

Programme Specification

Award and title:

MSc Hospitality Management and Tourism

MSc Hospitality Management and Tourism with Professional Experience

<i>School:</i>	London
<i>Subject area:</i>	Business Management
<i>Entry from academic year:</i>	2027-28
<i>in the month(s) of</i>	September, February
<i>Awarding institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Teaching institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Delivery location:</i>	London Campus
<i>Programme/s accredited by:</i>	Not applicable
<i>Exit awards:</i>	Postgraduate Certificate Hospitality Management and Tourism Postgraduate Diploma Hospitality Management and Tourism
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>	Not applicable
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>	Not applicable
<i>QAA subject benchmark statement(s):</i>	Subject Benchmark Statement Master's Degrees in Business and Management March 2023
<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	Full time (12 months) Full time with professional experience (24 months) Standard Postgraduate periods of study ¹ for full time apply
<i>Language of study:</i>	English
<i>Paired with Foundation Year</i>	No
<i>Study abroad opportunities:</i>	No
<i>Opt-in YSJU Placement Year opportunity:</i>	No
<i>Excluding a year-long placement/professional experience, are there placement/field trip/work experience(s) totalling 20 days or more?</i>	No

Introduction and special features

The MSc Hospitality Management and Tourism at York St John University (YSJU) offers you a dynamic and future-focused postgraduate experience designed to equip you with the advanced knowledge, analytical insight, and professional capabilities needed to lead, innovate, and succeed in the global hospitality and tourism sectors. The programme brings together theory, practice, and industry engagement, helping you develop as both a reflective practitioner and a strategic thinker capable of shaping sustainable growth and meaningful experiences in a rapidly evolving industry.

On this programme, you gain far more than subject knowledge. You build the confidence, perspective, and adaptability required to thrive in a complex global environment. Through a curriculum that blends advanced management practice with real-world application, you sharpen your strategic thinking, leadership, and analytical skills while engaging directly with the contemporary challenges shaping hospitality and tourism. Your learning is enriched through strong industry connections, practitioner insight, and applied projects, ensuring that theory is consistently translated into professional understanding. You also develop practical capabilities in data analysis, digital tools, and sector-relevant platforms, enabling you to interpret industry data, evaluate performance metrics, and make informed, evidence-based decisions. Through applied group projects, you gain the ability to collaborate, communicate professionally, and design solutions grounded in evidence and sector insight.

What sets this programme apart is the way you experience learning as a genuinely transformative process. You are encouraged to test ideas through practice, reflect on your professional development, and engage with learning shaped by real industry contexts rather than abstract theory alone. Through varied and authentic assessments, collaborative projects, and sustained academic and pastoral support, you explore your own professional identity while developing the ethical judgement, confidence, and adaptability required for contemporary hospitality and tourism careers. Set within a supportive academic community and enhanced by access to one of the world's most dynamic tourism environments in London, this is a learning journey that feels purposeful, intellectually stimulating, and closely aligned with the realities of working in a global, fast-moving sector.

As a graduate of MSc Hospitality Management and Tourism, you will be prepared for a wide range of careers in the UK and around the world. You may begin in roles such as Guest Relations Executive, Hospitality Officer, Duty Manager, or Events Coordinator, and progress into positions such as Hospitality Manager, Visitor Experience Manager, Destination Development Officer, Sustainability Coordinator, or Tourism Consultant. With experience, you can move into senior leadership roles, including General Manager, Operations Director, Destination Manager, or Sustainability Lead. The programme helps you build practical skills, global awareness, and confidence to work across different cultures and sectors. This prepares you for careers in hotels, resorts, events, tourism organisations, and sustainability-focused businesses, both in the UK and internationally.

Admissions criteria

You must meet the minimum entry requirements which are published on the programme specific webpage. In addition, you must have:

1. A Bachelor's degree or equivalent, achieved at Class 2:2 or above, from an approved university or institution or;
2. Current or recent work experience (within the last two years) appropriate to enable contribution to the programme.

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see <https://www.yorksj.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/>).

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of [Recognition of prior learning \(RPL\)](#). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

Programme aim(s)

The MSc Hospitality Management and Tourism aims to:

1. Critically evaluate advanced theories, concepts and emerging trends in global and local hospitality and tourism contexts to inform strategic industry insight.

