

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London				
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College				
3	Programme Title(s)	MSc Geography PG Dip Geography PG Cert Geography				
4	Programme Code(s)	TMSGEOGY_C TPDGEOGY_C TPCGEOGY_C				
5	UCAS code	N/A				
6	Home Department	Geography				
7	Exit Award(s)	PG Dip, PG Cert				
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	1 year full time; 2 years part-time				
9	Mode of Study	FT	X	PT	X	DL
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	7				
11	Other teaching depts or institution (or not applicable)	N/A				
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A				
13	QAA Benchmark Statement	N/A				
14	Programme Rationale & Aims	<p>Programme aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide students with a flexible postgraduate programme in Geography which can be tailored to their individual interests and aptitudes • To provide students with detailed and sophisticated knowledge about a range of social and environmental processes relevant to the contemporary world • To provide students with up to date knowledge about the academic discipline of geography and how knowledge is created within the discipline. • To equip students with the skills and knowledge needed to carry out robust independent research at postgraduate level • To provide a range of learning experiences and teaching approaches that enable students to gain confidence, work independently and gain work-relevant skills. • To provide access to postgraduate geography study to students with a wide range of backgrounds and professional experiences • To develop self-reliance and self-confidence through working independently and with others. <p>Programme rationale: The Department of Geography, Environment and Development Studies offers a range of Masters level programmes but some students would like greater flexibility in their choice of modules and to choose modules from across existing MSc programmes. The MSc Geography offers this flexibility drawing on existing expertise and teaching within the</p>				

	department. It is a flexible, yet coherent, programme which would enable anyone wanting to study geography at postgraduate level at Birkbeck to find a course which would suit them.
15	Entry Criteria
	Normally an undergraduate degree at 2:2 or above or equivalent professional experience
16	Learning Outcomes
	<p>On completion of this programme, students will be able to demonstrate the following skills and knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to date knowledge of current issues in the discipline of geography • Understanding of key concepts in geographical research and the ability to communicate them effectively. • In depth knowledge of the process of research design and the selection of research methods. • Appropriate skills to carry out a piece of independent research in the field of geography, including the design of appropriate research instruments (e.g. questionnaires, interview schedules or identification of field sites). • The ability to synthesize and critique relevant academic journal articles and to discuss them in person and in writing. • The ability to participate in class discussions in a collegial and constructive manner • The ability to plan work effectively • The ability to complete work in accordance with deadlines • The ability to communicate appropriately with a range of audiences.
17	Learning, teaching and assessment methods
	Teaching will take place in lectures and seminars and through dissertation supervision. Substantive content will also be delivered through the Moodle Virtual Learning Environment. Student learning, as well as taking place within formal face-to-face sessions, will involve reading and assimilating the considerable literature on this subject and engaging with key experts and stakeholders in guest sessions within the programme. Students will also work on their dissertations independently and will learn independently through guided reading.
18	Programme Description
	<p>MSc Geography:</p> <p>A typical full time student would take the modules 'GEDS Research Methods Training (unaccredited)'; 120 credits of option modules at level 7 from those offered in the department and complete a dissertation (60 credits).</p>

<p>A part time student would typically take 90 credits of taught option modules in their first year and in the second year 30 credits of option modules, 'GEDS Research Methods Training (unaccredited)' and complete their dissertation (60 credits).</p> <p>PG Dip Geography: Students will complete 120 credits of taught modules at Level 7 from those offered within GEDS. They will not complete a dissertation</p> <p>PG Cert Geography: Students will complete 60 credits of taught modules at Level 7 from those offered within GEDS.</p> <p>All students will discuss their module choices with the programme director and plan a bespoke, coherent programme of study.</p>
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19	Programme Structure			
Full Time programme – 1 year				
MSc Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	SSGE083Z7	GEDS Research Methods Training (unaccredited)	0	Compulsory
7	Various - see list below	Students may take any option modules offered at Level 7 within the Geography department for which they have appropriate pre-requisites	Total 120	Option
7	SSGE061D7	Dissertation Environmental MSc	60	Compulsory
PG Dip Year 1				
7	Various - see list below	Students may take any option modules offered at Level 7 within the Geography department for which they have appropriate pre-requisites	Total 120	Option
PG Cert Year 1				
7	Various - see list below	Students may take any option modules offered at Level 7 within the Geography department for which they have appropriate pre-requisites	Total 60	Option
Part Time programme – 2 years				
MSc Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	Various - see list below	Students may take any option modules offered at Level 7 within the Geography department for which they have appropriate pre-requisites	90	Option
		Students on the PG Dip programme should take option modules to the value of 60 credits	60	
		Students in the PG Cert programme should take option modules to the value of 60 credits	60	

