**Programme Specification**

1. **Awarding body**  
   University of London

2. **Teaching Institution**  
   Birkbeck College

3. **Programme Title(s)**  
   MA Culture, Diaspora, Ethnicity  
   PG Dip Culture, Diaspora, Ethnicity  
   PG Cert Culture, Diaspora, Ethnicity

4. **Programme Code(s)**  
   TMADIASP_C (MA)  
   TPDDIASP_C (PG Dip)  
   TPCDIASP_C (PG Cert)

5. **UCAS code**  
   N/A

6. **Home Department**  
   Psychosocial Studies

7. **Exit Award(s)**  
   PG Dip Culture, Diaspora, Ethnicity  
   PG Cert Culture, Diaspora, Ethnicity

8. **Duration of Study (number of years)**  
   1 year full-time  
   2 years part-time

9. **Mode of Study**  
   FT ✓  
   PT ✓  
   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. **QAA Benchmark Group**  
    N/A

14. **Programme Rationale & Aims**

   **Main Aims:**
   - The multidisciplinary Postgraduate Certificate/ Postgraduate Diploma/ Masters programme aims to introduce students to debates on 'race' and racism, multiculture and postcoloniality.
   - It aims to enable students to explore connections between histories of empire and contemporary social formations and inequalities in the U.K and to consider how local debates on 'race' and racism are shaped by the global geopolitics of the twenty-first century.
   - It aims to provide students with analytical tools and research skills with which to undertake independent research on ‘race’ and ethnicity, multiculture and postcoloniality.

   **Distinctive Features:**
   - The programme is offered at various levels to allow for flexible access.
   - It is a multidisciplinary programme which draws from sociology, cultural studies, history, urban studies, literary studies, psychosocial studies, philosophy and politics.
### Entry Criteria

- For the MA, standard entry requires at least a 2nd class honours degree or equivalent.
- Non-standard students with relevant employment or other experience may also be considered.

### Learning Outcomes

**On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:**

**Subject Specific:**

1. understand how histories of colonisation have shaped contemporary social formations and inequalities
2. explore the social and political articulation of ‘race’, ethnicity and racism in contemporary Britain and Europe and how they intersect with religion, class, disability, gender and sexuality
3. explore connections between intersecting colonial histories across the globe and our ordinary local cultural, intimate and psychic life in contemporary Britain

**Intellectual:**

Students will:

4. develop a range of critical yet transferable skills in reading, interpretation and writing.
5. according to option modules chosen, students will also gain special subject knowledge in for example, ‘Psychoanalysis and Culture’, ‘Cultures of Human Rights’, ‘Museums, Memory and National Identity’ or specific aspects of Colonial History.

**Practical:**

Students will develop:

6. independent research skills within an interdisciplinary framework at an advanced level
7. skills of analysis, argument and reasoning;
8. essay writing skills

**Personal and Social:**

Students will:

9. develop presentation skills; oral and written;
10. interact with, learn from and collaborate with fellow students who work within numerous fields.
11. engage in peer learning and reading groups.

### Learning, teaching and assessment methods

These will include lectures, student-led seminars; individual and group-based work around designated topics and seminar presentations

**Coursework Requirements:**

- Assessment of each 30 credits **core module** is by **1 X 4000 word essay**. This accounts for 100% of the marks for each core course. The two core modules together constitute 60/180 credits.
Year of entry: 2020/21

- **Options**: Each option course is subject to different forms of assessment. The two options together constitute 60/180 credits.

- **Independent Research Module (MA only)**: Assessment for the independent research module is by an essay of 2500 words which has a weighting of 30% and a dissertation of 10,000-12,000 words (excluding bibliography) which has a weighting of 70%. The independent research module is 60/180 credits.

**Rationale:**
- The main method of assessment is essays. The objective is to allow students to research and produce a number of essays over a specific period of time. Progress is measured by the development of critical thinking and academic writing skills.

- The independent research module taken by those following the MA programme aims to enable students to complete an independent research project over a longer period of time. Students are required to propose, plan and execute their own research investigations. MA Students will attend a ‘Psychosocial Research module’ as they prepare different elements of their dissertation.

### Programme Description

The programme introduces students to central debates and theoretical perspectives in the broad multidisciplinary area of 'race' and racism, multicultural and postcoloniality.

The programme combines taught core and option modules and provides the opportunity for independent research supervised by an academic. The core modules introduce students to significant historical and political debates and theoretical perspectives. The option modules are specialist subject courses that focus on a specific area, such as human rights, Lacanian psychoanalysis, migration and refugees, or Latin American cinema.

To obtain the **Masters** award students must complete 180 credits composed of:

- two 30-credit core modules
  - Race, Empire, Postcoloniality
  - Culture, Community, Identity

- two 30-credit special subject option modules (see below for indicative list), and

- a 60-credit independent research module.

To obtain a **PG Diploma**, students must complete 120 credits composed of:

- two 30-credit core modules
  - Race, Empire, Postcoloniality
  - Culture, Community Identity

- two 30-credit special subject option modules (see below for list)

To obtain a **PG Certificate**, students must complete 60 credits.

An indicative list of optional modules is provided below (other options may be included with the approval of the programme director).
### Programme Structure

#### Full Time MA programme – 1 year

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#### Part Time MA programme – 2 years

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#### Full Time PG Diploma programme – 1 year

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#### Indicative List of Optional modules**

| **Level** | **Module Code** | **Module Title** | **Credits** | **Status*** |
| --- |
| 7 | LADD006S7 | Cultures of Human Rights | 30 | Option |
| 7 | FDLL003S7 | Education, Power and Resistance | 30 | Option |
| 7 | ARVC004S7 | Museums, Memory and National Identity | 30 | Option |
| 7 | SSPA078S7 | Psychoanalysis and Culture | 30 | Option |

**This is an indicative list only – other modules may be taken subject to the programme director’s approval**
### Regulations

- **Admissions**
  This programme adheres to the College Admissions Policy:  

- **Credit Transfer**
  Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on Accredited Prior Learning  

- **Programme Regulations**
  This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme  
  [http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations)

  **Programme Specific Regulations (or not applicable)** N/A

### Student Attendance Framework – in brief

The full version of the ‘Student Attendance Framework’ is available  

**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.

**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.

**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.

### 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](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities)

### 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.

For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website [http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality).

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<th>Dr Yasmeen Narayan</th>
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