

EDUCATION

At the University of Stirling, we view education as having a vital role to play in developing a fair, inclusive, sustainable and flourishing society. Our graduates make a significant difference to the lives of learners and their communities, including provision in early years, primary, secondary, tertiary and lifelong learning.

Based in the Faculty of Social Sciences, we have internationally recognised expertise in curriculum theory and practice, pedagogy, teacher education, language teaching and the development of practitioners. We are proud of the high-quality initial and in-service teacher education, and career-long professional learning we provide.

We have a positive impact on global and local education communities through international research, consultancy and inter-professional networks.

RESEARCH COURSES

Research excellence underpins all we do. As part of our research community, you will contribute innovative, practical and applied solutions to the challenges facing society today.

We offer the following research postgraduate degrees:

- Doctor of Education
- PhD TESOL Research
- MRes Educational Research
- PhD Education

Research areas:

- Curriculum and Pedagogy
- Language and Learning
- Philosophy of Education
- Citizenship, Participation and Rights
- Digitisation in Learning and Education
- Professional Leadership
- Professional and Inter-professional Learning

100% of our research impact and environment in Education is classed as world leading or internationally excellent

Research Excellence Framework 2021

Many of our courses offer multiple start dates, please check course webpages for details.



Full-time course



Part-time course



To find out more about identifying a supervisor and submitting a research proposal, visit: stir.ac.uk/research

Campus based MSc

This Masters is designed for new and established education professionals to advance your understanding of education and international education. Those looking to convert their career to the field of education will also find this course of interest.

The University of Stirling has a strong reputation for the study of Education and we hold expertise in digital pedagogies, leadership and curriculum. International perspectives are incorporated within learning and teaching throughout the course, and pedagogical practices include multilingual and translanguaging teaching approaches.

You will be equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to make contributions to public and private education spaces, including within education in local and international government, research and practice-based contexts.

Course Starts: September



CORE MODULES

- What is Education?
- Education and Social Justice
- Education and Policy
- Research Design and Process
- Dissertation

[Check course web page for optional modules and pathways](#)

CAREER PROSPECTS

Successful completion of the Masters in Education will allow you to actively engage with sustainable practices in policy, curriculum and knowledge production within education.

Possible areas for career opportunities include:

- Education Research
- Education and Government – policy/ administration
- Education Consultancy
- Education in the Arts and Heritage industries
- Activist Organisations
- Private and community education providers

Completion of the MSc Education also provides you with the opportunity to continue your studies at doctoral-level at the University of Stirling, with the options of EdD, Prof Doc or PhD.

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

(SPECIALIST QUALIFICATION FOR HEADSHIP)



Blended
MSc, PG Dip, PG Cert

Into Headship is a mandatory qualification for candidates applying for Head Teacher posts in Scotland from August 2020. This Masters is a specialist practice-based course for aspiring and early-career school leaders.

The course will help you to gain the knowledge, understanding and skills required to put informed strategic vision, values and aims into practice - helping you to lead change for improvement in an educational setting.

Teaching is undertaken through a blend of teaching sessions on campus with a significant element of online study giving you the ideal learning experience in a format which is accessible and engaging.

We hold a 98% overall student satisfaction rating for Education in the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) 2021.



CORE MODULES

- Engaging Critically with Professional Practices or Examining Professional Practices: Work-Based Learning
- Middle Leadership: Principles and Practices
- Into Headship 1: Developing as a Strategic Leader
- Into Headship 2: Leading Strategic Change
- In Headship 1
- In Headship 2

[Check course web page for optional modules](#)

CAREER PROSPECTS

The specialist qualification for Headship is a national course developed in partnership with Education Scotland and other stakeholders across the education community. The Postgraduate Certificate Into Headship leads to the professional award of the Standard for Headship and is accredited by the General Teaching Council for Scotland.

Graduates may also want to continue their studies through a PhD or a Doctorate in Education (EdD).

Our Masters has different routes available depending on where you are in your career, enabling you to tailor the course specifically to your needs.

Course Starts: August



EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH



Blended
MRes, PG Dip, PG Cert

Our Masters course prepares you for a career in educational research, whether you plan to go on to a doctorate or take your research in other directions.

Under the expert guidance of leading academics, you will develop a broad range of research skills. You will learn to design and plan research projects and collect, analyse, interpret and report qualitative and quantitative data.

You will graduate with a deeper understanding of the theoretical, ethical, political and comparative aspects of carrying out educational research. This course also covers digital methodologies, and you will be involved with cutting-edge research projects.

Teaching is undertaken through a blend of teaching sessions on campus with a significant element of online study giving you the ideal learning experience in a format which is accessible and engaging.