PG Dip Year 1				
7	Various -see list below	Students may take any option modules offered at Level 7 w within the Geography department for which they have appropriate pre-requisites	60	Option
PG Cert Year 1				
7	Various - see list below	Students may take any option modules offered at Level 7 within the Geography department for which they have appropriate pre-requisites	30	Option
MSc Year 2				
7	SSGE083Z7	GEDS Research Methods Training (unaccredited)	0	Compulsory
7	SSGE061D7	Dissertation Environmental MSc	60	Compulsory
		Students may take any option modules offered at Level 7 within the Geography department for which they have appropriate pre-requisites	30	Option
PG Dip Year 2				
7	Various - see list below	Students may take any option modules offered at Level 7 within the Geography department for which they have appropriate pre-requisites	60	Option
PG Cert Year 2				
7	Various see list below	Students may take any option modules offered at Level 7 within the Geography department for which they have appropriate pre-requisites	30	Option
Indicative list of options:				
7	SSGE007S7	Anthropology, Culture and Development	30	
	SSGE010S7	Climate Change	30	
	SSGE062S7	Critical Social Geographies	30	
	FFDV023S7	Development Studies: Theoretical Approaches	30	
	SSGE014H7	Energy and Climate Change	15	
	SSGE011S7	Environment and Policy	30	
	SSGE059H7	Environmental Reporting and Management Systems	15	
	SSGE048H7	Geovisualisation and WebGIS	15	
	FDDV025S7	International Political Economy of Childhood	15	
	GPPH035H7	Introduction to GIS	15	
	SSGE045H7	Spatial Simulation Modelling	15	
	SSGE049H7	Remote Sensing and Environmental Dynamics	15	
	GPPH033H7	Sustainable Business Practice	15	

Status* CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student, COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board, OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

20	Regulations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admissions This programme adheres to the College Admissions Policy: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/admissions-policy.pdf • Credit Transfer Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on Accredited Prior Learning http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/accreditation-prior-learning.pdf • Programme Regulations This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations • Programme Specific Regulations (or not applicable) N/A
21	Student Attendance Framework – in brief
	<p>The full version of the 'Student Attendance Framework' is available http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/rules/Attendance-Framework.pdf .</p> <p>Principle Consistent and regular student attendance in class (or equivalent) promotes and affords student success. Inconsistent and irregular attendance is less likely to result in student success and is consistent with lower marks and degree classifications being achieved and awarded.</p> <p>Attendance expectation Birkbeck, University of London expects you to consistently attend all timetabled sessions, including lectures, seminars, group and individual tutorials, learning support sessions, workshops, laboratories, field trips, inductions and demonstrations.</p> <p>E-Registers All Birkbeck students are issued with student cards. Students are expected to take them to classes and to assessment venues and to present them to a member of staff if requested. This is for the purpose of identifying Birkbeck students.</p>
22	Student Support and Guidance
	<p>All Birkbeck students have access to a range of student support services, details can be found on our website here: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities</p>
23	Methods of Enhancing Quality and Standards
	<p>The College has rigorous procedures in place for the monitoring and enhancing its educational provision. This includes regular monitoring of programmes drawing on feedback from various sources including external examiner's reports, student feedback,</p>

	<p>student achievement and progression data. In addition, departments are reviewed every four to five years through the internal review process that includes external input.</p> <p>For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality .</p>
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24	Programme Director	Rosie Cox
25	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	Autumn 2016
26	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2016
27	Date approved by Academic Board	TBC
28	Date(s) updated/amended	April 2016