

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College
3	Programme Title(s)	MSc Government, Policy and Politics
4	Programme Code(s)	TMSGOPPO_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 FT, 2 years PT
9	Mode of Study (FT/PT/DL)	FT/PT
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
	<p>This programme provides an intellectually stimulating guide to politics, policy-making and the processes of government in contemporary Britain. It is ideal for candidates who aspire to, or already have, a career in policy research, lobbying, journalism, the civil service, local government, further and higher education, or NGOs.</p> <p>Distinctive features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities to engage with the practicalities of politics in class discussions and through meetings with practitioners. • Part-time, evening, face-to-face study • Taught by leading figures in the field

15	Entry Criteria
	Our standard postgraduate entry requirement is a second-class honours degree (2:2 or above) 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 critically the key theories, models and concepts used in the study of politics to the analysis of politics and government in Britain; • demonstrate substantive knowledge of political institutions and processes at the national, subnational and European level

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrate a comparative and historical understanding of public policy-making and administration in contemporary Britain. <p><i>On successful completion of this programme students will be expected to have</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	Learning, teaching and assessment methods
	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. There is a standard assessment pattern that means that students submit formative essays to obtain feedback in term 1 and assessed essays in term 2, and take exams in term 3.

18	Programme Description
	Students take two core modules and two options (all 30 credits) 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 (one core in each year) and submit their dissertation by 15 Sept of their second year.

19	Programme Structure			
Full-Time programme - 1 year				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	POSO020S7	Modern British Politics	30	Core
7	POSO025S7	Public Policy: Interests, Ideas, Institutions	30	Core
7		Option module	30	Option
7		Option module	30	Option
7	POSO056D7	Dissertation	60	Core
Part-Time programme - 2 year				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	POSO020S7	Modern British Politics	30	Core
7		Option module	30	Option
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	POSO025S7	Public Policy: Interests, Ideas, Institutions	30	Core
7		Option module	30	Option
7	POSO056D7	Dissertation	60	Core

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

Year of entry: 2020/21

Indicative list of options

SSPO120S7 Emerging Powers in World Politics
 POSO082S7 Global Politics, Governance and Security
 POSO007S7 International Political Economy
 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
 POSO075S7 Qualitative Social Research
 POSO076S7 Introduction to Quantitative Social Research
 POSO006S7 The European Union: Integration, Politics and Policy
 POSO035S7 War, Politics and Society
 SSPO127S7 The Politics of Population Change: Immigration, Aging and Conflict

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 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/mybirkbeck/services/facilities

22	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,

Year of entry: 2020/21

	<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>
--	---

23	Programme Director	Ben Worthy
24	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	Oct 2003
25	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2003
26	Date approved by Academic Board	Summer 2003
27	Date(s) updated/amended	January 2014