

# Programme Specification for Postgraduate Programme

## Leading to:

### MSc Medical Anthropology



*Applicable for all postgraduate students starting on or after 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022*

Version No.	Date	Notes – QA USE ONLY	QA
1	August 2022	New Programme Specification created for 2022-23	NPB

Postgraduate Taught Programme	
1. Awarding institution	Brunel University London
2. Teaching institution(s)	Brunel University London
3. Home college/department/division	College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences/Dept of Social and Political Sciences / Division of Social Science and Communication.
4. Contributing college/department/division/associated institution	N/A
5. Programme accredited by	N/A
6. Final award(s) and FHEQ Level of Award	MSc Medical Anthropology FHEQ Level 7
7. Programme title	MSc Medical Anthropology
8. Programme type (Single honours/joint)	N/A
9. Normal length of programme (in months) for each mode of study	12 months (FT) 30 or 24 months (PT)
10. Maximum period of registration for each mode of study	Normal length of programmes plus two years up to a maximum of five years.
11. Variation(s) to September start	N/A
12. Modes of study	FT/PT
13. Modes of delivery	Standard
14. Intermediate awards and titles and FHEQ Level of Award	Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Anthropology FHEQ Level 7 Postgraduate Certificate in Social Anthropology FHEQ Level 7
15. UCAS Code	N/A
16. HECoS Code	100663
17. Route Code	L620PMEDANTH
18. Relevant subject benchmark statements and other external and internal reference points used to inform programme design	<p><a href="#">QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education</a> which includes the English Framework for Higher Education Qualifications within Part A on Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards.</p> <p><a href="#">Most Recent QAA Subject Benchmark Statement</a>: there are currently no relevant subject benchmark statements.</p> <p><a href="#">Brunel 2030</a></p> <p>Brunel Placement Learning Policy, as published under the 'Placements' section of the '<a href="#">Managing Higher Education Provision with Others</a>' page.</p>
19. Admission Requirements	Details of <a href="#">PGT entry requirements</a> are provided on the University's and College website.

	Levels of English for non-native speakers are outlined on Brunel International's <a href="#">language requirements</a> pages. Applicants should normally have a good Honours degree from a UK institution, an equivalent overseas qualification, or an equivalent professional qualification (e.g. from a social science background or similar). Candidates not fully meeting these criteria may, nevertheless, be considered. Students whose first language is not English must have IELTS of at least 6.5 or equivalent.
20. Other relevant information (e.g. study abroad, additional information on placements)	N/A
21. Programme regulations not specified in Senate Regulation 3. Any departure from regulations specified in Senate Regulation 3 must be stated here and approved by Senate.	N/A
22. Further information about the programme is available from the College website.	<a href="http://www.brunel.ac.uk/cbass">_ http://www.brunel.ac.uk/cbass</a>

### 23. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

- To provide a theoretical and practical understanding of anthropology, with special reference to health, illness and healing.
- To provide students with a detailed insight into the ways in which the body and person are shaped through cultural practices; and to enable students to reflect upon the implications of a comparative approach to health and healing for public policy and practice.
- To equip students with a range of research skills to enable them successfully to complete research, either as part of a research team or as an individual and to enable them to carry out further initiatives in policy and research in their respective professions.
- To provide the opportunity for biomedical practitioners and graduates from the social sciences, health, education, and policy sector to improve their professional practice and career development as a result of acquiring an anthropological perspective on health, illness and healing.

### 24. PROGRAMME AND INTERMEDIATE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding (K) cognitive (thinking) skills (C) and other skills and attributes (S) in the following areas:

FHEQ Level	Category (K = knowledge and understanding, C = cognitive (thinking) skills, S = other skills and attributes)	Learning Outcome	Masters Award Only	Associated Assessment Blocks Code(s)	Associated Study Blocks Code(s)	Associated Modular Blocks Code(s)
<b>7</b>						
	K	1. Theoretical orientations and selected themes in social anthropology to an advanced level, showing a				All taught modules

		critical awareness of current problems (PGDip)				
	K	2. History and theory of anthropology with special reference to medical anthropology (PGDip)				SA5622
	K	3. The approaches employed by clinically applied medical anthropologists and critical medical anthropologists to the study of health, illness and healing (PGDip)				SA5622
	K	4. The strengths and limitations of biomedical approaches to health and healing (PGDip)				SA5622
	K	5. Research methods for the anthropological study of medical and health-related issues (PGDip)				SA5603
	K	6. Implications of different research methods (PGDip)				SA5603
	K	7. A research area in the field of medical anthropology (MSc)	X			SA5513
	C	8. Extend and develop their analytical, evaluative, and critical capacities (PGDip)				All taught modules
	C	9. Reflect on their learning and intellectual development, making use of constructive feedback (PGCert)				All taught modules
	C	10. Evaluate evidence and sources (PGCert)				SA5602 SA5622
	C	11. Critique and communicate advanced concepts in medical anthropology (PGDip)				SA5622
	C	12. Undertake a piece of research (MSc)	X			SA5513
	S	13. Demonstrate skills in the communication of concepts and arguments (PGCert)				All taught modules
	S	14. Demonstrate transferable skills in writing, discussion, analysis, and independent judgement (PGCert)				All taught modules
	S	15. Work independently, demonstrating initiative and the ability to organise time and work (PGCert)				All taught modules
	S	16. Demonstrate advanced critical skills pertinent to undertaking a piece of research	X			SA5513

	S	17. Conduct primary research in developing critiques of methodology and theory (MSc)	X			SA5513
	S	18. Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret anthropological knowledge	X			SA5513

**Learning/teaching strategies and methods** to enable learning outcomes to be achieved, including formative assessments

Core knowledge and understanding of (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6) is acquired by means of lectures, seminars, debates, working in small groups to solve problems and guided independent study. Systematic knowledge and understanding of the field (7) is acquired by a 15,000 word dissertation.