We hold a 98% overall student satisfaction rating for education, and 91% of education students felt their course has enhanced their employability in the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) 2021.

You might also be interested in our Doctor of Education degree: stir.ac.uk/PGEDU.

CORE MODULES

- The Nature of Educational Enquiry
- Research Design and Process
- Quantitative Data Analysis
- The Nature of Social Enquiry
- Qualitative Data Analysis
- Theory and Methods of Digital Social Research
- Dissertation

[Check course web page for modules](#)

CAREER PROSPECTS

Our Masters course improves the career prospects of researchers in education, training and related subjects, and professionals who need to understand, use, and commission research in these fields. The MRes is a valuable preparation for doctoral research in education.

The qualification is recognised by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) as meeting its criteria for postgraduate research training, helping you learn core and transferable research skills and improving your future employability.



In the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021, 100% of our research impact and environment in Education was classed as world leading or internationally excellent.

Course Starts: September



ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING AND MANAGEMENT



Campus based
MSc, PG Dip, PG Cert

Our course is for current and prospective English language teachers who also see themselves as potential managers of language teaching departments or schools.

You will acquire the knowledge and skills needed to be a professional teacher of English as a foreign language. In addition, you will develop the competencies to manage a multicultural working environment through modules taught by the University of Stirling Management School.

Graduates with this unique combination of practical language teaching and professional management skills are highly sought-after. You will graduate with the proven skills and training you need to successfully manage people and run a commercial language school or language teaching department in this flourishing international sector.

Our course includes the opportunity to apply for a placement at one of our partner universities overseas, allowing you to gain practical teaching experience, understand another culture and travel whilst fulfilling your studies.

CORE MODULES

- Principles of Language Learning and Teaching
- Managing an International Organisation
- Research Methods in TESOL
- Dissertation

[Check course web page for optional modules](#)

CAREER PROSPECTS

This course will suit new teachers who want a mix of training in English language teaching and management skills. It is also ideal for experienced teachers who plan to move into a management position. You may have a medium- to long-term plan to run a commercial language school or a language teaching department. You could go on to study for a PhD.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Our course offers a microteaching module which allows students to put learning into practice, teaching peers and self-evaluating teaching practices through review sessions.

Course Starts: September



PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP



Blended
MSc, PG Dip, PG Cert

Stirling has worked in partnership with local authorities and other stakeholders over a number of years to develop this highly regarded professional education course.

The course is designed to impact directly on professional practices and pupils' learning experiences and outcomes.

This course draws upon current research to support education practitioners in leading critical approaches to improving education.

Teaching is undertaken through a blend of teaching sessions on campus with a significant element of online study giving you the ideal learning experience in a format which is accessible and engaging.

We hold a 96% overall student satisfaction rating for Professional Education and Leadership in the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) 2022.

The course modules take account of current policy and the General Teaching Council for Scotland's (GTCS) Professional Standards framework (2021) providing you with the opportunity to practice leadership at all levels.

Course Starts: August



CORE MODULES

- Engaging Critically with Professional Practices
- Examining Professional Practices: Work-Based Learning
- Leading Critical Collaborative Professional Enquiry 1
- Leading Critical Collaborative Professional Enquiry 2

[Check course web page for optional modules](#)

PATHWAYS

Students studying the MSc Professional Education and Leadership have the opportunity to select one of following routes:

- Advanced Professional Practice
- Middle Leadership
- Curriculum Leadership
- Digital Leadership
- Coaching and Mentoring
- Promoting Equity

CAREER PROSPECTS

This Masters provides high-quality, career-long professional learning for those working in the education sector. It will develop and enhance knowledge, understanding and skills which support career development within education.

TEACHING QUALIFICATION IN FURTHER EDUCATION (PRE-SERVICE)



**Campus based
PG Diploma**

The Pre-Service Teaching Qualification in Further Education (TQFE) course is the recognised qualification for people who want to go on to be a lecturer in Scottish further education (FE).

The course is based on the Professional Standards for Lecturers in Scotland's Colleges, and is fully accredited by the General Teaching Council for Scotland. The course supports you in developing your capacity as a professional educator so that you can make a positive contribution to the modern further education sector.

You will gain valuable work experience in one of our partner colleges across Scotland, and will enhance your understanding and professional practice within the FE sector.

Applicants must have at least two years relevant professional experience.



Our pre-service course includes a practical college placement opportunity for you to gain work experience, and potentially a route to employment with the partner college. You will benefit from the experience, allowing you to hone your teaching skills and engage with further education learners prior to employment.

