



THE UNIVERSITY
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MSc Education (All Pathways)

at Moray House School of
Education and Sport

November 2025

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Welcome to the MSc Education Programme

- Flagship taught postgraduate degree of Moray House School of Education and Sport
- One of the most popular programmes at Moray House!
- Foundation to work in education policy, research or practice, & doctoral study.



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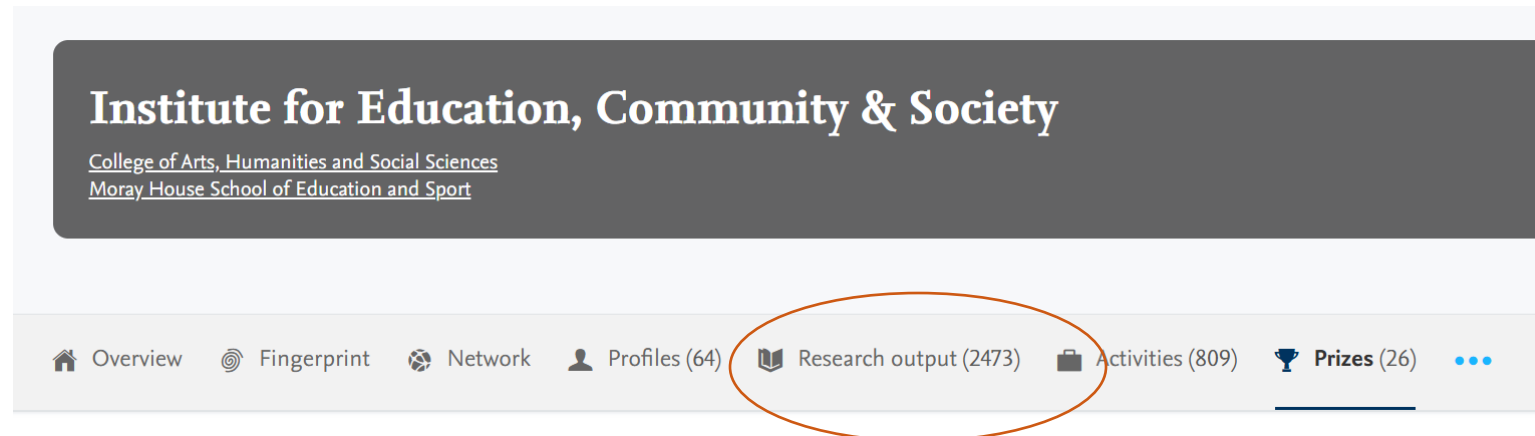
World Leading Programme

- 1st in UK** University of Edinburgh is ranked 1st in the United Kingdom for Education by the Times Good University Guide for 2026
- Top 2%** University of Edinburgh is ranked 34th / 1503 universities globally
→ Higher than Columbia University, LSE, and NYU!
- Top 4%** Education is ranked even higher at 17th / 450 programmes globally
→ Higher than Princeton, Cornell, and the University of Chicago!



Research-Informed Teaching

- 78% of research submissions were assessed as "world-leading" or "internationally excellent" (REF 2021)
- Many of our staff are actively researching the topics they teach



Programme Leadership



**Programme
Co-Director**

Dr Patricio Troncoso



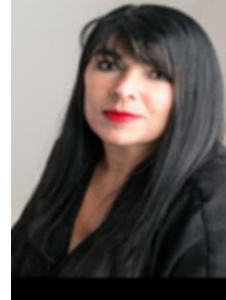
**Programme
Co-Director**

Dr Daniel Shephard



**Child and
Adolescent
Psychology
Pathway**

Dr Katie Cebula



**Early
Childhood
Practice and
Froebel
Pathway**

Dr Lynn McNair



**Philosophy
of Education
Pathway**

Dr Aline Nardo



**Research
Pathway**

Dr Adriana Duta



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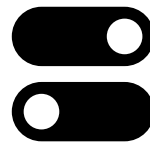
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Programme Overview

**Compulsory
Courses**



**Optional
Courses**



**Progression to
Dissertation**



Post-Graduate Certificate / Diploma

Pathways result in a
specialized degree title

MSc Education



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One Programme = 5 pathways

CAP

Child & adolescent
psychology pathway



ECPF

Early childhood
practice & Froebel



PoE

Philosophy of
education pathway



Research

Education research
pathway



General

General
pathway



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One Programme = 30+ courses

Example Core Courses (by pathway)

GEN: **Education Policy** & the Politics of Education

CAP: Child and Adolescent **Development**

ECPF: **Pedagogy and practice** of Friedrich Froebel for the early years

POE: Philosophy of Education – **Future Directions**

RES: Quantitative **Data Analysis**

And many more!

