

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London				
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College				
3	Programme Title(s)	MSc Social Research				
4	Programme Code(s)	TMSOCRS_C				
5	UCAS code	N/A				
6	Home Department	School of Social Sciences, History and Philosophy				
7	Exit Award(s)	Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma				
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	1 year full time, 2 years part time				
9	Mode of Study	FT	X	PT	X	DL
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	Level 7				
11	Other teaching depts or institution	N/A				
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A				
13	<u>QAA Benchmark Statement</u>	N/A				

14	Programme Rationale & Aims
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a rigorous training in a range of contemporary social research methods, including quantitative and qualitative methods • Focuses on research design, addressing critical issues in social research <p>Distinctive features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent foundation for doctoral social research. • Interdisciplinary, theoretically informed and creative approach to research • Part-time, evening, face-to-face study • Taught by leading figures in the field

15	Entry Criteria
	At least a second-class honours degree (2:2) in a relevant social science subject and/or relevant work or other (for example, voluntary) experience.

16	Learning Outcomes
	<p>On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • apply quantitative and qualitative methods to social research. • demonstrate understanding of issues in designing social research, including ontological, epistemological and ethical issues. <p>On successful completion of this programme students will be expected to have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • obtained a good level of competence in applying qualitative and quantitative research methods.

	<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 consists of lectures and seminars for taught modules, along with a dissertation. In the Quantitative methods modules, assessment is based on a research project submitted during the year and a final exam. In the other modules, assessment is by coursework.

18	Programme Description
	<p>This is an interdisciplinary social science training programme designed to prepare students for further research in the workplace or for MPhil/PhD study. The programme covers ontology, epistemology, quantitative and qualitative techniques, and advanced methods masterclasses. All students also carry out an independent dissertation, putting into practice the methods and theoretical concepts they have been taught. The programme provides a particularly strong environment for theoretically informed, interdisciplinary and socially engaged research.</p> <p>Students take four compulsory modules (120 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 and submit their dissertation by 15 Sept of their second year.</p>

19	Programme Structure			
Full-Time programme – 1 year				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	SSPO108S7	Theorising Social Research	30	Compulsory
7	SSPO019S7	Masterclass in Social Research	30	Compulsory
7	POSO075S7	Qualitative Social Research	30	Compulsory
7	POSO076S7 SSPO133S7	Introductory Quantitative Social Research (or) Intermediate Quantitative Social Research	30	Compulsory
7	SSPO018D7	Social Research Dissertation	60	Core
Part-Time programme – 2 years				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	POSO075S7	Qualitative Social Research	30	Compulsory
7	POSO076S7 SSPO133S7	Introductory Quantitative Social Research (or) Intermediate Quantitative Social Research	30	Compulsory

Year of entry: 2021/22



Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	SSPO108S7	Theorising Social Research	30	Compulsory
7	SSPO019S7	Masterclass in Social Research	30	Compulsory
7	SSPO018D7	Social Research 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

²⁰	Programme Director	Andrew Fugard
²¹	Start Date (term/year)	Autumn 2010
²²	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2010
²³	Date approved by Academic Board	Summer 2010
²⁴	Date(s) updated/amended	April 2018