

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London				
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College				
3	Programme Title(s)	MSc War and Humanitarianism				
4	Programme Code(s)	TMSWARHM_C				
5	UCAS code	N/A				
6	Home Department	Politics				
7	Exit Award(s)	PG Dip; PG Cert				
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	1 FT and 2 PT				
9	Mode of Study	FT	✓	PT	✓	DL
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	7				
11	Other teaching depts or institution	Geography History, Classics and Archaeology (HCA) Psychosocial Studies Philosophy				
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A				
13	QAA Benchmark Statement	N/A				
14	Programme Rationale & Aims	<p>War and Humanitarianism are deeply embedded in the modern experience. Be it in the nineteenth-century calls for civilizing war or the contemporary attempts at saving distant strangers, the conduct of organised violence and the defence of human rights cannot be separated out. This new inter-disciplinary degree offers students an evening study degree analysing the complex interaction between war and humanitarianism from multiple historical, geographical, political and cultural perspectives. It approaches war as a social totality that encompasses all manner of human processes and structures, and considers humanitarianism as an increasingly pervasive ideology, informing all sorts of collective social and political activity across the world. Taught by leading scholars in the fields of history, geography, politics, philosophy and psychosocial studies, the programme will give students advanced knowledge of the concepts, theories, histories and policy implications of war and humanitarianism in the world today.</p>				
15	Entry Criteria	<p>Minimum 2:2 or equivalent in social sciences or humanities UG degree</p>				
16	Learning Outcomes	<p>Students taking this programme will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop skills and engage with materials needed to understand the trajectories of war and humanitarianism, both past and present, and to appreciate the political tensions and social contradictions they generate across the world today. 				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • learn about the analytical categories, research methods and varying disciplinary approaches to war and humanitarianism within the social sciences and humanities. • acquire knowledge of humanitarian policies and practice, and the nature and dynamics of organised violence on a national, regional and global scale. • undertake specific case studies of wars, humanitarian interventions and the multiple socio-political issues and debates they generate in particular countries or regions. • critically explore key theories and concepts employed in history, geography, politics, philosophy and psychosocial studies when explaining and understanding war and humanitarianism in a global context.
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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 one core module, Fields of War and Humanitarianism and three 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	SSPO141S7	Fields of War and Humanitarianism	30	Compulsory
7		SSHP Option Module	30	Option
7		SSHP Option Module	30	Option
7		SSHP Option Module	30	Option
7	SSPO142D7	12,000- 15,000 word Dissertation	60	Core
Part-Time programme – 2 years				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	SSPO141S7	Fields of War and Humanitarianism	30	Compulsory
7		SSHP Option Module	30	Option
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7		SSHP Option Module	30	Option
7		SSHP Option Module	30	Option
7	SSPO142D7	12,000- 15,000 word Dissertation	60	Core

Year of entry: 2021/22



Indicative List of Options:				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	POSO035S7	War, Politics and Society	30	Option
7	POSO044S7	Nationalism and Ethno-Religious Conflict	30	Option
7	SSPO006S7	Middle East Politics	30	Option
7	SSPO121S7	Geopolitics, Population and Environment	30	Option
7	POSO082S7	Global Politics, Governance and Security	30	Option
7	SSPO127S7	The Politics of Population Change: Immigration, Aging and Conflict	30	Option
7	SSPL151S7	The Biology of Evil	30	Option
7	SSPL112S7	The Idea of Freedom	30	Option
7	SSPL146S7	Moral Responsibility	30	Option
7	SSPL103S7	Morality, Nature and Evolution	30	Option
7	SSPL021S7	Ethics		
7	FDDV023S7	Development Studies: Theoretical Approaches	30	Option
7	FDDV024S7	Development, Aid and Power	30	Option
7	SSPA077S7	Psychoanalysis and History	30	Option
7	HICL184S7	Why War? History, Psychoanalysis and Politics, c 1900-1950	30	Option
7	FDRE017S7	'Race', Racism, Postcoloniality	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 Antoine Bousquet
21	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	Autumn 2017
22	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2017
23	Date approved by Academic Board	Summer 2017
24	Date(s) updated/amended	March 2017