Example Optional Courses (all pathways)

The **Curriculum**: Context, Change & Development

Psychology of **Learning and Teaching**

Involving Children & Young People

Education for the **Environment** & Sustainability

Qualitative data research

And many more! <https://edin.ac/4lBinIz>



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Core courses differ by pathway. GEN = General Pathway; CAP = Child and Adolescent Psychology Pathway; ECPF = Early Childhood Practice and Froebel Pathway; POE = Philosophy of Education Pathway; RES = Education Research Pathway

Optional courses can be chosen across pathways and some 'core courses' for one pathway are options for other pathways

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Apply to study with us!



<https://edin.ac/4nH60vL>

Postgraduate Virtual Open Days

Specialist Pathways



Dr Aline Nardo, Dr Katie Cebula,
Dr Lynn McNair, Dr Adriana Duta

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Child and Adolescent Psychology (CAP) Pathway



Pathway Co-ordinator

Child and Adolescent
Psychology

Dr Katie Cebula

Katie.cebula@ed.ac.uk



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Why take this Pathway?



- Passionate about understanding child development from infancy to adolescence?
- Want to think critically about the implications of child development research for working with children in educational settings?
- Want to understand how educational theory and policy have an impact on children's development?

Then the CAP pathway is for you!

The pathway provides a solid foundation for doctoral study and for those seeking to work with children in an educational profession.



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Our MSc Education CAP Students go on to great things!



- PhDs in Child and Adolescent Development in Education
- Careers focused on children and young people in Education
 - Returning to teaching
 - Education Advisor
 - Youth Mentor
 - Charity work
 - Directing Youth Skill programmes

As someone new to Education, I've managed well in the MSc Education (Child and Adolescent Psychology) programme, thanks to the immense support from lecturers, tutors, and classmates. I truly appreciate how caring and supportive the school staff and friends are...The skills I've gained as both a student and cohort lead will undoubtedly help me in pursuing a teaching career back in Singapore. (CAP Graduate)



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Moray House School of
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MSc Education: Early Childhood (Froebel Pathway)

Play, Pedagogy, Social Justice & Leadership

Alumni Sharing and Online Taster Session

22nd January 2026 & 12th February 2026

Dr Lynn McNair O.B.E
Dr Kristina Konstantoni



This pathway is for those who have an **interest in early childhood education** and want to gain an **advanced and critical understanding** of **Froebelian principles** and other contemporary early years pedagogies.



Friedrich Wilhelm August Fröbel

If you are interested in early childhood practice, in particular, the work of Friedrich Froebel and other contemporary early years pedagogies and social justice approaches, this pathway is for you.

Froebelian pedagogy promotes a principled approach to working with young children, which resonates strongly with the field of childhood studies and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The pathway has been designed to help students think about current developments in early childhood education.

It will appeal to **those who want to make a positive contribution to practice, policy and research** on children's learning, development and rights, play, outdoor learning, equitable practices, participation and integrated working.



When choosing your options
think about...

- your **interests**
- **dissertation** possibilities
- **assessment** styles
- your **career plans**
- **credit balance** across semesters

Pathway Related Opportunities

Visits / placements to/at
Froebelian early years settings

Childhood and youth
research group

www.ed.ac.uk/education/childhood-and-youth-studies





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Moray House School of
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MSc Education: Early Childhood
(Froebel Pathway)

Play, Pedagogy, Social Justice & Leadership

Alumni Sharing and Online Taster Session



Shape the Future of Early
Childhood Education –
the Froebel Way

Join us!

22nd January 2026 & 12th February 2026
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (UK Time)



Scan here for
our Eventbrite
link!



