Education Futures

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Study at Edinburgh Futures Institute

Interdisciplinary
Bringing arts, humanities and social sciences together with sciences, engineering and medicine to address complex global issues.

Participatory and porous
Inviting diverse groupings to bring their ways of working and thinking together. EFI extends this invitation to industry, the public and government.

Critical and research-led
Working on pressing social issues that require new ways of thinking. Mindful of the role of universities in confronting uncomfortable questions.

Future-facing
Embracing the non-traditional, the untried and the unexpected. EFI defines challenges and co-creates responses to build better futures.

Sustainable Futures

- Data, Inequality and Society
- Planetary Health
- Sustainable Lands and Cities
- Future Infrastructure, Sustainability and Climate Change

Creative Futures

- Service Management and Design
- Creative Industries
- Narrative Futures: Art, Data, Society
- Cultural Heritage Futures

Just Futures

- Data and AI Ethics
- Education Futures
- Future Governance

What's Different About Education at EFI?

- interdisciplinary programmes taught by leading academics from different Schools and disciplines

- equipping you with the critical, data and creative skills needed to navigate a rapidly-changing world

- you can study flexibly, please see degree finder for programme specific information and options

- we will help you apply leading-edge knowledge to live projects you care about

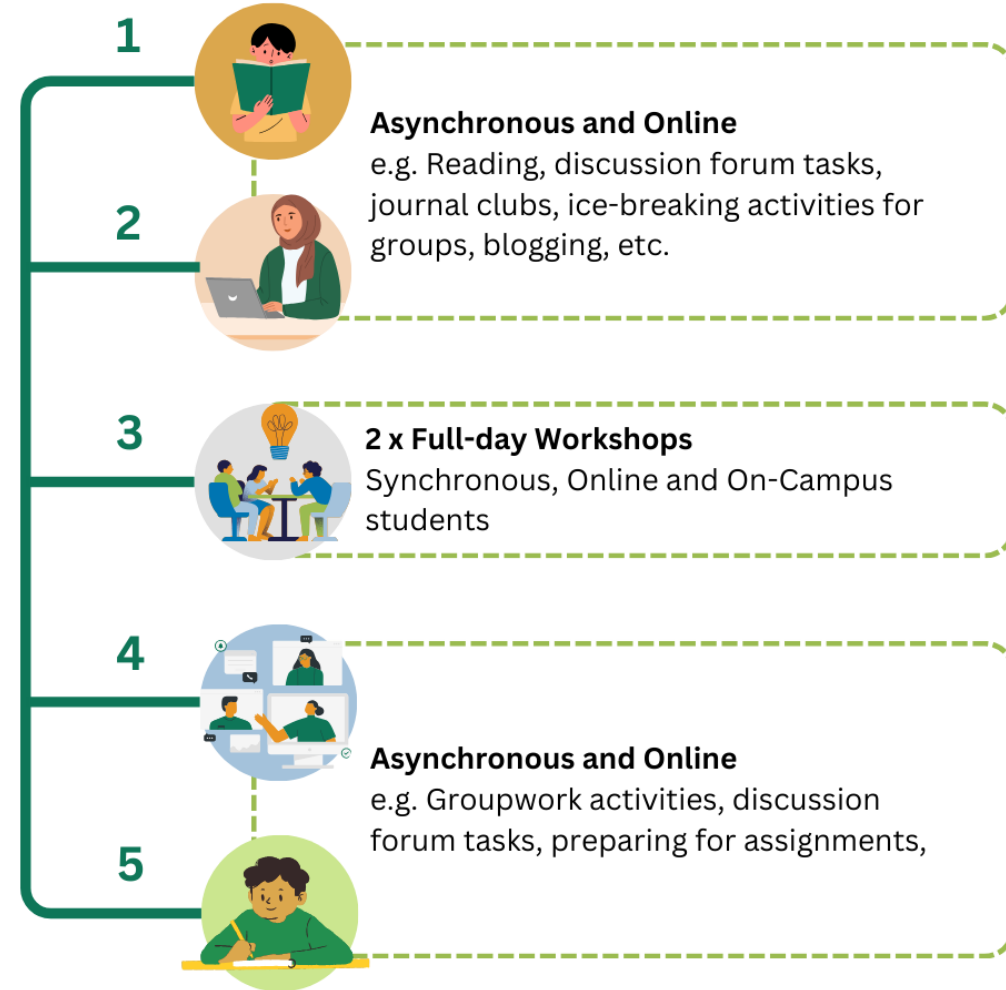- we are proud of our ecosystem and the opportunities to connect you to our partners in the community, industry and government

Fusion Teaching

- breaking down the online/on-campus distinction

- community-focused: bringing students from across the world together as a single cohort

- accessible: most courses are taught in five week blocks, with online activities and a two day long intensive sessions (09:00-17:00 Edinburgh local time)

- connected: employers work with us on the design and teaching of our programmes and help support projects

Intensive Course Timeline

Weeks

1

2

Asynchronous and Online
e.g. Reading, discussion forum tasks, journal clubs, ice-breaking activities for groups, blogging, etc.