Cognitive skills in (8), (9), (10) AND (11) are generally developed concurrently with knowledge and understanding, through the medium of the teaching and learning programme outlined above and expanded on below. Each module, however taught and assessed, entails the deployment of the range of the skills identified. Seminars and feedback on coursework (for which there is a standard pro-forma) provide formal mechanisms for students to reflect on their own learning and intellectual development, and make use of constructive feedback. Cognitive skills in (12) are developed through supervised work on the dissertation.

A variety of teaching methods and strategies imparts other skills and attributes (8), (9), (15) and (16). Seminars assist in the development of (xii). The use of coursework assists with (13), (14), (15) and (16). Training for the dissertation develops (17).

**Summative assessment strategies and methods** to enable learning outcomes to be demonstrated.

Systematic knowledge and understanding in (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) AND (6) are tested by means of a range of assessment tasks, including written coursework and oral presentations. Successful inculcation of (7) is assessed by a dissertation.

The range of assessment methods utilised tests these skills (8), (9), (10), (11) AND (12) through a shared emphasis on approaching a task or problem via a process of individual research, analysis and interpretation. All require clear, well-evidenced argumentation, and all call upon a degree of creative thought, imagination and independence of mind.

The skills of effective and persuasive written communication identified in (13) and (14) are fundamental to programmes in social anthropology, and are directly assessed in all modules. Skill (15) is, similarly, essential to successful performance across the programme, and is assessed through evidence of the application of an appropriate range of knowledge and skills to a given task. Skill (16) is assessed through written coursework. Skills (17) and (18) are necessary to the satisfactory completion of the dissertation.

## 25. Programme Structure, progression and award requirements

Programme structures and features: levels, assessment blocks, credit and progression and award requirements

- **Compulsory block:** one which all students registered for the award are required to take as part of their programme of study. These will be listed in the left hand column;
- **Optional block:** one which students choose from an 'option range'. These will be listed in the right hand column;
- A **core assessment** is an assessment identified within an assessment block or modular block (either compulsory or optional) which must be passed (at grade C- or better) in order to be eligible to progress and to be eligible for the final award. All core assessments must be specified on the programme specification next to the appropriate assessment or modular block:

Where students are expected to pass the block at C- or better, but not necessarily all elements, then the block itself is core.

e.g. AB5500 Project (40)

Core: Block

Where only some elements of assessments are required to be passed at C- or better, these will be identified by listing each element that is core

e.g. ABXXX1 Title (XX credits)

Core: 1 & 4

Where students are expected to pass all assessments in a block then this will be identified. By setting the assessment this way, students are also required to pass the block by default. This will be identified thus:

e.g. ABXXXX Title (XX credits)

Core: All, Block

- A **non-core assessment** does not have to be passed at grade C- or better, but must D- or better in order to be eligible for the final award.

<b>FHEQ Level 5</b>	
<b>Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credit</b>	<b>Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits</b>
<b>Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume</b>	<b>Optional Study block codes, titles and credit volume</b>
<p><b>Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits</b></p> <p>All modules are 15 credits unless otherwise specified</p> <p>SA5603 Ethnographic Research Methods</p> <p>SA5602 Medical Anthropology in Clinical and Community Settings (30 credits)</p> <p>SA5513 Dissertation in Medical Anthropology (60 credits) Core: All, Block</p> <p>SA5622 Anthropology and Global Health (30 credits)</p> <p><b>Part-time:</b> Year 1 – SA5602, SA5622 Year 2 – SA5513, SA5603 and optional modules</p>	<p><b>Optional modular block codes, titles and credits</b></p> <p>All modules are 15 credits unless otherwise specified</p> <p>45 credits to be chosen from the following:</p> <p>SA5604 Thinking Anthropologically*</p> <p>SA5523 The Anthropology of the Body</p> <p>SA5527 Anthropology of the Person</p> <p>SA5540 Kinship, Sex and Gender</p> <p>SA5621 Anthropological Perspectives on War and Humanitarian Assistance (30 credits)</p> <p>SA5601 Ethnicity, Culture and Identity</p> <p>*Strongly recommended for students without a first degree in Anthropology</p>
<b>FHEQ Level 7 Progression and Award Requirements</b>	
As per <a href="#">Senate Regulation 3</a>	
<b>PGDip may not be awarded by substitution of the dissertation SA5513 for modular blocks in the taught part of the programme.</b>	

Please note: this specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods can be found in the modular block, assessment and study block outlines and other programme and block information. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University from time to time and whenever a modification occurs.