

# Michael Pearce

**Instructor** - Manchester University Shotokan Karate Club

**Assistant Instructor** - Shotokan Karate Academy

**Assistant Instructor** - Hale Karate Club

## BACKGROUND

March 2000 - PRESENT

Michael started training in karate back in 2000 at the age of 8 in South Wales where he grew up. This was with a non-KUGB organisation and he reached Sandan (3rd Dan Black Belt) before transferring to the KUGB and later grading to 4th Dan.

Michael moved to Manchester in 2010 when he commenced a Computing for Business Applications degree course at the University of Manchester. It was at this time that he was looking for a karate club to train at in Manchester and duly joined the Manchester University Shotokan Karate Club, training under Sensei Garry Harford, the club's chief instructor. As well as being a dedicated part of the club's committee, he attended several competitions such as the KUGB Student Nationals, KUGB Northern Region Championships, KUGB Nationals and BUCS. Michael still continues to participate in many competitions both as a competitor and as a coach.

Whilst at university, Michael also practised Jiu Jitsu and he became fascinated with the intricate techniques and instantly relatable applications of techniques found in many Shotokan kata. As well as grading to 3rd Kyu he trained and competed at the annual Atemi and Randori nationals.

Michael joined the Shotokan Karate Academy, Sensei Harford's main club, when it relocated from Salford to Hulme, Manchester. This gave him a chance to both keep up his own training while starting to teach at the university club, under the watchful eye of Sensei Harford. Michael now regularly teaches at the university and the Academy as well as occasionally visiting other local clubs with links to the Academy to lend a helping hand.

In 2013, when he turned 21, Michael re-graded to Sandan, this time with the KUGB, which was the earliest he could confirm his grade within the KUGB. In 2016, Michael was first selected to the KUGB England Kata Squad, and has been re-selected each year since. He now continues to compete at the Grand Slam competitions held throughout the year alongside the other KUGB competitions.

Michael currently holds the rank of Yondan (4th Dan) in the KUGB, after grading at the biannual special dan course and grading in Bath in October 2017.

## Competition Awards

SKA Interclub '15 - Kata 3rd  
SKA interclub '16 - Kata 2nd  
BUCS Team Kumite '11 3rd  
BUCS Team Kumite '12 2nd  
KUGB Regional Championships '12 - Male JR Kumite 3rd  
KUGB Student Championships '12 - Male Team Kumite 3rd  
Jitsu Foundation Atemi Nationals '13 - 3rd Kyu, 3rd  
Jitsu Foundation Randori Nationals '14 - 3rd Kyu Standing, 2nd  
NTU Open '17 - Kata 2nd  
Manchester SKC '18 - Kata 2nd, Kumite 3rd



Manchester, UK

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## TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS

**KUGB Qualified**

**Instructor Assessor**

July 2018-present

**KUGB 4th Dan**

October 2017

**KUGB Qualified**

**Instructor**

April 2014-present

**KUGB England Kata  
squad**

January 2016-present

## PAST EXPERIENCE

**UoM Club Captain &  
Treasurer**

September 2012 - September  
2013

## PREVIOUS GRADINGS

KUGB

4th Dan - 07/10/17

3rd Dan - 05/10/13

UKASKO

3rd Dan - 05/11/11

2nd Dan - 18/11/07

1st Dan - 14/06/03

1st Kyu - 30/04/02

2nd Kyu - 30/03/02

3rd Kyu - 30/07/01

4th Kyu - 15/03/01

5th Kyu - 18/12/00

6th Kyu - 21/09/00

7th Kyu - 28/06/00

8th Kyu - 02/04/00

Jiu Jitsu Foundation 3rd Kyu