

## Programme Specification

A Programme Specification provides a concise summary of the main features of a programme and its intended learning outcomes. It is intended to be used by prospective students, current students, academic staff and potential employers.

<b>Programme Title:</b>	
<b>MA Football Coaching</b>	
<b>Programme (AOS) Code(s):</b>	Full Time MB1FTC9 Part Time MB2FTC9
<b>UCAS Code:</b>	n/a
<b>Name of Final Award:</b>	Master of Arts, MA
<b>Level of Qualification:</b>	Level 7
<b>Regime of Delivery:</b>	Flexible & Distributed Learning: Blended Learning
<b>Mode(s) of Delivery:</b>	Full Time and Part Time
<b>Typical Length of Study (Years):</b>	1 year (FT) and 2 years (PT)
<b>Professional Body Recognition / Accreditation (including specific requirements where applicable):</b>	n/a

## Brief Description of the Programme

### Programme Introduction

The MA Football Coaching qualification is designed for those wishing to deepen their understanding of Football Coaching practices. The programme provides opportunities to engage in different aspects of football coaching including areas such as coaching philosophy, tactics and strategies, reflective practice and performance analysis.

The programme is ideal for current professionals working within the football industry who are looking to apply more theory to their practice and prefer a more flexible mode of delivery instead of a purely campus based programme.

### Distinguishing Features of the Programme

- Students will gain sound knowledge of key areas of football coaching practice.
- Lecturers with online learning backgrounds and high level coaching experience.
- Intensive study sessions based in and around sporting facilities.
- The Employability and Enrichment curriculum is an 'added value' provision to the taught degree programme. Opportunities to increase employability will be provided through masterclasses, industry workshops and the guest speaker programme. The guest speaker programme is designed to expose students to career insights from successful industry professionals and to provide students with networking opportunities.
- Opportunities to gain additional external industry-based qualifications are facilitated.

## Programme Aims

1	Develop students' ability to be able to think critically and creatively about football coaching.
2	Provide opportunities for students to solve complex problems related to the football industry.
3	Facilitate opportunities to conduct research and enquiry into football coaching.
4	Provide opportunities for students to communicate complex ideas and arguments about the football industry.
5	Enable students to continue to learn through reflection on practice and experience within football coaching settings.

## Programme Learning Outcomes

The Bucks Graduate Attributes focus on the development of innovative leaders in professional and creative capacities, who are equipped to operate in the 21st Century labour market and make a positive impact as global citizens. The attributes are developed through the programme.

ID	Learning Outcome
<b>Graduate Attribute: Knowledge and its application (K)</b>	
K1	Apply football coaching models and frameworks.
K2	Critique established practices of the football coaching industry.
K3	Examine and research practical aspects of football using analytical tools.
<b>Graduate Attribute: Creativity (C)</b>	
C1	Test ideas by engaging in critical thinking, analysis, synthesis and decision making.
C2	Research and solve football coaching problems.
C3	Apply theories in new coaching contexts.
C4	Explore how proposed solutions will fare in different coaching contexts.
<b>Graduate Attribute: Social and ethical awareness and responsibility (S)</b>	
S1	Demonstrate a critical understanding of roles and responsibilities within football coaching.
S2	Explore how socio-cultural awareness might inform decisions in football coaching.
S3	Investigate how global, national and local factors impact upon football coaching solutions.
S4	Apply ethical practices when conducting research tasks.
<b>Graduate Attribute: Leadership and self-development (L)</b>	
L1	Demonstrate a range of leadership skills and techniques in a football coaching environment.
L2	Communicate findings clearly and coherently in a range of forms relevant to intended audiences.
L3	Work harmoniously and productively with others to achieve shared outcomes.
L4	Manage time effectively in order to meet deadlines and achieve performance targets.

## Programme Structure

Programmes are structured in stages. The number of stages will vary depending on the mode (e.g. full-time, part-time), duration and location of study which will be detailed in the Programme Handbook.

Modules are set at a specific academic level and listed as either core (compulsory) or optional. The level indicates the relative academic difficulty which will increase through the programme. Passing modules will reward you with academic credit. The amount of credits will depend on the complexity of the module and the level of effort required, which is measured in 'notional learning hours'.

