

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	QAA Benchmark Group	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>On successful completion of this programme students will be expected to have</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
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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		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: 2021/22

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