Research Pathway Coordinator



Dr Adriana Duta

Lecturer in Quantitative Methods



Moray House School of Education and Sport, IECS
University of Edinburgh

Tel: +44 (0)131 651 6458
Email: adriana.duta@ed.ac.uk

BERJ British Educational
Research Journal



Original Article | [Open Access](#) |

Social inequalities in attaining higher education in Scotland: New evidence from sibling data

Adriana Duta Cristina Iannelli, Richard Breen

First published: 04 May 2021 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/berj.3725> | Citations: 6



Advances in Life Course Research

Volume 47, March 2021, 100376



Different degrees of career success: social origin and graduates' education and labour market trajectories

Adriana Duta ^a , Bożena Wielgoszewska ^b , Cristina Iannelli ^a

[Home](#) > [Higher Education](#) > Article

Social origins, academic strength of school curriculum and access to selective higher education institutions: Evidence from Scotland and the USA

[Open access](#) | Published: 17 July 2017



[< Previous Article](#) [Next Article >](#)



Longitudinal and Life Course Studies

**Inequalities in children's skills on
primary school entry in Ireland and
Scotland: do home learning
environment and early childhood
childcare explain these differences?**

Authors: Emer Smyth and Adriana Duta

Article Category: Research Article

Pages: 48–72



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Research Pathway Alumni

CHMS

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People » Zhengbing He


Zhengbing He



Position: Current PhD Student
School and/or Centres: Centre for Heritage and Museum Studies

Biography | **Research interest**

Zhengbing He is a PhD student at the Centre for Heritage and Museum Studies. Her research focuses on the intersection of history and myth taking an interdisciplinary approach, she investigates how local communities how they respond to official histories while engaging in regional competitive heritage-making.



Mr Su Qibang
EdD student

Mr Su Qibang is an EdD student of the Department of Citizenship and Society at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. Before studying in the doctoral programme at the University of Edinburgh, he had part-time work experience in an NGO in Britain and worked full-time in a branch of the New Oriental Education Technology Group in Shanghai.

Research Interest:

- Citizenship education
- Sociology of education
- Higher education

Email: s1139180@sms.eduhk.hk



Boran Yu

 FOLLOW

PhD student, [University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill](#)
Verified email at unc.edu
[mathematics education](#) [research-practice](#) [teacher education](#)

| TITLE | CITED BY | YEAR |
|---|----------|------|
| Analysis of factors affecting academic performance of mathematics education doctoral students: A structural equation modeling approach TT Wijaya, B Yu, F Xu, Z Yuan, M Mailizar International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health 20 (5), 4518 | 19 | 2023 |



 [Employees](#) [Organogram](#)



Xinyuan Guo
PhD Candidate
Social and Behavioural Sciences
Education and Pedagogy
Youth and Family





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MSc. Education Research Pathway



"The Research Pathway is a great choice for our students who would like to pursue a PhD and build a research career in academia and for those who are interested in research roles in public, private, national or international organisations." **Dr Adriana Duta, Research Pathway Coordinator**

Key issues covered in this pathway include:

- What are the main traditions and paradigms in educational research?
- How do different methodological positions affect research questions and design?
- What are the major descriptive and exploratory statistical data analysis techniques?
- What are the main analytical approaches to issues in qualitative research?
- How do researchers choose and justify a suitable design to apply in their own research?

For questions about the Research Pathway, please contact: Adriana.Duta@ed.ac.uk



"I have thoroughly enjoyed my time studying on the MSc Education Research Pathway at Moray House. Adriana has gone above and beyond throughout the year to support us, and I have made so much progress academically. The pathway provides a breadth of courses with a range of research skills for further study and professional work, while also offering a much more sociable and close-knit community experience than you would get without a specialist pathway." **Ursula Cranston**



"My undergraduate major was preschool education, and I chose the MSc Education Research Pathway at the postgraduate level. This pathway has given me many new experiences and allowed me to learn more about how to conduct research in different ways. I really enjoyed this pathway because my teachers and classmates are very friendly. Not only have I learnt new things in this programme but I also received a lot of peer support and positive feedback." **Lexi Huang**



"MSc Education Research Pathway has greatly impacted my understanding of education and the importance of seeking justifiable knowledge. Being a part of a small cohort for a niche field like education research opened doors for meaningful interactions and strong flux of motivations. I believe the Research Pathway can benefit from talented youths who desire to make a constructive contribution to the gigantic field of education." **Vishal Nambian**



