

Postgraduate Certificate Specialist Assessment for Literacy-Related Difficulties

Programme Specification



1. Programme title	Postgraduate Certificate Specialist Assessment for Literacy-Related Difficulties
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3a. Teaching institution 3b. Language of study	Dyslexia Action / Real Group Ltd English
4a. Valid intake dates 4b. Mode of study	Autumn/Spring/Summer Distance Learning (Part-time study)
5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body	British Dyslexia Association (BDA), Dyslexia Guild, SASC
6. Apprenticeship Standard	n/a
7. Final qualification(s) available	Postgraduate Certificate
8. Year effective from	2021- 2022

9. Criteria for admission to the programme Prospective students will have: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An honours degree or equivalent.• Candidates will need a high level of competence in the use of English, equivalent to at least 6.5 (with a minimum of 6 in all components). See University Regulations for Postgraduate (masters) programmes. https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/university-regulations• Recent and relevant experience (minimum of two years in a teaching/teaching support role)• An accredited level 5 or level 7 qualification as a specialist teacher <p>Applicants who do not fulfil all the requirements above may be considered for 'special entry' if they can demonstrate other relevant academic and professional experience.</p>

Such applicants are advised to apply in the first instance and fully explain their experience in their application statement.

<http://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/academic-quality/handbook/>

Applications for recognition of prior learning and credit transfer are accepted on this programme for up to two-thirds of the total credit needed for an exit award.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to enable students to develop critical thinking skills, reflective practice and disciplined enquiry to postgraduate level and provide students with a thorough theoretical grounding in the psychometric assessment of cognitive processes that underlie literacy-related difficulties. It is designed to produce enlightened, reflective practitioners who have the specialist subject knowledge necessary to competently assess and plan intervention programmes for learners with literacy-related difficulties. It also aims to develop students' ability to deal systematically with complex educational issues and to communicate their specialist knowledge to specialist and non-specialist audiences in a range of settings

11. Programme outcomes*

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:

1. The principles and practice of the psychometric assessment process.
2. Statistical and qualitative analysis and how these can be employed to appraise learner performance on a range of assessment tests.

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through:

- guided study utilising the online learning platform, webinars, online discussion forums, online tutor support
- critical analysis of current research
- the application of new theoretical and professional knowledge to their practice.

Assessment Methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by:

- written coursework comprising critical analysis, applied practice analysis and reflective analysis.

B. Skills

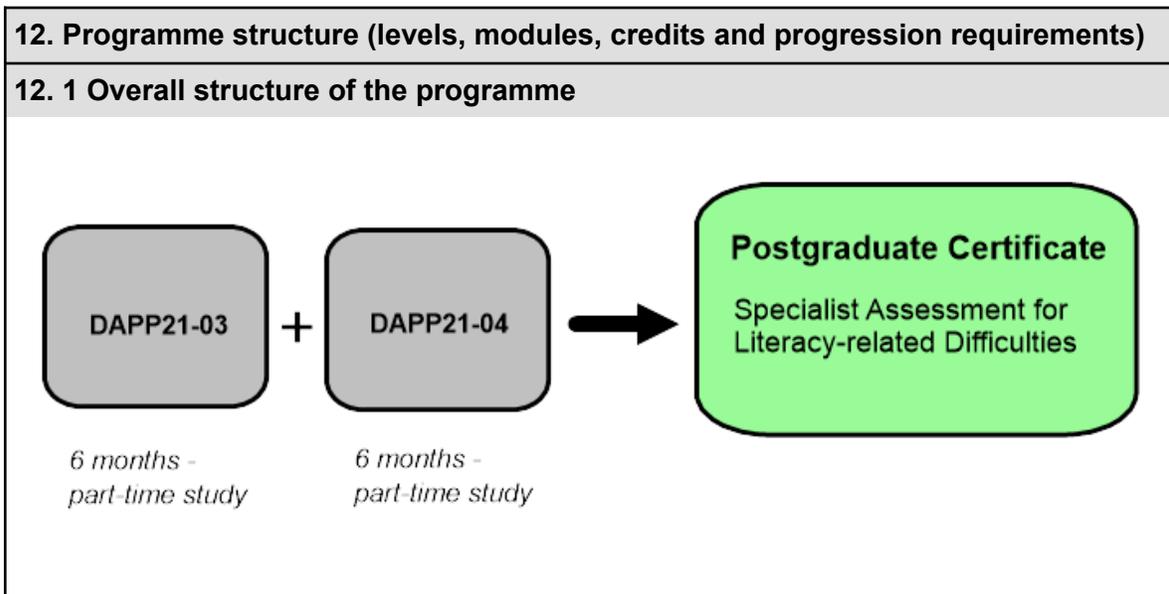
On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