CORE MODULES

- Link Practice
- Learner Diversity
- Teaching and Assessment 1
- Teaching and Assessment 2

Plus, a choice of one of the following three elective modules:

- Adult Education
- International Comparative Vocational and Further Education
- Professional Practice

CAREER PROSPECTS

As the recognised teaching qualification for people who want a lecturing career in Scottish further education, the TQFE provides you with a highly relevant and marketable postgraduate qualification.

Course Starts: August



TEACHING QUALIFICATION IN FURTHER EDUCATION (IN-SERVICE)



Campus based
PG Cert

This is the recognised teaching qualification for people who are already lecturing in further education – called In-Service.

The course is based on the Professional Standards for Lecturers in Scotland's Colleges, and is fully accredited by the General Teaching Council for Scotland.

This course allows lecturers who already teach in a further education college, or similar environment, to complement previous experience and qualifications with a postgraduate certificate in teaching for the further education sector. You will develop your personal and professional abilities to help you adopt greater responsibility and leadership in your own work environment.

If you currently teach in further education and want to acknowledge your experience with a professional qualification, this is the ideal route.

CORE MODULES

- Learner Identity and Diversity
- Teaching and Assessment

Plus, a choice of one of the following three elective modules:

- Accreditation of Prior Professional Development Award
- Adult Education
- International Comparative Vocational and Further Education Professional Practice

[Check course web page for more information](#)

CAREER PROSPECTS

As the recognised teaching qualification for employees within Scottish further education, the TQFE In-Service provides you with a highly relevant and marketable postgraduate qualification. It will help you to progress in your career.



WHY GET A PG CERTIFICATE?

By gaining a one-year postgraduate certificate in teaching in further education, you will be positioned to boost your earnings.

Course Starts: August



TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (TESOL)



Campus based
MSc, PG Dip, PG Cert

This Masters will provide you with an in-depth understanding of the principles and practice of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL).

Suitable for both new and experienced teachers, this course will provide you with the knowledge and practical classroom skills needed to become a confident, critically reflective and enterprising teacher.

You will join a multinational network, and benefit from being taught by professionals who have experience of living and teaching all over the world.

Our TESOL course includes the opportunity to apply for a placement at one of our partner universities overseas, allowing you to gain practical teaching experience, understand another culture and travel whilst fulfilling your studies. We also have a microteaching module which allows you to put learning into practice, teaching peers and self-evaluating teaching practices through review sessions.

CORE MODULES

- Methodology
- Principles of Language Learning and Teaching
- Research Methods in TESOL
- Dissertation

[Check course web page for optional modules](#)

PATHWAYS

You can work towards our core Masters degree, the MSc TESOL, or opt to specialise in one of the following pathways of study:

- MSc TESOL (Methodology)
- MSc TESOL (Applied Linguistics)
- MSc TESOL (Computer Assisted Language Learning)

CAREER PROSPECTS

You will leave the course with an advanced knowledge and understanding of the TESOL sector, enabling you to take on more responsibility in current or future roles. For more experienced teachers, the qualification has provided access to positions with the British Council or in the tertiary sector.

You will be taught by experienced researchers who have extensive connections in the field of TESOL, including publishers and organisations such as the British Council.

Course Starts: September



TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (TESOL)



Online, with optional on-campus modules
MSc, PG Dip, PG Cert

Our online TESOL course is an advanced training and professional qualification for people who already work in any area of teaching English as a foreign or second language.

You will graduate with the knowledge and practical classroom skills to be a confident, critically reflective and enterprising teacher.

Delivered completely online, with the option of attending modules on campus, this course is ideal for those who want to study while continuing to teach. Delivered by experienced professionals who have lived and taught around the globe, the course offers an excellent balance between theory and practice using a range of cutting-edge, innovative teaching methods.

Much of our assessment allows you to use your classroom experience as part of the assignment, allowing you to apply course input directly in your working context. Our TESOL course includes the opportunity to apply for a placement at one of our partner universities overseas, allowing students to gain practical teaching experience, understand another culture and travel whilst fulfilling their studies.

We hold a 100% overall student satisfaction rating for TESOL in the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) 2022.

Course Starts: September



CORE MODULES

- Methodology
- Principles of Language Learning and Teaching
- Discourse Analysis
- Technology in Language Education
- Research Methods in TESOL
- Dissertation

[Check course web page for optional modules](#)

PATHWAYS

In addition to MSc TESOL (Online), we offer the following pathways:

- MSc TESOL (Corpus Linguistics)
- MSc TESOL (Computer Assisted Language Learning)

CAREER PROSPECTS

You will leave the course with an advanced knowledge and understanding of the TESOL sector, enabling you to take on more responsibility in current or future roles. As experienced teachers, the qualification provides access to a wider range of career opportunities and increases the chances for promotion to more senior roles.