

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London					
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College					
3	Programme Title(s)	BA Global Politics and International Relations BA Global Politics and International Relations with Foundation Year					
4	Programme Code(s)	UUBAGLPR_C (full-time), UBAGLPIR_C (part-time) UUBFGLPR_C (full-time with Foundation Year) UBFGLPIR_C (part-time with Foundation Year)					
5	UCAS code (if applicable)	L219/ L292 (with Foundation Year)					
6	Home Department	Department of Politics					
7	Exit Award(s)	Cert HE Politics and International Studies Diploma in Higher Education in Global Politics and International Relations					
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	3 years full-time, 4 years full-time with Foundation Year, 4 years part-time, 6 years part-time with Foundation Year					
9	Mode of Study	FT	x	PT	x	DL	
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	Level: 6					
11	Other teaching depts or institution (or not applicable)	N/A					
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A					
13	QAA Benchmark Group	Politics and International Relations					
14	Programme Rationale & Aims						
	BA Global Politics and International Relations: This programme aims to provide students with the main theoretical, conceptual and empirical skills required for understanding and explaining contemporary global politics and international relations. Its compulsory modules focus on: the history of the state and the international system, the contemporary international political and economic system, the major theories of global politics and international relations, and the relationship between war and global social relations. In line with the interdisciplinary nature of the Department of Politics, the programme draws on a wide range of resources from political theory and philosophy, political science, and the traditions of political and historical sociology. BA Global Politics and International Relations with Foundation Year For the BA Global Politics and International Relations with Foundation Year programme, the purpose of the Foundation Year is to prepare students for successful completion of their						

	<p>undergraduate degree. The Foundation Year (one year FT or two years PT) provides students the opportunity to explore their interests and build on their study skills, and on successful completion of the Foundation Year, students may progress onto year one of the PT or FT programmes. The curriculum for the 'with foundation year' programme after the completion of the foundation year modules is the same as the full-time or part-time BA programme. Students who successfully complete the versions of the degree programme 'with foundation year' are awarded the same final degree title as students on the full-time or part-time degree routes.</p>
15	<p>Entry Criteria</p> <p>Students who have recently taken A-level qualifications will require 1 A and 2 B's at A-Level (or UCAS tariff points 120 - 128). Students who fail to achieve these grades may still be considered for entry if they demonstrate the required level of intellectual commitment and potential.</p> <p>Birkbeck welcomes applicants without traditional entry qualifications as we base decisions on our own assessment of qualifications, knowledge and previous work experience. We may waive formal entry requirements or consider alternative qualifications based on judgement of academic potential.</p> <p>BA Global Politics and International Relations with Foundation Year: This programme is designed for people who can demonstrate the ability and motivation to complete the BA Global Politics and International Relations but who do not currently meet the entry criteria for direct entrance onto the degree. Applicants will often be invited for interview to discuss their interests and future plans, and to assess their needs and aptitudes. For those students who already have Level 3 qualifications the expectation is that they will have qualifications equivalent to 48 UCAS tariff points. Given that students on the foundation year will be enrolled on degree programmes, applicants will be offered a place only if there is significant evidence to suggest they have the ability to complete the full degree.</p>
16	<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Foundation Year: Students will have acquired:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A foundational understanding of the different disciplines offered by the School of Social Science, History and Philosophy 2. A foundational understanding of some key concepts in those disciplines 3. Key academic reading, writing, research and assessment skills appropriate to the study of those disciplines 4. An understanding of other key learning skills required for university-level study and knowledge of how to access support at Birkbeck to develop these. <p>All modes of study: On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - understand and employ the main concepts and theories used in the analysis of global politics, globalisation and international relations;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - critically examine arguments concerning the nature of the 'global' and the 'international' and the relationship between the two; - understand the major transformations that have taken place in the international political and economic system in the modern period, and evaluate various explanations of these transformations; - understand and critically assess the relationship between the state and the international system, as well as the role played by war in international politics; - demonstrate a clear awareness of the importance of the relationship between theory and empirical evidence in the study of politics; - demonstrate proficiency in the employment of key analytical skills in the study of politics; - use the skills developed in the programme for vocational and personal purposes, and potentially in further academic study.
17	Learning, teaching and assessment methods <p>Teaching takes place in lectures and seminars. In seminars, a variety of methods are employed to engage students, including student presentations (individual and group), small group discussions, debates and so on. Lectures are supported by a detailed coursebook for each module that indicates relevant reading and guides further private study. Web-based resources are used to facilitate access to reading and other course materials.</p> <p>Assessment is through coursework (essays) and examinations. Essays are compulsory, but essay marks only count towards the final module mark if they improve the exam mark. This means that essays can be treated as formative exercises, enabling students to obtain feedback but not jeopardising their opportunity to get a good result for the module in the exam. Written feedback on essays is provided within three weeks of submission, and students have the opportunity to clarify any feedback by contacting their lecturers and seminar leaders.</p>
18	Programme Description <p>Foundation Year: Students in the BA Global Politics and International Relations with Foundation year take 120 credits at Level 3 in the foundation year(s). There are four core modules:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fundamentals of Study: Learning through the Global City 2. Breaking Boundaries of Knowledge 3. Crossing Borders: Studying in SSHP 4. Contemporary Global Issues: Approaches in Social Science, History and Philosophy <p>Students who successfully pass all modules with grades of 40% or higher may progress onto Year one of BA Global Politics and International Relations with Foundation Year.</p> <p>BA Global Politics and International Relations: Students take four level 4 modules that ensure that they have an introductory grasp of the degree content and are equipped with the general knowledge and skills required for an honours degree. Results from these modules do not count in determining the final degree classification. Compulsory modules at levels 5 and 6 address the central subjects of international political economy, theories of international relations, and the relationship between war, political power and societal structures. Options cover a wide range of subjects relevant to the degree programme, including modules that offer further insight into various</p>