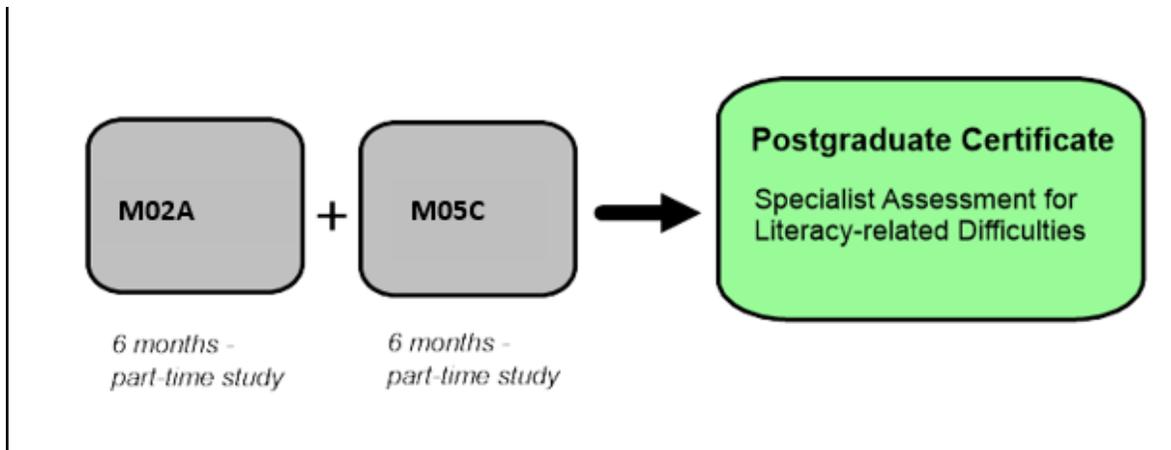
1. Competently conduct assessment processes including the compilation of

Teaching/learning methods

Students learn skills through:

<p>professional assessment reports for a variety of purposes.</p> <p>2. Critically reflect on observations and experiences of assessment practice in a manner conducive to future professional development in the field.</p> <p>3. Critically evaluate own role in the strategic support of staff development requirements with reference to own ability to ensure that learning/workplace outcomes and learning experiences are enhanced.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems • acting autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional level. • assigned tasks within their applied educational setting and coaching. <p>Assessment Method</p> <p>Students' skills are assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coursework including applied practice analysis of the needs/problems of current work setting • critique of current theoretical perspectives • critical self-reflection to enhance future practice.
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12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 7		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAPP21-03 Psychometric Assessment of Literacy-related Difficulties (30 credits) • DAPP21-04 Psychometric Assessment of Cognitive Processing (30 credits) 	Candidates may undertake the following Real Training modules instead of DAPP21-03 and DAPP21-04. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M02A Certificate of Competence in Educational Testing (30 credits) plus • M05C Dyslexia - Professional Report Writing (30 credits) 	
Middlesex University London has a 1-20 grading scale, with grade 1 being the highest grade. Grades 1-4 are a distinction. Grades 5-8 are a Merit. Grades 9-16 are given a Pass. https://unihub.mdx.ac.uk/study/assessment/assessment-regulations-guide		

12.3 Non-compensatable modules	
Module level	Module code
7	DAPP21-03

13. Information about assessment regulations

This programme will run in line with general University Regulations:

<https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/university-regulations>

14. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

n/a

15. Future careers / progression

Future Careers: Completing the PGCert in Specialist Assessment for Literacy-related Difficulties is likely to enhance students' suitability for working with school, further education and higher education establishments and in other settings (such as juvenile offender, young offender and adult offender units) in education assessment roles. Completion of this postgraduate certificate can lead to specialist assessor membership with a relevant professional body (e.g., BDA, Dyslexia Guild, Patoss).

Progression: Students from this programme will be well equipped to undertake further study at postgraduate level.

16. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

- Support for online learning will be given as this programme is delivered via distance learning.
- Students entering the programme may have a range of recent academic experience, with some continuing students, and some with a gap between their last studies at higher education and/or master's level.
- Advice is available on all the modules to support any student with the study skills they need to undertake the programme including: critical analysis, critical writing and academic referencing.
- Students are also encouraged to think critically about the area of special educational needs relevant to their particular educational setting.
- Technical support for the virtual learning platform and any general technology support issues is provided by the Dyslexia Action/ Real Training IT department. Pastoral support is also provided by the tutor team who ensure each student's needs are treated according to their individual situation.

17. JACS code (or other relevant coding system) X161

18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)

<https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements>

19. Reference points

- Middlesex University regulations. These can be found at:
<https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/university-regulations>
- Level 7 (Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, 2008)
<https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/qualifications-and-credit-frameworks>
- QAA Relevant Subject Benchmark Statement(s)
<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code>
- Master's Degree Characteristics Statement - QAA
<https://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/quality-code/supporting-resources>

20. Other information

Access to a computer with word processing and suitable internet connection is a requirement for online study.

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Curriculum map for Postgraduate Certificate Specialist Assessment for Literacy-Related Difficulties

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

NB: All programme learning outcomes are developed to Level 7.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding of:	
A1	The principles and practice of the psychometric assessment process.
A2	Statistical and qualitative analysis and how these can be employed to appraise learner performance on a range of assessment tests.
Skills	
B1	Competently conduct assessment processes including the compilation of professional assessment reports for a variety of purposes.
B2	Critically reflect on observations and experiences of assessment practice in a manner conducive to future professional development in the field.
B3	Critically evaluate own role in the strategic support of staff development requirements with reference to own ability to ensure that learning/workplace outcomes and learning experiences are enhanced.

Programme outcomes				
A1	A2	B1	B2	B3
Highest level achieved by all graduates				
7	7	7	7	7

Module Title	Module Code by Level					
	Level 7	A1	A2	B1	B2	B3
Psychometric Assessment of Literacy-related Difficulties	DAPP21-03	*	*	*	*	
Psychometric Assessment of Cognitive Processing	DAPP21-04		*	*	*	*