Our [Academic Advice webpages](#) provide more information on the structure of taught awards offered by the University.

*Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. Other option modules may also be introduced at a later stage enabling the programme to respond to sector developments.*

### Level Seven

Code	Module Title	Credit	Core / Option	Compensable (Normally Yes)
FB716	Applying Football Principles - Tactics and Strategies	30	Core	Yes
FB717	Applied Reflective Practice: Philosophy in the Coaching Process	30	Core	Yes
FB718	Analysis of Football Coaching Practice	30	Core	Yes
FB719	Match & Performance Analysis in Football	30	Core	Yes
FB720	Applied Professional Project	60	Core	No

### Learning and Teaching Activities

Please see the [Academic Advice pages](#) for a description of learning and teaching activities that are recognised by the University. Detailed information on this specific programme is outlined below:

This programme will be delivered in two ways. Firstly and in the main, students will receive materials via the online UCFB learning platform, where students work through structured lessons with information provided in each session based on the core module content, to introduce key information and concepts. In some cases, this replaces the traditional format of a lecture and seminar. Concepts and ideas are then tested via case studies, reflective practice and online forums. Learning will predominantly occur through online content however, each module will have a number of live sessions that will be focused on the clarification and expansion of key concepts. These sessions are seen as playing a key role in providing a platform fostering a community of learning between tutor and students.

Secondly students will attend a short but intense block or blocks of taught face to face lectures, seminars, workshops and practical sessions at one or two points during the academic year. During these sessions students will have the opportunity to have contact with academics and practitioners immersed in the football industry. During taught block students will be involved in tutor lead coaching session before delivering session with their peer group which will form part of the assessment process. Clear links will be made between online learning activities and discussion activities and formative support of the students' assessed work (feed forward) and detailed feedback on work that has been completed will be provided via virtual meetings between the student and tutor. Further formative assessment opportunities will be provided during face to face coaching sessions and via online discussion activities in which students will be encouraged to share thoughts with each other and with the tutor.

### Additional Course Costs

There are costs associated with all studies, additional to the tuition fee, which require consideration, when planning and budgeting for expenditure. Costs are indicative and for the total length of the course shown unless otherwise stated and will increase with inflation; depending on the programme

they may include equipment, printing, project materials, study trips, placement activities, DBS and/or other security checks.

Stationery equipment  
Books, journals and periodicals  
Printing  
Study trips  
Placement activity costs  
DBS and/or other security checks.  
Coaching Certificates  
Accommodation

## Contact Hours

1 unit of credit is the equivalent of 10 notional learning hours. Full time undergraduate students study 120 credits (1200 hours) and full-time postgraduate students study 180 credits (1800 hours) per year or 'stage' of the course.

Course Stage	Scheduled Activities (Hours)	Guided Independent Study (Hours)	Placement / Study Abroad (Hours)
Year One (FT)	135	1565	100
Year One (PT)	80	820	0
Year Two (PT)	55	745	100

## Assessment Methods

The [Assessment and Examination webpages](#) provide further information on how assignments are marked and moderated, including a description of assessment activities. These also include further information about how feedback on assessed work is provided to students, including our commitment to ensure this is provided to students within 15 working days (the 'three-week turnaround').

A range of assessment types are used across the programme, as appropriate to each module. Assessment is predominantly continuous, employing items that will include academic essays, reports, presentations, portfolios, reflective writing as well as practical coaching sessions. Applied assessment tasks are used as far as possible to enable students to link theory with practice, thereby assessing knowledge and understanding alongside subject-specific skills and key skills.

## Classification

**Calculation of final award:** The calculation of this award will be 100% at level 7.

For full details of assessment regulations for all taught programmes please refer to our [Results webpages](#). These include the criteria for degree classification.

## Admissions Requirements

Please see the [Application webpages](#) for more information on how to apply, including a statement on how we support students from a variety of backgrounds. Please also see our [general entry](#)

[requirements](#) for taught programmes. Applicants who do not meet our published entry requirements are encouraged to contact our admissions team for further advice and guidance.

