



## Programme Specification

Career Development [Sep][DL][DL][30mos]

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## **Section 1: Key Programme Details**

### **Part A: Programme Information**

**Programme title:** Career Development [Sep][DL][DL][30mos]

**Highest award:** MA Career Development

**Interim award:** PGCert Career Development

**Interim award:** PGDip Career Development

**Awarding institution:** UWE Bristol

**Affiliated institutions:** Not applicable

**Teaching institutions:** UWE Bristol

**Study abroad:** No

**Year abroad:** No

**Sandwich year:** No

**Credit recognition:** No

**Department responsible for the programme:** ACE Dept of Education and Childhood, Faculty of Arts Creative Industries & Education

**Contributing departments:** Not applicable

**Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies:**

Career Development Institute (CDI)

**Apprenticeship:** Not applicable

**Mode of delivery:** Distance without attendance

**Entry requirements:** For the current entry requirements see the UWE public website

**For implementation from:** 01 September 2021

**Programme code:** L55012-SEP-DL-DL-L55012

## Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

### Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

**Overview:** This Level 7 part-time programme aims to provide a comprehensive understanding and application of contemporary career development practice, and to equip participants with the professional practitioner skills that are recognised by the career development profession. In addition, it will equip participants with the knowledge and skills to develop further as a researcher practitioner through the undertaking of a practice-based research project.

At Postgraduate Diploma level the programme meets the academic standards for the CDI-awarded Qualification in Career Development.

As well as developing a critical awareness of contemporary and ethical issues related to career development, the programme aims to provide participants with theoretical perspectives and practical models and techniques to enable them to provide career guidance and support their clients' needs related to career development, career decision-making and career planning.

The programme includes two unique features not found explicitly in other comparable programmes: how to design and deliver career and enterprise activities to large groups of learners, addressing the need to develop better informed and more confident learning and teaching skills; and how to design and deliver enterprise education, reflecting the need for career development practitioners to have a stronger understanding of enterprise, both as a future-proofing skill-set in demand by employers, and as a viable employment option in a modern economy.

The programme provides an opportunity for participants to additionally register with the Career Development Institute (CDI) and work towards achieving the CDI-awarded Qualification in Career Development (QCD) alongside the Postgraduate Diploma. The QCD is a separate professional qualification for career development

practitioners which is awarded by the CDI upon successful completion of a Professional Report and when 120 credits have been achieved from a suitable Postgraduate Diploma. (The QCD Professional Report is an online record of separate, additional, work-based skills assessments which meet the requirements for the QCD.) The academic assessments from the Postgraduate Diploma may be included in the QCD Professional Report to demonstrate underpinning knowledge and understanding.

The programme is also available to participants who are not registered for the QCD, as the programme has been designed to incorporate the skills required for guidance practice and delivery of career-related learning underpinned by academic reasoning, although the practical skills are not formally assessed within the academic assessments. Therefore, the programme is most suitable for those who are already employed in a career development role and have access to clients for individual careers guidance and have the opportunity to deliver career-related learning to groups. However, the programme may also appeal to those who are aspiring to enter the field of career development and wish to gain a postgraduate qualification in career development which incorporates some skills practice within an academic programme.

At MA level the programme provides the opportunity to develop critical awareness and comprehensive knowledge of a specific area of career development. This comprises two elements: a taught module developing research skills relevant to the field, and a supported practice-based research project module. Undertaking these two modules develops in participants the skills to critically evaluate relevant research in the field as well as research methodology and methods. This then supports them to cultivate the ability to develop an original research proposal and conduct their research independently under academic supervision. There is also a focus on communicating research findings effectively to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.

**Educational Aims:** The MA builds on the learning at Postgraduate Certificate and Diploma levels. In an individual capacity and in the context of participants' practice, the programme aims to further deepen and apply their understanding of career

development theory, frameworks for practice, and relevant policy and legislation to inform professional practice.

The programme also aims to develop knowledge, understanding and application of research practices appropriate to the field, the different avenues for disseminating findings, and how to package research findings for an audience.