"Our pathway has fewer students, and most of our classes are small. When we have classes, we sit very close to each other. This setup gives each of us more chances to speak up in class compared to other pathways. We also have many opportunities to meet Adriana, our Pathway Coordinator. During these meetings, we catch up, give each other advice, and often find new inspiration from our discussions. I love the atmosphere in our pathway. We encourage each other and are all chasing our own goals, but we all believe we can get better and better." **Yilin Guo**

Research Pathway structure:

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Compulsory Pathway Courses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Policy and the Politics of Education (20 credits) OR The Philosophy of Education (20 credits) • Qualitative Data Research (20 credits) • The Nature of Enquiry (20 credits) • Quantitative Data Analysis with SPSS (20 credits) |
| Compulsory Research Course | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designing Educational Research (10 credits) |
| Option Courses | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 courses from MSc Education optional (2 x 20 credits) • One of them may be an outside course (requires approval) |
| Dissertation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12,000 words (50 credits) |



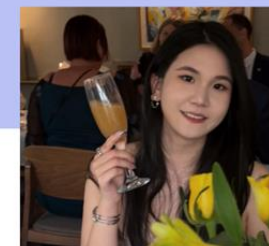
"I chose the Research Pathway to get started with research, as I had no prior experience - and it truly helped! It got me thinking critically about research and exposed me to various types and approaches. The diverse courses equipped me with practical skills and helped shape my next steps. Since the group was small, we got to know everyone, and thanks to Adriana's meetups, it felt like a close-knit community. If you're unsure about research, this is a great starting point. Don't worry if you don't have a research background, this pathway is designed to guide you step by step."

- Sangay Jurmi



"The Research Pathway exceeded my expectations in multiple ways. Initially, I was uncertain about pursuing a PhD, but this programme provided the perfect blend of theoretical foundation and practical research experience to clarify my academic goals. The diverse range of methodological approaches exposed me to qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods research, giving me a comprehensive toolkit for future studies. Beyond academic skills, I developed critical thinking abilities and confidence in presenting research findings. The programme essentially serves as a bridge between undergraduate studies and doctoral research, providing the foundational knowledge and research experience that PhD programmes expect."

- Aayushi Girish



"I feel truly honoured to have been part of the MSc Education Research Pathway family. This has been the warmest and most supportive stage of my time studying abroad. The way everyone helps and supports each other, and how closely we stay connected, has been amazing. The pathway meetings and gatherings were especially memorable - not only full of academic discussion, but also filled with care and a real sense of belonging. At times it was exhausting, but the knowledge gained and the feeling of moving one step closer to my goals made it all incredibly worthwhile."

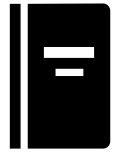
- Miaoquan He



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Philosophy of Education



What: Explores a range of philosophical issues in education practice, policy and research from a variety of contexts, traditions & perspectives



