

Programme Specification

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	<u>QAA Benchmark Statement</u>	N/A				

14	Programme Rationale & Aims				
	<p>Rationale:</p> <p>“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.</p> <p>Aims:</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>Entry Criteria</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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).</p>
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16	<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p>Students completing this degree programme will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
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17	<p>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
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18	Programme Description
	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			
Full-Time programme – 1 year				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
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

Year of entry: 2021/22

7	POSO023S7	The Political Sociology of the Modern State (Politics)	30	Option
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	Institutions, Governance and Development (BEI)	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	Programme Director	Dr Ali Güven
²¹	Start Date (term/year)	Autumn 2020
²²	Date approved by Education Committee	Autumn 2019
²³	Date approved by Academic Board	Spring 2020
²⁴	Date(s) updated/amended	January 2020