

Session: 2023/24

## University of the West of Scotland Postgraduate Programme Specification

<b>Named Award Title:</b>	MSc Sport Coaching	
<b>Award Title for Each Award:</b>	MSc Sport Coaching PG Dip Sport Coaching PG Cert Sport Coaching	
<b>Date of Validation:</b>	March 2022	
<b>Details of Cohorts Applies to:</b>	September 2023 intake.	
<b>Awarding Institution/Body:</b>	University of the West of Scotland	
<b>Teaching Institution:</b>	University of the West of Scotland	
<b>Language of Instruction &amp; Examination:</b>	English	
<b>Award Accredited By:</b>	N/A	
<b>Maximum Period of Registration:</b>		
<b>Mode of Study:</b>	Full Time Part Time	
<b>Campus:</b>	Lanarkshire	
<b>School:</b>	School of Health and Life Sciences	
<b>Programme Board</b>	Sport and Exercise	
<b>Programme Leader:</b>	Michael King	

### Admission Criteria

Candidates must be able to satisfy the general admission requirements of the University of the West of Scotland as specified in Chapter 2 of the University Regulatory Framework together with the following programme requirements:

#### Appropriate Undergraduate Qualification

The University's general entry requirement for admission to a taught postgraduate programme is an undergraduate degree.

#### Other Required Qualifications/Experience

Your application may also be considered if you have other academic, vocational or professional qualifications deemed to be of equivalence. For example, if you have UKCC or National Governing Body (NGB) accreditation of some academic equivalence and have extensive experience in the area, you may be considered via interview.

#### Further desirable skills pre-application

You should provide some evidence of coaching experience to drive and direct programme engagement and personal progress.

#### Protecting Vulnerable Groups scheme (PVG)

Successful applicants who gain a place on this course will need to register on the PVG Scheme, managed and delivered by Disclosure Scotland. Application will be managed through the University once you have accepted your offer, and further guidance will be provided during induction. There is a fee for joining the scheme **or to apply for a PVG with a new group** and the appropriate fee should be covered by the student. Those students already part of the scheme may apply for an update which incurs a reduced fee **if for the same group**. Current fees are available at <https://www.mygov.scot/apply-for-pvg>

#### General Overview

The MSc Sport Coaching programme is designed for coaches and graduates seeking to develop specialist knowledge in sport coaching. The course is designed around work-based learning to allow you to build on your existing experience and enhance your coaching competencies. The focus of the programme is to adopt current and innovative research in applied coaching for you to consider how best to apply this to practice. You will learn in a collaborative environment with other coaches and teaching staff. The programme is designed as a pathway for career development in the sports coaching profession. You will study your own coaching and the coaching of others and be supported by a supervisor who specialises in an area of interest to you (e.g., psychology, performance analysis, conditioning, pedagogy). You will learn to apply investigative methods to your coaching to improve both your own and your athlete's practice. You will study professional judgement and decision-making to enhance your planning ability and prepare to optimise your athlete's development.

The MSc Sport Coaching will benefit from UWS staff multi-disciplinary expertise and networks to provide an academic application to the contemporary understanding of coaching environments. Teaching staff have strong practitioner links and apply their knowledge in areas such as performance analysis, sport conditioning, and sport psychology. Modern coaches have to be knowledgeable and apply skills in each of these domains. The supervised experience model will provide a basis for career development in the sports coaching profession with specialist knowledge in your chosen area. Throughout this process you will learn how to put theory into practice whilst developing reflective, analytical and critical thinking skills.

From their consultancy work, teaching staff have strong working relationships with sports organisations, including professional sport teams, and public and private sport providers. In addition, the university has a number of partnerships with sports teams which may support you in work-based learning roles.

#### Graduate Attributes, Employability & Personal Development Planning

The 'I AM UWS' graduate attributes have been developed to reflect that vision where UWS graduates are work-ready and able to successfully contribute both locally and globally. As part of the programme design and development, the graduate attributes are aligned with all aspects of module and programme delivery.

Personal development planning is embedded in all of the MSc Sport Coaching modules. The process of personal development is implicit in all activities and engagement with students.

There are a range of employment markets for graduate sport coaches, including professional sports clubs, commercial and social enterprises, local authority sports programmes, schools, disability sports clubs, and national governing bodies (NGBs). Roles include academy coach, specialist technical coach, coach educator and coach manager. There is also potential for progression to a career in education or further research (e.g., doctoral studies).

#### Work Based Learning/Placement Details

This work-based learning (WBL) programme can either be situated with your existing employer or an alternative employer. If you are not currently working, placements can be accessed to enable you to gain experience in your chosen role with one of our partners.

The WBL activities are embedded throughout the programme. This can allow for continuity of progression in one coaching environment and also deepen collaborative relationships between you and industry. WBL activities are self-constructed, affording you the opportunities to investigate and intervene in the coaching problems most pertinent to your development.