Who: Interested in thinking about the aims of education and its purposes



Dr Aline Nardo
Pathway Coordinator
Lecturer in Philosophy of Education

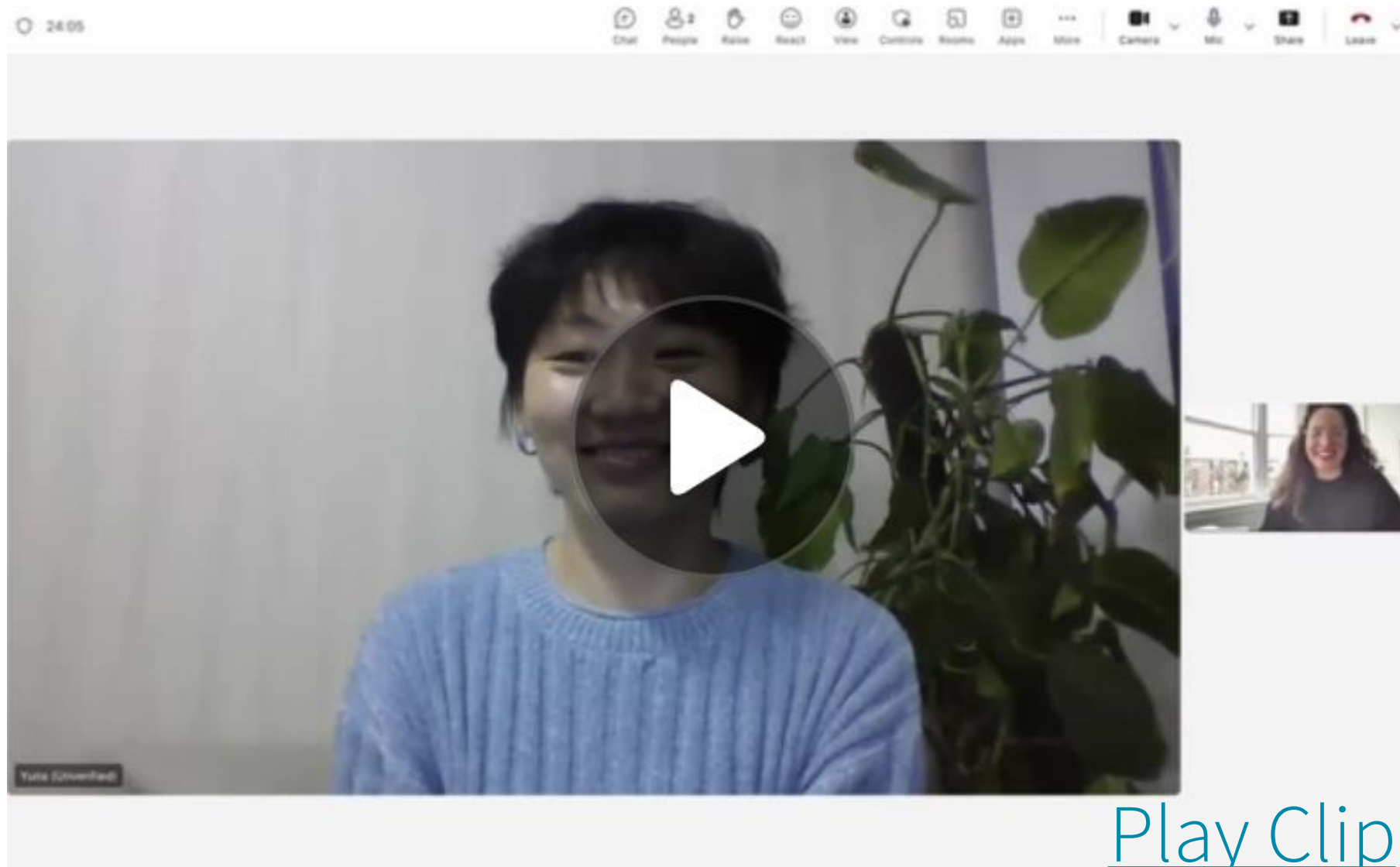
Student Experience:

'I am certain that my encounter with the activity of philosophising was life-altering, and the one-year practice of it through this programme has left me with an asset of the mind that can no longer remain idle.' (Rie)



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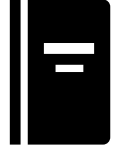
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MSc Education General Pathway



What: Provides a broad base in education across areas of specialisation of relevance to policy, practice and doctoral studies



Who: Interested in developing knowledge and skills across multiple areas of education



Dr Daniel Shephard & Dr Patricio Troncoso
Pathway Coordinators



MSc Education Programme Directors

Student Experience:

'Throughout the programme, I developed valuable abilities [...] The programme helped me clarify my next steps and [helped to] give me the confidence to move towards roles in education policy, community support, research and broader social impact work.' (Qi)



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General Pathway Testimonial

'The MSc Education programme at the University of Edinburgh is a deeply reflective and intellectually engaging journey. It stands out for its strong foundation in educational philosophy and its emphasis on critical thinking and dialogue. The programme encourages students to question what education is, what it should be, and how it shapes the way we see ourselves and the world around us. For anyone who values ideas, reflection, and meaningful learning, it offers an inspiring space to grow both academically and personally.' (Ziye)



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Any questions?

We look forward to welcoming you to the gorgeous city of Edinburgh to join us on our programme!



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Contact details for follow-up questions

- We apologise if we did not get through all of your questions in the time allotted for this session. If you have further questions that have not been answered, please email: futurestudents@ed.ac.uk





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<https://edin.ac/4nH60vL>

Thank you

Patricio Troncoso & Daniel Shephard and the MSc Education team

Interested in learning more:
futurestudents@ed.ac.uk

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