# Programme Specification

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| 1 | **Awarding body** | University of London |
| 2 | **Teaching Institution** | **Birkbeck College** |
| 3 | **Programme Title(s)** | **MSc Global Political Economy** |
| 4 | **Programme Code(s)** | TMSGLECM_C |
| 5 | **UCAS code** | N/A |
| 6 | **Home Department** | Politics |
| 7 | **Exit Award(s)** | PG Cert; PGDip |
| 8 | **Duration of Study** (number of years) | 1 FT; 2 PT |
| 9 | **Mode of Study** | FT   X   PT   X   DL |
| 10 | **Level of Award (FHEQ)** | 7 |
| 11 | **Other teaching depts or institution** | Economics; Criminology; Law; Management |
| 12 | **Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details** | N/A |
| 13 | **QAA Benchmark Statement** | N/A |

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| 14 | **Programme Rationale & Aims** |

**Rationale:**

"Global political economy" (also known as "international political economy") is a well-established and increasingly popular scholarly field — there are more than a dozen "global" or "international" political economy master's courses in the UK. The proposed programme deploys existing research and teaching expertise in the Department of Politics to put Birkbeck on the map in this field, in the context of a cross-school initiative that launches a family of "political economy" courses in BEI, Law and SSHP interlinked via a common, jointly-taught compulsory module. We are in a very strong position to provide a vibrant, intellectually challenging learning experience and will be able to sustain this programme in the foreseeable future.

**Aims:**

The programme offers a theoretically robust, analytically diverse and policy-relevant approach to investigating the interplay of global economic and political forces shaping our world, and will appeal to a wide range of home and international applicants. Students will:

- Develop an in-depth understanding of actors and structures governing the global economy;

- Examine the political context of the dynamics of global trade, finance and production to make sense of the current trajectory of international capitalism;

- Explore how issues central to global political economy are linked to international politics and can be approached from adjacent fields such as law, economics and management; and

- Learn to critically apply the broad range of concepts, theories and methods in the discipline of international / global political economy to independently research real-world phenomena.

Together, the three interlinked BEI/Law/SSHP programmes will also foster the development of a distinct learning community of postgraduate political economy students, which will likely have a positive long-term impact on our research environment.

| 15 | **Entry Criteria** |
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Applicants are expected to have a 2:2 in social sciences or humanities from a UK institution, or an equivalent qualification from a non-UK institution. However, other relevant educational or professional qualifications and experience might also be taken into account by the admissions tutor.

International students whose first language is not English must meet the standard language requirement of the Department of Politics (IELTS Academic with a minimum score of 6.5 overall and not less than 6.0 in each sub-test).

| 16 | **Learning Outcomes** |
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Students completing this degree programme will be able to:

- Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the key concepts and major theories of the field of global political economy and a good scholarly grasp of the evolution of global capitalism;

- Critically analyse related contemporary issues, from the dynamics of global production, trade and finance to global economic governance and the structure of North-South relations;

- Demonstrate awareness and appreciation of contributions to political-economic analysis from other social disciplines such as law and management;

- Undertake supervised independent research in a topic within the field of global political economy to a good standard and effectively convey findings of such research in academic style;

- Demonstrate skills of analysis and critique that can be transferred to further study in the social sciences and humanities.

| 17 | **Learning, teaching and assessment methods** |
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Students will attend weekly lectures and seminars and termly workshops in accordance with the standard teaching scheme in Politics PG taught programmes. Most of the teaching material will be available via Moodle.

Standard assessment pattern in Politics involves a mid-year essay and a year-end exam, each worth 50%. The MSc dissertation is worth 60 credits and expected to be 12,000-15,000 words. The cross-school compulsory module is evaluated via a single 4,000-word essay; any option module students might take from non-Politics departments may follow a different assessment scheme.

| 18 | **Programme Description** |
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MSc Global Political Economy aims to provide students with a solid grasp in its subject matter while exposing them to political economy analysis elsewhere in social sciences and humanities. Students take two compulsory modules, two option modules, and write a master's dissertation. One compulsory module is cross-school and team taught, while the other is an existing Politics module that provides a direct advanced introduction to the subject. At least one of the option modules must be taken from Politics; the other can be taken from Law, Politics, Economics or Management. The master's dissertation will be supervised in Politics.

