

Programme Specification

CertHE Leadership and Strategic Studies (AHEP)

For students entering Part 1 in September 2023

UPAPLSSHEC

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	1 years
Accreditation	

Programme information and content

The CertHE in Leadership and Strategic Studies aims to provide selected army officers with the early stage of undergraduate 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 non-graduate, or equivalent, entrants to the Army Officer Commissioning Course (CC) at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

The CertHE is validated at Level 4 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. 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 degree meets the FHEQ criteria for a CertHE and has the following attributes:

- a systematic understanding of key aspects of their field of study, including acquisition of coherent and detailed knowledge, at least some of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of defined aspects of a discipline
- an ability to deploy accurately established techniques of analysis and enquiry within a discipline
- conceptual understanding that enables the student:

- to devise and sustain arguments, and/or to solve problems, using ideas and techniques, some of which are at the forefront of a discipline

- to describe and comment upon particular aspects of current research, or equivalent advanced scholarship, in the discipline

- an appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge
- the ability to manage their own learning, and to make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources (for example, refereed research articles and/or original materials appropriate to the discipline).

Typically, holders of the qualification will be able to:

- apply the methods and techniques that they have learned to review, consolidate, extend and apply their knowledge and understanding, and to initiate and carry out projects
- critically evaluate arguments, assumptions, abstract concepts and data (that may be incomplete), to make judgements, and to frame appropriate questions to achieve a solution - or identify a range of solutions - to a problem
- communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.

And holders will have:

- the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment regarding:

- the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility
- decision-making in complex and unpredictable contexts
- the learning ability needed to undertake appropriate further training of a professional or equivalent nature.

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AH1RMAS	Royal Military Academy Sandhurst Commissioning Course	120	M

The CertHE comprises 120 level 4 credits, comprising 6 modules of 10 credits each in CABS, DIA and WS and the applied learning elements of the programme. According to Army stipulated rules, it is necessary to pass all modules at the pass mark of 40% in order to achieve the CertHE. Re-sits will be allowed in order to achieve the pass mark.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your programme can be found online in the Course Catalogue. Details of optional modules for each part, including any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

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.

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 numbers of 45 minute periods). The experiential, or applied learning is allocated a further 60 Level 4 credits.

In addition to the scheduled contact hours, the student will be expected to undertake guided independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in Appendix 1.

Assessment

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations, coursework and oral presentations/examinations. Further information is contained in the individual module descriptions.

Assessments will be passed through Turnitin. This will be done by the army during the Commissioning Course and thereafter by Henley/SPEIR.

Progression

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' as follows.

Obtain an overall average of 40% over the 120 credits taken in the CC.

Obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 100 credits taken in the CC.

Classification

Mark	Interpretation
70%-100%	First class
60%-69%	Upper Second Class
50%-59%	Lower Second Class
40%-49%	Third Class

35%-39%	Below Honours Standard
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0%-34%	Fail
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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.

CertHE Leadership and Strategic Studies (AHEP) for students entering Part 1 in session 2023/24

15 September 2023

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