



MPALevel 7 Senior Leader PGDip Faith Based Leadership Apprenticeship

INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL APPRENTICES

The Salvation Army are working with The University of Birmingham, to offer places on their MPAPGDip Faith Based Leadership Level 7 Apprenticeship Programme, which starts in April/September 2023.

The MPAapprenticeship is a 2 year, part-time programme which can be completed ~~on~~along side your current work commitments. It is aimed at senior leaders and emerging senior leaders roles, that deal with ~~faith-based~~Faith-Based issues as part of their everyday life

The programme seeks to develop effective, leaders who can help their organisations maximise their impact for the good of society.

What does the programme offer

A unique combination of insight and learning in organisational leadership, professional development and theological reflection upon practice in an interreligious and interdenominational context

Collaborative online learning delivery with plenty of opportunities to learn from colleagues as well as leading academic experts with experience in faith community leadership

Strong focus on equality, diversity and inclusion in leadership and on In professional excellence in organisational management

Special practitioner masterclasses led by leading international experts from a variety of religious and professional backgrounds

For UK applicants only, the opportunity to complete the programme as a Master's Level ~~Degree~~-Apprenticeship, which may lead to significant fee subsidies (subject to employment status)

For more information please visit <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/taught/thr/mpa-faith-based-leadership.aspx>

Entry requirements

Applicants will ordinarily require a 2:1 or above at undergraduate level (or equivalent), three years' experience in a leadership role at some level (not necessarily a senior yet), and will need to be employed with the salvation army or an acting officer in a leadership capacity, with the capacity to dedicate approximately 8 hours a week on average to their studies throughout the two years. Support is made available by the university to those who need help and guidance with academic writing or any learning needs.

A group of Salvation Army employees and officers are currently enrolled onto the programme, that commenced in April 2020. They have kindly agreed to share their experience with us and here is what they have to say.



Marcus Lockett

Training Coordinator for
Curriculum Development and
Learning Design
SISTAD

"I have found the MPA in Faith Based Leadership to be a valuable, challenging and enjoyable experience. The course leaders, Andrew and Maryyum, are very supportive and continually strive to refine and improve the learning experience.

The subjects covered are relevant to leaders within TSA, whether officer or employee, and engage with leadership holistically.

The self-guided study material is excellent with many different guest lectures adding to the content from the course leaders. It is also varied utilising articles, videos, podcasts, and online discussion to present learning content.

The weekly 'live' seminars offer the chance to engage with other leaders both Christian and of other faiths. These conversations have been helpful, interesting, and sometimes challenging, but always stimulating.

It does require significant effort and focus, and you will need a supportive line manager to help guard the time allocated to it.....but it's worth it!"



Major Melanie Smith

Divisional Mission Enabler
Severn & South West

"I was attracted to the MPA Faith Based Leadership Programme as the modules sounded exciting and would give me teaching on areas of leadership that I could grow in. Each module includes 7 weeks of online study – about 1 day per week, which includes videos to watch and articles to read. We have a lecture week consisting of a one hour lecture each day and then two essays based on the module. One essay is on the theory of the module and the other more practical towards your role or organisation. We also do on the job apprentice hours which feed into what we have or will learn.

I haven't done any formal study since training to be an officer, but I am really enjoying the challenge and the learning both from the content of the course and from my peers in our weekly one-hour seminar. We all come from a faith-based organisation but there is much diversity amongst us and the discussion each week is helpful and enlightening. The tutors are very supportive and attend our weekly seminar and provide a one to one during each module. They are also happy to support outside of these times too.

I would encourage you to give this course a go. It is hard work, but informative, challenging and fulfilling".