	<p>facets of political economy and international relations (e.g., Capitalism, Empire, Nationalism, Ethnicity and Religious Conflict, International Migration and Transnationalism, Food, Politics and Society) or provide a specific focus on parts of the world that are important for global politics (e.g. Politics and the Middle East, American Politics and Foreign Policy).</p> <p>Indicative list of options:</p> <p>Contemporary British Politics Social and Political Theory Empires: A Historical Sociology The Politics of European Integration Food, Politics, and Society Capitalism and the Politics of Markets Parliamentary Studies Russian Politics and Society, 1905-Present American Politics and Foreign Policy British and Comparative Foreign Policy Politics and the Middle East Challenges in Contemporary Politics International Migration and Transnationalism Colonial Encounters: Race, Identity, and Cultural Exchange in the British Empire The Ottoman Empire The Russian Revolution Ireland and the Irish from the Act of Union to Partition Empire in Comparative Perspective The Reconstruction of Europe 1945-50</p>
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19	Programme Structure			
Full Time programme				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
4	SSPO118S4	Introduction to Global Politics	30	Compulsory
4	SSPO017S4	The Study of Politics	30	Compulsory
5	SSPO139S5	Transformations in Modern Politics	30	Compulsory
5	SSPO143S5	Challenges in Contemporary Politics	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
4	SSPO137S4	Governing by Numbers	30	Compulsory
4	SSPO140S4	Surveying Political Research	30	Compulsory
5	POSO029S5	Introduction to International Political Economy	30	Compulsory
5 or 6	n/a	Option Module at level 5 or 6	30	Option
Year 3				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
6	POSO004S6	War and Modern Society	30	Compulsory
6	n/a	Level 6 Option Module	30	Option
6	n/a	Level 6 Option Module	30	Option
6	n/a	Level 6 Option Module OR Dissertation	30	Option

