

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London				
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College				
3	Programme Title(s)	MRes Politics				
4	Programme Code(s)	TMRPOLTC_C				
5	UCAS code	N/A				
6	Home Department	Politics				
7	Exit Award(s)	Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma				
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	N/A				
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A				
13	<u>QAA Benchmark Group</u>	N/A				

14	Programme Rationale & Aims
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides quantitative and qualitative research methods training • Flexible programme, allowing students to combine research training with any of the specialisms offered in politics at Master's level. • Ideal for students pursuing, or considering, a career in government or advisory bodies where research skills are required, or for students seeking to go on to an MPhil/PhD. <p>Distinctive features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part-time, evening, face-to-face study • Taught by leading figures in the field

15	Entry Criteria
	A second-class honours degree (2:2 or above) degree in a related area, or relevant experience combined with an adequate academic background (subject to interview).

16	Learning Outcomes
	<p><i>On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • apply quantitative and qualitative methods to the study of politics • demonstrate substantive knowledge of fields of politics, political theory, international relations and global politics, depending on the options taken

	<p><i>On successful completion of this programme students will be expected to have:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • obtained a good level of competence in applying qualitative and quantitative research methods • extended and developed their analytical, evaluative and critical capacities • demonstrated the ability to conduct an independent research project. • developed their ability to obtain and analyse information from a wide array of sources
17	<p>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</p> <p>The programme uses the established teaching and assessment methods on the Politics MSc programmes, consisting of lectures and seminars for taught modules, along with a dissertation. In the Qualitative and Quantitative methods modules, assessment is based on research projects submitted during the year and a final exam. In the compulsory substantive modules, students submit formative essays to obtain feedback in term 1 and take exams in term 3.</p>
18	<p>Programme Description</p> <p>Students take two compulsory research methods modules (30 credits), two optional modules, and write a 60 credit dissertation. Full-time students take all four taught modules Oct-May and submit their dissertation by 15 Sept. Part-time students take two modules each year and submit their dissertation by 15 Sept of their second year.</p> <p>Indicative list of options:</p> <p>SSPO120S7 Emerging Powers in World Politics POSO082S7 Global Politics, Governance and Security POSO007S7 International Political Economy POSO020S7 Modern British Politics SSPO006S7 Middle East Politics POSO044S7 Nationalism and Ethno-Religious Conflict POSO023S7 The Political Sociology of the Modern State POSO022S7 Political Theory and Contemporary Politics SSPO121S7 Geopolitics, Population and Environment POSO041S7 Public Management: Theories and Innovations POSO025S7 Public Policy: Interests, Ideas, Institutions POSO006S7 The European Union: Integration, Politics and Policy POSO035S7 War, Politics and Society SSPO127S7 The Politics of Population Change: Immigration, Aging and Conflict</p>

19	Programme Structure			
Full-Time programme – 1 year				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	POSO075S7	Qualitative Social Research	30	Compulsory
7	POSO076S7 SSPO133S7	Introduction to Quantitative Social Research Or Intermediate Quantitative Social Research	30	Compulsory
7	POSO072D7	Dissertation	60	Core
7		Optional module	30	Option
7		Optional module	30	Option
Part-Time programme – 2 years				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	POSO075S7	Qualitative Social Research	30	compulsory
7		Optional module	30	Option
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	POSO076S7 SSPO133S7	Introduction to Quantitative Social Research Or Intermediate Quantitative Social Research	30	Compulsory
7	POSO072D7	Dissertation	60	Core
7		Optional module	30	Option

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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>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>

24	Programme Director	Barry Maydom
25	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	October 2009
26	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2009
27	Date approved by Academic Board	Summer 2009
28	Date(s) updated/amended	October 2016