The WBL strand of the programme runs from Supervised Experience in Sport Coaching 1 and 2, Planning for Coaching, and culminates in the Applied Coaching Project. Throughout these modules you will be supported by a supervisor in the selection of a relevant work environment, the identification of an area for investigation within the environment, and the evaluation and reflection of the research and evidence applied to the environment. The WBL modules reflect the United Kingdom Coaching Certificate (UKCC) Level 4 generic competencies. Furthermore, the WBL modules are underpinned by the knowledge sets that are a requirement of British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES) Accreditation.

You will be given the opportunity to self-assess, peer-assess or 'other' assess coaching practice in applied settings. You will learn observational analysis skills, interview skills and develop your own coaching ability and the ability of others in an authentic coaching environment.

Students are required to meet the expenses (e.g. travel) relating to the WBL modules.

The Division of Sport and Exercise have a range of branded sports kit available for purchase by students via our provider's online store. Purchase of such kit is not a mandatory part of the course; however, it is advised that attending placement in branded kit will increase the professional appearance of students whilst representing the university. Any kit purchased is at the personal cost to each student.

### **Engagement and Attendance**

Students are academically engaged if they are regularly engaged with timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time. Please refer to the Academic Engagement and Attendance Procedure at the following link: [Academic Engagement and Attendance Procedure](#)  
For the purposes of this programme, this equates to the following:

Students are defined as academically engaged if they consistently attend timetabled teaching sessions (including placements), engage with course-related learning resources including synchronous and asynchronous learning activities and tasks, regularly access VLEs, and complete and submit assessments on time.

### **Equality and Diversity**

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: [UWS Equality and Diversity Policy](#)

In line with current legislation (Equality Act, 2010) and the UWS Equality, Diversity, and Human Rights Code, our modules are accessible and inclusive, with reasonable adjustment for different needs where appropriate. Module materials comply with University guidance on inclusive learning and teaching, and specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations. Where modules require practical learning or assessment, alternative formats and/or roles will be provided for students with physical disabilities which impact participation.

**Programme structures and requirements, SCQF level, term, module name and code, credits and awards ( [Chapter 1, Regulatory Framework](#) )**

**A. PG Cert**

**Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)**

<b>Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
<b>A1</b>	Critically understand relevant theories, frameworks and principles in consideration of application to coaching practice.
<b>Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
<b>B1</b>	Apply a range of specialised skills and practices that can contribute towards creative solutions to complex coaching problems.
<b>Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills</b>	
<b>C1</b>	Communicate using appropriate methods to a range of audiences with different levels of knowledge/expertise.
<b>Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation</b>	
<b>D1</b>	Apply critical analysis, evaluation and synthesis to selected issues relevant to personal coaching practice.
<b>Autonomy, Accountability and Working With Others</b>	
<b>E1</b>	Exercise substantial autonomy and initiative in professional activities.

#### Core Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	SPOR11020	Supervised Experience in Sport Coaching 1	20	✓			

\* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

#### Footnotes

#### Optional Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	SPOR11014	Coach Development	20	✓	✓		Long thin module
11	SPOR11017	Investigating Coaching 1	20	✓			
11	SPOR11022	Investigating Coaching 2 (20 credits) *	20		✓		
11	SPOR11023	Planning for Coaching (20 credits) *	20		✓		
11	SPOR11021	Supervised Experience in Sport Coaching 2	20		✓		

\* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

## Footnotes

Part-time students are advised to take Supervised Experience 1, Supervised Experience 2 and Coach Development in their first year.

## Criteria for Progression and Award

Students who successfully complete and passed 60 credits from those modules within the programme, (of which a minimum of 40 are at SCQF Level 11/none less than Level 10), including the core module, may choose to exit with a Postgraduate Certificate (PgC) in Sport Coaching.

This is in accordance with UWS Regulatory Framework.

## B. PG Dip

### Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)

<b>Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
<b>A1</b>	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the planning and evaluation process applied to sport coaching.
<b>A2</b>	Design and implement an optimal learning environment based on contemporary research to influence athletes' performance needs.
<b>A3</b>	Demonstrate a critical knowledge of the research process relevant to coaching practice.
<b>Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
<b>B1</b>	Apply a range of standard and specialised investigative approaches and techniques to the study of personal coaching practice.
<b>B2</b>	Apply a plan of coaching to improve both coach and athlete development.
<b>B3</b>	Critically monitor and evaluate the efficacy of an applied complex coaching intervention using relevant practices.
<b>Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills</b>	
<b>C1</b>	Demonstrate the skills for presenting and appraising evidence with a multi-disciplinary team and support staff.
<b>C2</b>	Demonstrate a high level of communication skills in various coaching contexts.
<b>Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation</b>	
<b>D1</b>	Evaluate personal coaching performance and development, demonstrating self-awareness and taking responsibility for actions.
<b>D2</b>	Display enhanced abilities to critique evidence and interpret feedback relating to coaching interventions, development and performance.
<b>Autonomy, Accountability and Working With Others</b>	

<b>E1</b>	Work in a peer relationship with multi-disciplinary team members.
<b>E2</b>	Demonstrate decision-making skills at intra- and inter-personal levels.

