

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London					
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College					
3	Programme Title(s)	MSc Social and Political Theory					
4	Programme Code(s)	TMSSLPOT_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
	<p>This programme is designed to enable students to develop an advanced knowledge and understanding of the main currents in social and political theory. It provides balanced training in theory as well as insight into applications in ethical and empirical problems. It is a good foundation for undertaking an MPhil/PhD related to social and political theory.</p> <p>Distinctive features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outstanding expertise of tutors and international recognition of their research. • Cross-disciplinary orientation, with an emphasis on political sociology.

15	Entry Criteria
	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"> • undertake critical and well-informed analyses of social and political theories; • apply theoretical approaches to a range of important and topical social and political issues. <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
	<p>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.</p> <p>Indicative list of options:</p> <p>SSPO120S7 Emerging Powers in World Politics</p> <p>POSO082S7 Global Politics, Governance and Security</p> <p>POSO007S7 International Political Economy</p> <p>POSO020S7 Modern British Politics</p> <p>SSPO006S7 Middle East Politics</p> <p>POSO044S7 Nationalism and Ethno-Religious Conflict</p> <p>SSPO121S7 Geopolitics, Population and Environment</p> <p>POSO041S7 Public Management: Theories and Innovations</p> <p>POSO025S7 Public Policy: Interests, Ideas, Institutions</p> <p>POSO075S7 Qualitative Social Research</p> <p>POSO076S7 Introduction to Quantitative Social Research</p> <p>POSO006S7 The European Union: Integration, Politics and Policy</p> <p>POSO035S7 War, Politics and Society</p> <p>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	POSO022S7	Political Theory and Contemporary Politics	30	Core
7	POSO023S7	The Political Sociology of the Modern State	30	Core
7	POSO062D7	Dissertation	60	Core
7		Optional module	30	Optional
7		Optional module	30	Optional

Part-Time programme – 2 years				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	POSO023S7	The Political Sociology of the Modern State	30	Core
7		Option module	30	Optional
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
7	POSO022S7	Political Theory and Contemporary Politics	30	Core
7	POSO062D7	Dissertation	60	Core
7		Optional module	30	Optional

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 on the college website.</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</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.
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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/mybirkbeck/services/facilities

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 Services and Quality website http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality</p>

24	Programme Director	Jason Edwards
25	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	October 1976
26	Date approved by TQEC	1976
27	Date approved by Academic Board	1976
28	Date(s) updated/amended	March 2017