Part Time programme				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
4	SSPO118S4	Introduction to Global Politics	30	Compulsory
4	SSPO017S4	The Study of Politics	30	Compulsory
5	SSPO139S5	Transformations in Modern Politics	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
5	POSO029S5	Introduction to International Political Economy	30	Compulsory
4	SSPO137S4	Governing by Numbers	30	Compulsory
4	SSPO140S4	Surveying Political Research	30	Compulsory
Year 3				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
5	SSPO143S5	Challenges in Contemporary Politics	30	Compulsory
6	POSO004S6	War and Modern Society	30	Compulsory
5 or 6	n/a	Option Module at level 5 or 6	30	Option
Year 4				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
6	n/a	Level 6 Option Module	30	Option
6	n/a	Level 6 Option Module	30	Option
6	n/a	Level 6 Option Module OR Dissertation	30	Option

BA Global Politics and International Relations with Foundation Year (Full-time 4 years)				
FOUNDATION Year (0)				
Level	Module code	Module title	Credits	Status
3	CASE002S3	Fundamentals of Study: Learning through the Global City	30	Core
3	CASE001S3	Breaking Boundaries of Knowledge	30	Core
3	SSSS001S3	Crossing Borders: Studying in SSHP	30	Core
3	SSSS002S3	Contemporary Global Issues: Approaches in Social Science, History and Philosophy	30	Core
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
4	SSPO118S4	Introduction to Global Politics	30	Compulsory
4	SSPO017S4	The Study of Politics	30	Compulsory
5	SSPO139S5	Transformations in Modern Politics	30	Compulsory
5	SSPO143S5	Challenges in Contemporary Politics	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
4	SSPO137S4	Governing by Numbers	30	Compulsory
4	SSPO140S4	Surveying Political Research	30	Compulsory

Year of entry: 2020/21

5	POSO029S5	Introduction to International Political Economy	30	Compulsory
5 or 6	n/a	Option Module at level 5 or 6	30	Option
Year 3				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
6	POSO004S6	War and Modern Society	30	Compulsory
6	n/a	Level 6 Option Module	30	Option
6	n/a	Level 6 Option Module	30	Option
6	n/a	Level 6 Option Module OR Dissertation	30	Option

BA Global Politics and International Relations with Foundation Year (Part-time 6 years)				
FOUNDATION Year (0a)				
Level	Module code	Module title	Credits	Status
3	CASE002S3	Fundamentals of Study: Learning through the Global City	30	Core
3	CASE001S3	Breaking Boundaries of Knowledge	30	Core
FOUNDATION Year (0b)				
3	SSSS001S3	Crossing Borders: Studying in SSHP	30	Core
3	SSSS002S3	Contemporary Global Issues: Approaches in Social Science, History and Philosophy	30	Core
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
4	SSPO118S4	Introduction to Global Politics	30	Compulsory
4	SSPO017S4	The Study of Politics	30	Compulsory
5	SSPO139S5	Transformations in Modern Politics	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
5	POSO029S5	Introduction to International Political Economy	30	Compulsory
4	SSPO137S4	Governing by Numbers	30	Compulsory
4	SSPO140S4	Surveying Political Research	30	Compulsory
Year 3				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
5	SSPO143S5	Challenges in Contemporary Politics	30	Compulsory
6	POSO004S6	War and Modern Society	30	Compulsory
5 or 6	n/a	Option Module at level 5 or 6	30	Option
Year 4				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
6	n/a	Level 6 Option Module	30	Option
6	n/a	Level 6 Option Module	30	Option
6	n/a	Level 6 Option Module OR Dissertation	30	Option

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/mybirkbeck/services/rules/AccreditedPriorLearning.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) Entry into the second year of the programme (and the award of equivalent credit) may be permitted upon satisfactory completion of the <i>Certification of Higher Education in Politics and International Studies</i>.
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, 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>

25	Programme Director	Jason Edwards
26	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	PT – pre 2008; FT – Oct 2012
27	Date approved by TQEC	Pre 2008
28	Date approved by Academic Board	Pre 2008
29	Date(s) updated/amended	September 2020 (for 2020/21 entry)