### Typical applicant profile and any programme-specific entry requirements

The standard entry requirements for the programme are as follows:

Applicants should hold a 2:1 honours degree or a recognised overseas equivalent. Applicants may be accepted with a 2:2 honours degree (or equivalent) provided that they can otherwise demonstrate a strong profile with 50% or above in their dissertation module -or have professional qualifications of level 2 and above.

Professional experience and industry qualifications can be assessed for applicants without the standard entry requirements such as UEFA B licence with 10 years or more experience in a professional coaching environment.

Candidates are required to hold a FA Level 1 certificate in coaching football additionally, it would be advantageous for candidates to already hold a FA level 2 or equivalent.

All applicants are provided with information relating to student services, with whom they can make contact, should they require additional support or advice as well as information related to appropriate bursaries and funds.

Applicants from non-majority English speaking countries will be asked for an English qualification which tests Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing and will be asked to achieve an IELTS of 6.0 (5.5) or equivalent.

**Do applicants required a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Check?**

**No**

Please note that a DBS check may be required if coaching in specific situations but this is not compulsory for all students.

### Opportunities for students on successful completion of the programme

The multi-faceted world of football, requires modern football coaches to have highly developed skills and an in-depth knowledge of the principles of football coaching. The programme has been developed for those who have graduated from coaching or relevant degree programmes or coaches currently coaching within the game who want to develop their knowledge and skill set further or form part of their CPD. The broad, applied elements of this degree provide students with the skills and experience to progress and work either domestically or abroad in a multi-billion-pound global industry. UCFB's ability to provide further Employability and Enrichment opportunities engages students in career development allowing students to find their place in the football industry.

### Recognition of Prior Learning

Previous study, professional and / or vocational experiences may be recognised as the equivalent learning experience and permit exemption from studying certain modules. Please refer to our [Credit Accumulation webpages](#) for further guidance.

## Student Support

During the course of their studies, students will be supported in the following ways:

- At the start of their studies all students will receive a full **induction** to the programme which will include introduction to the staff responsible for delivering the course, and access to library and IT facilities
- The **Programme Handbook** will outline the exact nature of the course and how it is structured, including the availability of option modules
- Students will be able to access our full range of **support services**, including the Learning Development Unit for skills and study support, the Library, the Careers and Employability Team, Student Finance Team, Accommodation and Counselling Services

## Appendices

### Quality Assurance

<b>Awarding Body:</b>	Buckinghamshire New University
<b>Language of Study:</b>	English
<b>QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s):</b>	QAA Master's Degree Characteristics Statement (2015)
<b>Assessment Regulations:</b>	<i>Academic Assessment Regulations</i> , accessible via the Academic Advice webpages ( <a href="https://bucks.ac.uk/students/academicadvice">https://bucks.ac.uk/students/academicadvice</a> )
<b>Does the Fitness to Practise procedure apply to this programme?</b>	No
<b>Ethics Sub-committee</b>	n/a
<b>Date Published / Updated:</b>	July 2020

### Other awards available on programme (Exit Qualifications)

Please refer to the *Academic Qualifications Framework* for Exit Qualifications recognised by the University and credit and module requirements.

<b>Name of Exit Qualification:</b>	Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert)
<b>Full name of Qualification and Award Title:</b>	Football Coaching
<b>Credits requirements:</b>	60 Credits
<b>Module requirements:</b>	60 Credits at Level 7
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	
Demonstrate a critical awareness of key issues within football coaching.	
Examine research literature which sits at the forefront of the football industry.	
Explore how established models and frameworks are used to create and interpret knowledge in football coaching.	

<b>Name of Exit Qualification:</b>	Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip)
<b>Full name of Qualification and Award Title:</b>	Football Coaching
<b>Credits requirements:</b>	120 Credits
<b>Module requirements:</b>	120 Credits at Level 7
<b>Learning Outcome</b>	

Synthesise complex issues and make sound judgements which can be communicated to a variety of audiences.

Critically evaluate research methodologies used in the analysis of football coaching.

Show originality in tackling and solving football coaching related problems.