### Core Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	SPOR11022	Investigating Coaching 2 (20 credits) *	20		✓		
11	SPOR11023	Planning for Coaching (20 credits) *	20		✓		
11	SPOR11020	Supervised Experience in Sport Coaching 1	20	✓			
11	SPOR11021	Supervised Experience in Sport Coaching 2	20		✓		
11	SPOR11014	Coach Development	20	✓	✓		Long thin module
11	SPOR11017	Investigating Coaching 1	20	✓			

\* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

### Footnotes

The PG Dip in Sport Coaching for 2022-23 is comprised:

Supervised Experience in Sport Coaching 1, Supervised Experience in Sport Coaching 2, Coach Development, Investigating Coaching 1, Investigating Coaching 2 (20 credits), and Planning for Coaching (20 credits).

From 2022-23, part-time students are advised to take Supervised Experience 1, Supervised Experience 2 and Coach Development in their first year. Students should take Investigating Coaching 1, Investigating Coaching 2 (20 credits), and Planning for Coaching (20 credits) in their second year.

### Optional Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	

\* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

### Footnotes

### Criteria for Progression and Award

Students who successfully complete and passed 120 credits from those modules within the programme (of which a minimum of 90 are at SCQF Level 11/none less

than Level 10), including the core modules, may choose to exit with a Postgraduate Diploma (PgD) in

This is in accordance with UWS Regulatory Framework

Distinction shall be awarded in line with the UWS Regulatory Framework

### C. Masters

#### Learning Outcomes (Maximum of 5 per heading)

<b>Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
<b>A1</b>	Demonstrate critical and multidisciplinary insight of the coaching process to develop research questions and conduct associated research.
<b>Practice - Applied Knowledge and Understanding</b>	
<b>B1</b>	Demonstrate originality and creativity in the application of science to the assessment, intervention, evaluation and reflection of selected coaching issues relevant to personal coaching practice.
<b>Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills</b>	
<b>C1</b>	Convey complex ideas in a coherent, relevant form to diverse audiences.
<b>Generic Cognitive Skills - Problem Solving, Analysis, Evaluation</b>	
<b>D1</b>	Demonstrate the ability to selectively apply knowledge acquired elsewhere in the programme to an evolving applied coaching issue.
<b>Autonomy, Accountability and Working With Others</b>	
<b>E1</b>	Develop as an independent researcher by planning and executing a significant applied coaching project relevant to personal coaching practice.
<b>E2</b>	Work with relevant stakeholders in the coaching process to share the findings of the applied coaching project in written and verbal form.

#### Core Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	
11	SPOR11015	Applied Coaching Project	60			✓	

\* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

#### Footnotes

#### Optional Modules

SCQF Level	Module Code	Module Name	Credit	Term			Footnotes
				1	2	3	

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\* Indicates that module descriptor is not published.

#### Footnotes

#### Criteria for Award

Students who successfully complete and passed 180 credits from those modules within the programme (of which a minimum of 150 are at SCQF Level 11/none less than Level 10), including the core modules, will be eligible for the award of MSc Sport Coaching.

This is in accordance with UWS Regulatory Framework.

Distinction shall be awarded in line with the UWS Regulatory Framework.

#### Regulations of Assessment

Candidates will be bound by the general assessment regulations of the University as specified in the [University Regulatory Framework](#) .

An overview of the assessment details is provided in the Student Handbook and the assessment criteria for each module is provided in the module descriptor which forms part of the module pack issued to students. For further details on assessment please refer to Chapter 3 of the Regulatory Framework.

To qualify for an award of the University, students must complete all the programme requirements and must meet the credit minima detailed in Chapter 1 of the Regulatory Framework.

#### Changes

#### Changes made to the programme since it was last published:

The changes below were approved at the Institution Led Review, March 2022.

The titles of Investigating Coaching 2, and Planning for Coaching have minor alterations (“10 credits” added in brackets after the title of the old versions, and 20 credits added in brackets to

the new versions) to ensure an operational distinction. The new (20 credit) versions of Investigating Coaching 2 and Planning for Coaching were created in a new module descriptor and added to the programme specification for 2022-23 with footnotes on which modules students should select.

The 10 credit versions of the modules are still available (with guiding footnotes in the programme specification) for current students to

have the opportunity if required, to re-enrol (e.g., re-attend decision or extenuating circumstances).

The module Evaluating Practice is also still available to current students, but should not be selected by students from 2022-23.

Equality & Diversity, Engagement and information regarding PVG, placement and optional UWS sports kit updated.



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