

## Programme Specification

1	<b>Awarding body</b>	University of London				
2	<b>Teaching Institution</b>	<b>Birkbeck College</b>				
3	<b>Programme Title(s)</b>	<b>MSc Food, Politics, and Society</b>				
4	<b>Programme Code(s)</b>	TMSFPOLS_C				
5	<b>UCAS code</b>	N/A				
6	<b>Home Department</b>	Politics				
7	<b>Exit Award(s)</b>	PG Dip; PG Cert				
8	<b>Duration of Study (number of years)</b>	1 FT and 2 PT				
9	<b>Mode of Study</b>	FT	✓	PT	✓	DL
10	<b>Level of Award (FHEQ)</b>	Level 7				
11	<b>Other teaching depts or institution</b>	N/A				
12	<b>Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details</b>	N/A				
13	<a href="#"><u>QAA Benchmark Statement</u></a>	N/A				

14	<b>Programme Rationale &amp; Aims</b>
	<p>This programme offers a comprehensive overview of the main themes concerning the inter-relationship between food, politics, and society. It combines theoretical coverage of key debates surrounding (among other issues) the origins of agricultural production, the sociology of consumption, food and the city, and the political ecology of our contemporary industrialised global food system, with more concrete explorations of the historical, sociological and political dimensions of (mal)nutrition, regulation of food markets, struggles and conflict over, and the cultural meanings of food. Though drawing from the field of Food Studies, the programme is self-consciously cross-disciplinary in its incorporation of political-theoretical, historical-sociological, cultural-anthropological and public policy literatures into the syllabus.</p>

15	<b>Entry Criteria</b>
	Minimum 2:2 or equivalent in social sciences or humanities UG degree

16	<b>Learning Outcomes</b>
	<p>Students taking this programme will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the main theoretical debates about the relationship between food, politics, and society</li> <li>• Demonstrate a critical understanding of key subjects in the historical and political sociology, and the economic and cultural geography of food production and consumption</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critically analyse current issues and problems around the production and consumption of food, such as malnutrition and famines, regulation of food markets, food security, food identity and the effects of climate change on global food supply.</li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of how various disciplinary approaches drawn from the social sciences and humanities contribute towards the understanding of food production and consumption</li> <li>• Demonstrate skills of analysis and critique that can be transferred to further study in the social sciences and humanities</li> </ul>
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17	<b>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</b>
	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	<b>Programme Description</b>
	Students take two core modules – Food, Politics and Society and the Political Sociology of the Modern State– and two options (all 30 credits), as well as writing 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	<b>Programme Structure</b>			
<b>Full-Time programme – 1 year</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	SSPO144S7	Food, Politics, and Society (level 7)	30	Core
7	POSO023S7	The Political Sociology of the Modern State	30	Core
7	SSPO145D7	Dissertation MSc Food, Politics, and Society	60	Core
7		SSHP Option module	30	Option
7		SSHP Option module	30	Option
<b>Part-Time programme – 2 years</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	SSPO144S7	Food, Politics, and Society (level 7)	30	Core
7		SSHP Option module	30	Option
<b>Year 2</b>				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	POSO023S7	The Political Sociology of the Modern State	30	Core
7		SSHP Option Module	30	Option
7	SSPO145D7	Dissertation MSc Food, Politics, and Society	60	Core

<b>Indicative list of options</b>				
<b>Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Status*</b>
7	POSO082S7	Global Politics, Governance and Security	30	Option
7	SSPO108S7	Theorising Social Research	30	Option
7	POSO022S7	Political Theory and Contemporary Politics	30	Option
7	POSO041S7	Public Management: Theories and Innovations	30	Option
7	SSGE112S7	Energy and Climate Change	15	Option
7	SSPO121S7	Geopolitics, Population and Environment	30	Option
7	SSGE011S7	Environment and Policy	30	Option
7	FDDV024S7	Development, Aid and Power	30	Option
7	FDDV023S7	Development Studies: Theoretical Approaches	30	Option
7	FDRE012S7	Culture, Community, Identity	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

<sup>20</sup>	<b>Programme Director</b>	Dr Jason Edwards
<sup>21</sup>	<b>Start Date</b> ( <i>term/year</i> )	Autumn 2019
<sup>22</sup>	<b>Date approved by Education Committee</b>	March 2019
<sup>23</sup>	<b>Date approved by Academic Board</b>	Summer 2019
<sup>24</sup>	<b>Date(s) updated/amended</b>	April 2019