3

2 x Full-day Workshops
Synchronous, Online and On-Campus students

4

5

Asynchronous and Online
e.g. Groupwork activities, discussion forum tasks, preparing for assignments,

Our MSc Programme Structure

Integration (20 credits)

Project (40 credits)

Shared core (40 credits)

Programme core (20 or 40 credits)

Electives (40 or 60 credits)

Our Core Courses

Futures Methods
Practical skills to apply cutting-edge futures and foresight methods and tools across diverse fields

Insights Through Data
Data science foundations, analytic and programming skills

or

Text Remix
Basic programming and creative skills

Representing Data
Programming and maker skills for data visualization and physicalisation

or

Building Near Futures
Futures methods and responses shared in a public-facing format

Ethical Data Futures
The ethical dimensions of contemporary data practices

Skills Focused

Working in cross-disciplinary teams with students from other Futures Institute programmes, you will learn critical data skills, ethical awareness, creative thinking, and methods to address complex issues:

- collect, manage and analyse computational datasets
- use emerging methodologies for mapping and designing possible futures
- learn the fundamentals of data ethics
- learn how to use creative skills in the analysis and representation of data-informed and qualitative inquiry

The Student Experience

- global and diverse cohort, on campus and online

- a very well supported experience with a dedicated student experience and support team

- events and networks to connect with each other

Join us to **Challenge. Create. Change**.

Education Futures

Education, in all its forms, is essential to a thriving society. How organisations, systems and people learn and change profoundly affects our lives, our surroundings and our futures. Our programme is for those who wish to engage critically with educational possibilities for the future, and understand how educational knowledge, institutions and agents can positively shape society.

Key subjects include: education, open education, digital learning and engagement, digital technologies, social science, community education, developmental psychology, philosophy of education, data ethics, science and innovation

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Edinburgh Futures Institute

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This programme respond to the need for creative, critical and experimental thinking across education in **schools, universities and colleges**, and learning within **communities, industries and organisations**.

You will explore the ways that knowledge, culture and skills are produced and reproduced, how people, organisations and systems learn, and how this influences global challenges and change. Your studies on this programme will support you to think ambitiously about the future of education across all sectors, gain vital data and creative skills to support your future career, and apply innovative methods to building a strong future for education and learning.

Core courses

The Future of Learning Organisations

Educating for a Challenging Future

Optional/elective courses

Children, Interaction and Design

Education, Personalisation and Surveillance

Interrogating Interdisciplinary Practice

Learning and Resilience

Relationality, Creative Practice and Education

Utopia and the Future

Suited to those who…

- Thrive in learning situations characterised by **creativity, collaboration** and **criticality**

- Are excited about experiencing different teaching approaches and are enthusiastic about **working with different types of academic material and knowledge**

- Have a desire to **positively shape education** in the near future and beyond

- **Work in, or aspire to, roles in** education leadership, policy and research, learning design, teaching and delivery, educational research and design, community, voluntary, corporate and private sector learning and development roles

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What Current and Former Students Value …

- Incredible peers (programme- and EFI-wide)

- Creative assessment and teaching methods

- The ability to pursue questions and topics of importance to them, their communities and organisations

- The way we integrate online and on-campus participation

- An opportunity to experience and contribute to a cutting-edge environment where education futures are being made and enacted every day!

Your roject could approach education futures through ...

- **Examination of a current issue in education** which explores in some depth the possible future implications of this (for practice, knowledge and so on)

- **Emerging issues or topics** that may be significant for the future of education

- **Applying futuring methods** to work with participants, analysis of materials

- **A focus on how futures work is being done** in different education and learning settings

- **Consideration** of organisational or community **change** and how people or organisations **learn** in complex or shifting settings

Questions?

- for further queries contact: **efi.education@ed.ac.uk**

- visit the EFI website: **https://efi.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate-study**

- search for '**Edinburgh Futures Institute**' on our degree finder:
https://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/postgraduate/degrees

Join us to **challenge**, **create**, and make **change** happen.