2. Integrate and apply interdisciplinary and intercultural knowledge to design evidence-based, innovative solutions for complex management challenges in hospitality and tourism.
3. Demonstrate leadership in ethical and sustainable practice through independent research, effective communication and collaborative engagement with diverse stakeholders.

Programme learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the programme you will be able to:

- 7.1 Critically evaluate, synthesise and extend advanced theories, concepts and emerging trends in global and local hospitality and tourism contexts.
- 7.2 Analyse complex hospitality and tourism problems using managerial, economic, sustainability, and technology-enabled analytical frameworks to support strategic and evidence-based decision-making.
- 7.3 Apply and critically evaluate theoretical knowledge to design and justify practical, innovative, and feasible solutions for real-world hospitality management and tourism challenges that enhance destination experiences, organisational performance, and responsible tourism outcomes
- 7.4 Conduct self-managed, cross-disciplinary and intercultural collaborative research using appropriate methods and digital tools, while adhering to ethical and data governance standards.
- 7.5 Critically evaluate and reflect on the impact of ethical, responsible, and sustainable management practices that align with industry standards and stakeholder expectations.
- 7.6 Demonstrate effective and responsible leadership, teamwork, and professional communication skills and attributes to influence diverse stakeholders in hospitality and tourism settings.
- 7.7 Critically analyse and evaluate the external environment affecting tourism and related industries to evaluate the implications of global change for sustainable tourism practices.

Programme structure

September Start Full-Time Programme Structure (12 months)

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module Status	
					Compulsory (C) or Optional (O)	Non-Compensable (NC) or Compensable (X)
LDH7001M	7	1	Destination Development and Experience Management	30	C	X
LDH7002M	7	1	Hospitality and Tourism Professional Practice	30	C	X
LDH7003M	7	2	Sustainable and Responsible Tourism Management	30	C	X
LDH7004M	7	2	Tourism and Hospitality Futures	30	C	X
LDH7005M	7	all	Applied Research Project	60	C	NC

February Start Full-Time Programme Structure (12 months)

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module Status	
					Compulsory (C) or Optional (O)	Non-Compensable (NC) or Compensable (X)
LDH7003M	7	2	Sustainable and Responsible Tourism Management	30	C	X
LDH7004M	7	2	Tourism and Hospitality Futures	30	C	X
LDH7001M	7	1	Destination Development and Experience Management	30	C	X
LDH7002M	7	1	Hospitality and Tourism Professional Practice	30	C	X
LDH7005M	7	all	Applied Research Project	60	C	NC

September Start Full-Time Programme Structure with Professional Experience (24 months)

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module Status	
					Compulsory (C) or Optional (O)	Non-Compensable (NC) or Compensable (X)
LDH7001M	7	1	Destination Development and Experience Management	30	C	X
LDH7002M	7	1	Hospitality and Tourism Professional Practice	30	C	X
LDH7003M	7	2	Sustainable and Responsible Tourism Management	30	C	X
LDH7004M	7	2	Tourism and Hospitality Futures	30	C	X
LDH7006M	7	all	Applied Research Project (Professional Experience)	60	C	NC

February Start Full-Time Programme Structure with Professional Experience (24 months)

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module Status	
					Compulsory (C) or Optional (O)	Non-Compensable (NC) or Compensable (X)
LDH7003M	7	2	Sustainable and Responsible Tourism Management	30	C	X
LDH7004M	7	2	Tourism and Hospitality Futures	30	C	X
LDH7001M	7	1	Destination Development and Experience Management	30	C	X
LDH7002M	7	1	Hospitality and Tourism Professional Practice	30	C	X
LDH7006M	7	all	Applied Research Project (Professional Experience)	60	C	NC

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the table above as non-compensable. A non-compensable module is one that must be passed at the relevant level (with a mark of 50)

in order to progress.

Professional experience will take place during the second year of the programme, with the option of a professional placement or YSJU London's Enterprise Academy. Skills acquired will be assessed via the Applied Research Project (Professional Experience). Please see the 'Professional Experience (Option)' section below.

