully complete this module will be awarded Foundation Chartered Manager status and be able to use the designation 'fCMgr' after their name.

<b>PG Cert Crowded Places and Public Safety Management</b>				
<b>Module credit level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>	<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>
7	7089EXQ	Risk, Incidents and Leadership	15	1, 4, 5
7	7047EXQ	Emergency Planning for Public Safety & Security	15	1, 2, 3, 4, 6
7	7021EXQ	Managing Crowded Places	15	1, 2, 5
7	7045EXQ	Public Safety & Security	15	3, 4, 6
7	7084EXQ	Supporting Transition to Postgraduate Study (APT)	0	5

## 15 Criteria for Admission and Selection Procedure

UCAS entry profiles may be found by searching for the relevant course on the [UCAS website](#), then clicking on 'Entry profile'.

Normally, the entrance requirement is a second classification degree in a relevant discipline. Current requirements are specified on the course page of the university web page. Those with a level 5 qualification and or professional experience will be considered on a case by case basis.

Applicants are normally invited to visit the University as part of the postgraduate open days in the Faculty of Engineering, Environment and Computing. This offers an opportunity for either party to evaluate each other and to ask questions. It also offers the applicant an opportunity to view the facilities on offer at the University.

International applicants with an equivalent of a second class honours degree or demonstrated experience at an appropriate level will be considered for admission. Applicants whose first language is not English or who have not completed a first degree in which English was the main language of tuition must provide evidence of English language ability. An IELTS score of 6.5 or higher (and at least 5.5 in each component) or equivalent qualification is the criterion for admission.

The course team encourages students to seek recognition of their prior experience and learning. There are opportunities for a student to demonstrate prior knowledge of ILO and where a student can demonstrate that their knowledge and skills meet all intended learning outcomes of a module that student may receive the credits for that module. Evidence may include some or all of the following as required.

- Transcript from previous level 7 study stating module learning outcomes and mark
- 2-page analysis of professional experience and knowledge against module learning outcomes
- CPD non-assessed course (content detailed)

In calculations for an award these modules will be handled in accordance with University Academic Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Courses.

## 16 Academic Regulations and Regulations of Assessment

This Course conforms to the standard [University Regulations](#) Mode R

## 17 Indicators of Quality Enhancement

The course evaluates and improves quality of standards and learning via.

- a strong portfolio of industry-related research and consultancy
- excellent links with national and international employers;
- regular consultation with Alumni Advisory group who provide input to course review and development
- evidence of employability of graduates
- *Quality Assurance Agency Higher Education Review 2015*
  - setting and maintenance of the academic standards of awards;
  - quality of student learning opportunities;
  - quality of the information about learning opportunities;
  - enhancement of student learning opportunities



## **18 Additional Information**

Enrolled students have access to additional, key sources of information about the course and student support. Key sources of information about the course and student support can be found in:

- Student Handbook
- Course Handbook
- Module Guides
- Aula Course & Module Webs
- Module Information Directory <https://webapp.coventry.ac.uk/MidWebNext/Main.aspx>
- EEC Student Portal  
<https://share.coventry.ac.uk/students/EC/Pages/Home.aspx>
- Coventry University Student Portal  
<https://share.coventry.ac.uk/students/Pages/Index.aspx>