

## DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	PgC Education Studies
Awarding Bodies	University of Suffolk
Level of Award <sup>1</sup>	FHEQ Level 7
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure <sup>2</sup>	60 Credits at level 7
Mode of Attendance	Part-time
Standard Length of Course <sup>3</sup>	8 months full time
Intended Award	PgC Education Studies
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements <sup>4</sup>	Typical Offer: Have a Bachelors Honours degree 2:2 from a UK university or other recognised degree-awarding body; have experience working in an educational setting .
Delivering Institution	University of Suffolk

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the PgC Education Studies course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 7 in the 2024-25 academic year.

### Course Summary

The Postgraduate Certificate in Education Studies course is an innovative programme designed for people with experience of working in an educational setting who wish to focus on their professional development alongside a postgraduate qualification. The PGCert in Education Studies course enables educational practitioners to formally engage in focused study with meaning and purpose, to refine their goals in the profession and their work in their educational setting. It is based on an informed and critical approach to the academic study of education and is intended to reflect both the desires and ambitions of postgraduate students and the philosophical traditions and current development in the field. The course provides participants with the opportunity to engage critically with contemporary educational research and is suited to anyone with practice experience.

<sup>1</sup> For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

<sup>3</sup> Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study. Further information

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### Course Aims

- to offer an innovative, dynamic and flexible programme that critically considers developments in the academic study of education
- to advance students' knowledge of a particular field of study in which they have prior knowledge or experience through previous study or employment and to encourage them to take ownership and responsibility for their own learning
- to advance students' knowledge of the complexity of understanding the relationship between theory, reflection and practice and the implications for policy and practice
- to provide a robust theoretical framework for students to develop an integrated and critical understanding of education and to cultivate a critical and analytical approach to contemporary methodological advances in educational research
- to develop in students a range of intellectual skills reflecting both the ethos of lifelong learning and the rigour required at level 7; a high level of autonomy and self-direction in order to facilitate the demonstration of initiative, originality alongside integrity and ethical judgement in their advanced scholarship; and to become influential and effective specialists in the field of education

### Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the PgC Education Studies course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 7 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).<sup>5</sup>

1. Have a systematic understanding, and knowledge about theory and practice in the field of education
2. Have a critical awareness of knowledge, current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of field of study, area of professional practice and/or research area
3. Be able to clearly construct and organise written arguments in a scholarly manner, following academic convention
4. Clearly communicate oral arguments to a specialist and non-specialist audience
5. Be able to critically evaluate recent and relevant educational research and scholarship in an informed and systematic way
6. Be able to demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge for example to problem solving in new or unfamiliar environments or showing creativity through the dealing of complex issues
7. Be able to act autonomously, and exercise initiative, making decisions in complex



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### Course Delivery

The course is delivered at Ipswich Campus. The PgC is taught face to face in afternoon/ early evening sessions and asynchronously online to enable full time teachers to attend sessions. Usually, each 20 credit module requires attendance at 10 face to face sessions though there is some variation between modules. For each 20 credit module students will normally be expected to undertake a total of 180 hours of independent study but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises. ~~Page 9 of 10~~ ~~Page 10 of 10~~