Professional Experience (Option)

Professional experience is an excellent opportunity to strengthen your career prospects and deepen your understanding of the hospitality and tourism sector. The MSc Hospitality Management and Tourism programme is available with a 12-month or 24-month option that includes professional experience (depending on the mode of study selected), enabling you to gain valuable global as well as UK-based knowledge and practical skills that showcase your capabilities. A minimum of 9 months of professional experience is required.

YSJU London provides comprehensive support for you to pursue professional experience through our dedicated London Placement Team. This includes personalised career guidance, employer engagement events, sector-specific career fairs in both London and York, and access to exclusive job platforms. While securing a placement cannot be guaranteed, since this decision rests entirely with employers, we can guarantee access to professional experience opportunities through our Enterprise Academy.

The Enterprise Academy (EA) is designed to help you develop entrepreneurial confidence, industry awareness, and practical innovation skills relevant to hospitality and tourism. Through workshops, mentoring, networking events, and hands-on enterprise activities, the Academy supports you in exploring business ideas, building leadership capabilities, or engaging in applied enterprise projects. In the first part of EA you will cover Enterprise Foundations. You will then follow a pathway of your choice during the last phase of EA. There are 3 pathways to choose from: the Enterprise Pathway, the Leadership Pathway, and our newest addition, the Technical Pathway.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Your learning, teaching and assessment experience on this programme is shaped by the YSJ Pedagogy, which views learning as a transformative journey through knowing, doing and being. The programme is learner-driven, inclusive and practice-informed, combining academic study with real-world application to support your development as a reflective, ethical and confident professional.

Learning, teaching and assessment are designed holistically and are constructively aligned, ensuring that what you learn, how you learn, and how you are assessed are closely connected. Throughout the programme, you will develop key graduate attributes through inclusive and equitable teaching and assessment practices that prioritise your experience and prepare you for future professional practice.

Your learning is underpinned by the following principles:

- Active, collaborative and experiential learning through practical and authentic activities;
- The gradual development of responsibility, accountability and learner autonomy;
- A focus on holistic competence and professional identity, alongside subject knowledge;
- Reflection as a central tool for learning, self-evaluation and development.

The programme values the experience, knowledge and perspectives you bring from your academic, professional and cultural background. Learning is therefore inquiry-led and project-based, encouraging collaboration, shared problem-solving and peer learning. If you are returning to study, new to UK postgraduate education, or unfamiliar with the discipline, you will receive ongoing support with academic skills, scholarly writing, assessment literacy and critical analysis.

Modules are delivered through a blended learning approach, using a combination of face-to-face and digital methods such as lectures (including online and recorded content), workshops, seminars, guided discussions, tutorials and activities via the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). This flexible approach supports accessibility, engagement and participation for a diverse postgraduate cohort.

Assessment is authentic, inclusive and developmental, aligned with YSJU's Principles of Assessment and Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) guidance. You will experience a varied range of assessment methods, including portfolios, practical tasks, presentations, vivas, simulations, reflective work and project-based research, many of which reflect real-world professional practice.

You will receive regular formative feedback or feedforward before summative submission, delivered through written, verbal, audio, live or coaching-based formats as appropriate. Feedback will support your

development of subject knowledge, research skills, reflective practice and professional capability, helping you progress with confidence throughout the programme. Two examples of formative assessment provided below.

For LDH7001M Assessment 1: Evidence Log of 6 AI-Assisted Critique on Destination-Management Articles- where you use AI tools to summarise and critique peer-reviewed destination-management articles, evaluating accuracy and bias in AI outputs to produce an evidence log.

For LDH7003M Assessment 1: Present analysis of a Sustainability Challenge in Tourism, where you identify a current sustainability challenge in tourism, map the key stakeholders involved and provide a brief critical analysis of existing strategies addressing the issue.

Progression and graduation requirements

The University's [regulations](#) for taught postgraduate awards apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the Programme Structure section as non-compensable.

Internal and external reference points

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University Mission, Culture and Values](#)
- [University 2026 Strategy](#)
- [QAA subject benchmark statements](#)
- [Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- [Freedom of Speech Code of Practice](#)
- [The University's Approach to Dignity and Respect](#)

Date written / revised: February 2026

Programme originally approved: 01/05/2026