

## Programme Specification

PGCert Leadership and Strategic Studies (AHEP) (part-time by distance learning) PPTCAPLSSTDC

**For students entering in 2023/24**

**This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Awarding Institution  | University of Reading  |
| Teaching Institution  | University of Reading  |
| Length of Programme   | PGCert Leadership and Strategic Studies (AHEP) (part-time by distance learning) - 44 weeks |
| Accreditation         |  |
| Programme Start Dates |  |

### **Programme information and content**

The PGCert in Leadership and Strategic Studies aims to provide selected army officers with the early stage of Postgraduate higher education provision to support their service requirements and to enable them to act as effective officers of the British Army. This degree will be available to Graduate, or equivalent, entrants to the Army Officer Commissioning Course (CC) at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

The PGCert is validated at Level 7 by the University of Reading with provision carried out entirely by the academic and officer tutors at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. The CC comprises a combination of academic and applied learning modules broadly covering Leadership, Communication and Behavioural Science (CABS), Defence and International Affairs (DIA) and War Studies (WS).

The CC is conducted over a 44 week period in a very intense programme which covers some 4158 45 minute periods encompassing many activities from academic lectures/seminars, to physical exercises and applied learning challenges (see Appendix I). Of this total, approximately 1,600 hours of work are devoted to academic work.

There are six academic modules of 10 credits each, two each in CABS, DIA and WS. These are supplemented by academic work on the Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC) which is not credit bearing.

The credit bearing of the CC has been ascertained through a thorough academic mapping process and by a Due Diligence panel comprising T&L Deans covering Henley and SPEIR, Academic Lead AHEP, Senior Quality Support Officer, Director of Strategic T&L programmes (Henley), SDTL and senior academic SPEIR. The Due Diligence Panel visited RMAS to assess; quality of facilities (including library etc.), appropriateness of teaching quality, assessment processes, academic and army tutor quality, continuous development, programme review, partnership interaction. The report from the Due Diligence Panel is contained in a separate document.

Each academic module will be formatively and summatively assessed at the appropriate level.

The applied learning elements of the CC are taken into account in the CertHE. They are intrinsically linked to the academic modules and are undertaken so that the academic learning is applied in a practical and interpretive way to strengthen understanding and to apply skills and techniques in a more realistic setting.

This programme will be overseen by the AHEP Board of Studies which will be constituted specifically to focus on the AHEP suite of programmes. This BoS will be chaired by the SDTLSEs for Henley and SPEIR on a rotational basis. new Head of Strategic T&L projects. There will be representation from Henley, SPEIR, army (uniformed and academic) and the relevant student body.

All regulations relating to students on UoR programmes will apply, including those for academic and non-academic misconduct.

**This PGCert meets the FHEQ criteria and has the following attributes:**

- a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of their academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice
- a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship | 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 knowledge in the discipline
- conceptual understanding that enables the student:

- to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline

- to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.

Typically, holders of the qualification will be able to:

- deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences
- demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level
- continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.

And holders will have:

- the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring:

- the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility
- decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations
- the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development

### Module information

The PGCert carries 60 Level 7 credits comprising 6 modules of 10 credits each in CABS, DIA and WS. According to Army stipulated rules, it is necessary to pass all modules at the pass mark of 50% in order to achieve the PGCert. Re-sits will be allowed in order to achieve the pass mark.

### Compulsory modules

| Module   | Name  | Credits | Level |
|----------|---|---------|-------|
| AHM1RMAS | Royal Military Academy Sandhurst Commissioning Course | 60      | M     |

### Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

### Additional costs of the programme

Additional costs of the programme

1. Additional costs will include books and other optional materials
2. Other costs may be incurred by the student which are not anticipated at this time
3. Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

The estimates were calculated in 2017.

### Optional modules

### Placement opportunities

### Study abroad opportunities

### Teaching and learning delivery

The module content for the CC are delivered through a combination of central lectures, seminars and experiential learning.

Total study hours for the academic modules of the CC programme will be 1600 hours (please see Appendix 1 for actual number of 45 minute periods).

In addition to the scheduled contact hours, the student will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent

study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in Appendix 1.

### Accreditation details

### Assessment

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations, coursework and oral presentations/examinations. Further information is contained in the module description for the CC. Assessments will be passed through Turnitin. This will be done by the army during the Commissioning Course.

### Progression

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' as follows: PGCert Obtain an overall average of 50% over 60 credits of the CC. Must not have any mark below 40.

### Classification

#### Classification

| Mark     | Interpretation        |
|----------|-----------------------|
| 70%-100% | Pass with distinction |
| 60%-69%  | Pass with merit       |
| 50%-59%  | Pass                  |
| 40%-49%  | Fail                  |

**For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

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