| 19 | **Programme Structure** |
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*Full-Time programme – 1 year*

*Year 1*

| Level | Module Code | Module Title | Credits | Status* |
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| 7 | LALW064S7 | Perspectives on Political Economy | 30 | Compulsory |
| 7 | POSO007S7 | International Political Economy | 30 | Compulsory |
| 7 | | Option (Politics) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | | Option (Politics/BEI/Law) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | SSPO147D7 | Dissertation MSc Global Political Economy | 60 | Compulsory |

*Part-Time programme – 2 years*

*Year 1*

| Level | Module Code | Module Title | Credits | Status* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | LALW064S7 | Perspectives on Political Economy | 30 | Compulsory |
| 7 | | Option (Politics) | 30 | Option |

*Year 2*

| Level | Module Code | Module Title | Credits | Status* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | POSO007S7 | International Political Economy | 30 | Compulsory |
| 7 | | Option (Politics/BEI/Law) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | SSPO147D7 | Dissertation MSc Global Political Economy | 60 | Compulsory |

*Indicative list of option modules (select at least one from Politics):*

| Level | Module Code | Module Title | Credits | Status* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | SSPO120S7 | Emerging Powers in World Politics (Politics) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | SSPO144S7 | Food, Politics, and Society (Politics) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | SSPO121S7 | Geopolitics, Population and Environment (Politics) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | POSO082S7 | Global Politics, Governance and Security (Politics) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | SSPO006S7 | Middle East Politics (Politics) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | POSO044S7 | Nationalism and Ethno-Religious Conflict (Politics) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | POSO025S7 | Public Policy: Interests, Ideas, Institutions (Politics) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | POSO006S7 | The European Union: Integration, Politics and Policy (Politics) | 30 | Option |

| 7 | POSO023S7 | The Political Sociology of the Modern State (Politics) | 30 | Option |
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| 7 | SSPO127S7 | The Politics of Population Change: Immigration, Aging and Conflict (Politics) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | LADD071S7 | Law, Post-Colonialism and Political Economy (Law) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | LADD072S7 | Law, Post-Development and the Critique of Political Economy (Law) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | LADD055S7 | Social Justice (Law) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | MOMN028H7 | Corporate Governance (BEI) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | BUMN069H7 | Trust, Social Norms and Institutions | 30 | Option |
| 7 | MOMN042H7 | Innovation Systems: Networks and Social Capital (BEI) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | MOMN076H7 | Development Policy (BEI) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | MOMN074H7 | Globalization: forces, players and management (BEI) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | MOMN026H7 | Innovation and the Knowledge Economy (BEI | 30 | Option |
| 7 | BUEM087S7 | Economics: Theory, Policy and Institutions (BEI) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | MOMN008H7 | The Dynamics of Global Capitalism: Theory and Practice (BEI) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | MOMN075H7 | International Business and Economic Development (BEI) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | MOMN007H7 | International Business: Theories and Issues (BEI) | 30 | Option |
| 7 | MOMN032H7 | International Business Ethics (BEI) | 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** |
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| | • ***Admissions***<br>This programme adheres to the College Admissions Policy<br>http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/admissions-policy.pdf<br><br>• ***Credit Transfer***<br>Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on Accredited Prior Learning<br>http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/accreditation-prior-learning.pdf<br><br>• ***Programme Regulations***<br>This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme<br>http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations<br><br>• ***Programme Specific Regulations (or not applicable)*** N/A |

| 21 | **Student Attendance Framework** *– in brief* |
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| | The full version of the 'Student Attendance Framework' is available<br>http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/rules/Attendance-Framework.pdf . |

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| | **Principle**<br>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.<br><br>**Attendance expectation**<br>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.<br><br>**E-Registers**<br>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. |

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| 22 | **Student Support and Guidance** |
| | 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/student-services |

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| 23 | **Methods of Enhancing Quality and Standards** |
| | 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.<br><br>For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality . |

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| 24 | **Programme Director** | Dr Ali Güven |
| 25 | **Start Date** *(term/year)* | Autumn 2020 |
| 26 | **Date approved by Education Committee** | Autumn 2019 |
| 27 | **Date approved by Academic Board** | Spring 2020 |
| 28 | **Date(s) updated/amended** | January 2020 |