

## 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 Social and Political Theory</b>						
4	<b>Programme Code(s)</b>	TMSSLPOT_C						
5	<b>UCAS code</b>	N/A						
6	<b>Home Department</b>	Politics						
7	<b>Exit Award(s)</b>	Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma						
8	<b>Duration of Study (number of years)</b>	1 year full time, 2 years part time						
9	<b>Mode of Study</b>	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">FT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">PT</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">DL</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	FT	x	PT	x	DL	
FT	x	PT	x	DL				
10	<b>Level of Award (FHEQ)</b>	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 Group</u></a>	N/A						

14	<b>Programme Rationale &amp; Aims</b>
	<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"> <li>• Outstanding expertise of tutors and international recognition of their research.</li> <li>• Cross-disciplinary orientation, with an emphasis on political sociology.</li> </ul>

15	<b>Entry Criteria</b>
	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	<b>Learning Outcomes</b>
	<p><b><i>On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• undertake critical and well-informed analyses of social and political theories;</li> <li>• apply theoretical approaches to a range of important and topical social and political issues.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>On successful completion of this programme students will be expected to have:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• extended and developed their analytical, evaluative and critical capacities</li> <li>• demonstrated the ability to conduct an independent research project.</li> <li>• developed their ability to obtain and analyse information from a wide array of sources</li> </ul>

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>
	<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><b>Indicative list of options:</b></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	<b>Programme Structure</b>			
<b>Full-Time programme – 1 year</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
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

Year of entry: 2021/22



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

**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	<b>Programme Director</b>	Jason Edwards
21	<b>Start Date (term/year)</b>	October 1976
22	<b>Date approved by TQEC</b>	1976
23	<b>Date approved by Academic Board</b>	1976
24	<b>Date(s) updated/amended</b>	March 2017