Furthermore, the programme aims to foster in participants a critical approach to:

develop higher level professional skills and knowledge to stand out in the field;

contribute to the innovation and evidence-base of the career development profession;

enhance their practice through evidence based enquiry;

research an area of specific interest and deepen expertise;

contribute to a research community and help shape the discipline;

and further their own career development.

**Programme Learning Outcomes:**

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

**Programme Learning Outcomes****PO1. Postgraduate Certificate**

Critically evaluate theory related to career and enterprise development to inform practice

**PO2. Postgraduate Certificate**

Evaluate own values and beliefs and their impact on own practice

PO3. Postgraduate Certificate

Critically review, organise and use labour and career-related information in order to best support the needs of clients appropriate to context

PO4. Postgraduate Certificate

Apply appropriate theory to help clients to access, interpret and utilise information relating to employment, education and training options

PO5. Postgraduate Certificate

Conduct client-focused career-related interactions with a range of individuals

PO6. Postgraduate Certificate

Design and deliver career-related learning activities in groups with a range of clients

PO7. Postgraduate Certificate

Interpret and apply within their own context the principles, scope and practice of referral

PO8. Postgraduate Certificate

Appraise own professional practice and plan for continuing professional development

PO9. Postgraduate Diploma

Conduct inclusive client-focussed career guidance interviews based on a comprehensive understanding of relevant models and theory;

PO10. Postgraduate Diploma

Plan, design and deliver inclusive career-related learning activities to large and small groups, based on relevant theories of learning and teaching;

PO11. Postgraduate Diploma

Justify and explain social mobility and social justice within a changing UK and international context

PO12. Postgraduate Diploma

Critically appraise own role, including personal values, unconscious bias and ethical issues in promoting the value of career development

PO1 Postgraduate Diploma

3.

Critically reflect on the scope of different careers and enterprise models, and their applications within a changing UK and international landscape

PO1 Postgraduate Diploma

4.

Critically review and evaluate the use of professional networks and partnership working

PO1 MA

5.

Demonstrate advanced comprehensive knowledge and critical awareness of an area of career development

PO1 MA

6.

Critically evaluate current research in the field, methodologies and methods

PO1 MA

7.

Develop an original research proposal

PO1 MA

8.

Frame their research within appropriate ethical guidelines

PO1 MA

9.

Conduct research independently under academic supervision

PO2 MA

0.

Communicate research findings clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences through different mediums

## Part B: Programme Structure

### Year 1

The student must take 90 credits from the modules in Year 1.

### Year 1 Compulsory Modules

The student must take 90 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
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UTLGXA-30-M	Career Guidance Theory and Practice 2021-22	30
UTLGVQ-30-M	Careers and Enterprise in Practice 2021-22	30
UTLGVP-30-M	Frameworks for Career and Enterprise Development 2021-22	30

**Year 2**

The student must take 90 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Please note that module: UTLGXD-30-M Professional Development Project is started in Year 2, but students have 6 months to complete and will hand in their project in January of the following year.

**Year 2 Compulsory Modules**

The student must take 90 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules.

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credit</b>
UTLGXB-30-M	Careers and Enterprise in Context 2022-23	30
UTLGXC-30-M	Developing as a Researcher Practitioner 2022-23	30
UTLGXD-30-M	Professional Development Project 2022-23	30

**Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis**

Completion of this practice-oriented programme, which is approved by the CDI (subject to validation) means that graduates are equipped with personal skills and professional competencies, underpinned by research-informed academic knowledge and understanding. With a focus on appraising and further developing their own professional practice, this programme provides graduates with the opportunity to seek professional futures where they may have a positive impact on the lives of others. In keeping with the UWE 2030 strategy, the programme prepares graduates to be ambitious, collaborative, innovative, inclusive and enterprising in their mind-set, ready and able to face future challenges and seek innovative solutions.



**Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks**

In the absence of a QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Career Development, we have chosen to align the learning outcomes to the current National Occupational Standards for Career Development, as maintained by the CDI, and also to the learning outcomes for the CDI-awarded Qualification in Career Development. The QCD learning outcomes also align with the 'Blueprint for Professional Roles in the Career Development Sector.'

**Part E: Regulations**

Approved to UWE Academic Regulations and Procedures.