

Programme Specification

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| 1 | Awarding body | University of London | | | | |
| 2 | Teaching Institution | Birkbeck College | | | | |
| 3 | Programme Title(s) | MRes Politics | | | | |
| 4 | Programme Code(s) | TMRPOLTC_C | | | | |
| 5 | UCAS code | N/A | | | | |
| 6 | Home Department | Politics | | | | |
| 7 | Exit Award(s) | Postgraduate Diploma, Postgraduate Certificate | | | | |
| 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) | 7 | | | | |
| 11 | Other teaching depts or institution | N/A | | | | |
| 12 | Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details | N/A | | | | |
| 13 | <u>QAA Benchmark Group</u> | N/A | | | | |

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| 14 | Programme Rationale & Aims |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides quantitative and qualitative research methods training • Flexible programme, allowing students to combine research training with any of the specialisms offered in politics at Master's level. • Ideal for students pursuing, or considering, a career in government or advisory bodies where research skills are required, or for students seeking to go on to an MPhil/PhD. <p>Distinctive features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part-time, evening, face-to-face study • Taught by leading figures in the field |

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| 15 | Entry Criteria |
| | A second-class honours degree (2:2 or above) degree in a related area, or relevant experience combined with an adequate academic background (subject to interview). |

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| 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 quantitative and qualitative methods to the study of politics • demonstrate substantive knowledge of fields of politics, political theory, international relations and global politics, depending on the options taken |

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| | <p><i>On successful completion of this programme students will be expected to have:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • obtained a good level of competence in applying qualitative and quantitative research methods • 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 |
| 17 | <p>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</p> |
| | <p>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. In the Qualitative and Quantitative methods modules, assessment is based on essays or research projects. Other modules in politics use either essays or open book exams and a seminar mark.</p> |
| 18 | <p>Programme Description</p> |
| | <p>Students take four core research methods modules (15 credits each), four optional modules, and write a 60 credit dissertation. Full-time students take all 8 taught modules Oct-July and submit their dissertation by 15 Sept. Part-time students take four taught modules each year and submit their dissertation by 15 Sept of their second year.</p> <p>Indicative list of options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSPO248H7 Emerging Powers in World Politics SSPO249H7 Transformations in the Global South SSPO250H7 Fragmentation and Integration in Global Politics SSPO251H7 Flashpoints in Global Security SSPO254H7 International Political Economy: Concepts and History SSPO255H7 Issues and Policies in Global Political Economy SSPO227H7 British Politics: Participation, Representation and Deliberation SSPO228H7 Divided Power in British Politics SSPO256H7 Middle East Politics 1 (Core Features) SSPO257H7 Middle East Politics 2 (International Angles) SSPO229H7 Nationalism and Ethnic Politics SSPO230H7 Nationalism and Ethno-Religious Conflict SPPO221H7 Political Sociology of the Modern State SSPO222H7 Contemporary Political Sociology SSPO224H7 Political Theory and Contemporary Politics SSPO223H7 Reading Classic Texts Today SSPO225H7 Political Communication SSPO226H7 Digital Technology in Governance and Politics SSPO260H7 Geopolitics of Population and Environment: Crises and Contradictions SSPO261H7 Geopolitics of Population and Environment: Futures SSPO235H7 Governing Public Services SSPO236H7 The Political Economy of the Public Sector SSPO237H7 Theories of Public Policy-Making: Interests, Institutions and Ideas |

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| SSPO238H7 The Puzzles of Policy: Policy in Politics and Practice SSPO231H7 The Political System of the European Union SSPO232H7 The European Union: Policy Modes SSPO233H7 The Rise of the Modern Food System (Level 7) SSPO234H7 The Politics of the Global Food System SSPO252H7 War, Politics and Society I SSPO253H7 War, Politics and Society II SSPO258H7 The Politics of Population Change I: Youth, Aging and Conflict SSPO259H7 The Politics of Population Change II: Migration, Identity and Conflict |
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| 19 | Programme Structure | | | |
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| Full-Time programme – 1 year | | | | |
| Year 1 | | | | |
| Level | Module Code | Module Title | Credits | Status* |
| 7 | EITHER SSPO239H7, SSPO240H7 OR SSPO241H7 | Introduction to Quantitative Social Research, Applied Social Data Analysis in R, OR Advanced Quantitative Social Research | 15 | Core |
| 7 | EITHER SSPO242H7 OR SSPO243H7 | Qualitative Social Research Methods OR Qualitative Research Design | 15 | Core |
| 7 | EITHER SSPO240H7, SSPO241H7, SSPO242H7, SSPO243H7, OR SSPO245H7 | Applied Social Data Analysis in R, Advanced Quantitative Social Research, Qualitative Social Research Methods Qualitative Research Design OR Experiments in Social Science | 15 | Core |
| 7 | EITHER SSPO240H7, SSPO241H7, SSPO242H7, SSPO243H7, OR SSPO245H7 | Applied Social Data Analysis in R, Advanced Quantitative Social Research, Qualitative Social Research Methods Qualitative Research Design OR Experiments in Social Science | 15 | Core |
| 7 | | Optional module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | | Optional module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | | Optional module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | | Optional module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | POS0072D7 | Dissertation MRes Politics | 60 | Core |

| Part-Time programme – 2 years | | | | |
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| Year 1 | | | | |
| Level | Module Code | Module Title | Credits | Status* |
| 7 | EITHER SSPO239H7, SSPO240H7 OR SSPO241H7 | Introduction to Quantitative Social Research, Applied Social Data Analysis in R, OR Advanced Quantitative Social Research | 15 | Core |
| 7 | EITHER SSPO242H7 OR SSPO243H7 | Qualitative Social Research Methods OR Qualitative Research Design | 15 | Core |
| 7 | | Optional module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | | Optional module | 15 | Option |
| Year 2 | | | | |
| Level | Module Code | Module Title | Credits | Status* |
| 7 | EITHER SSPO240H7, SSPO241H7, SSPO242H7, SSPO243H7, OR SSPO245H7 | Applied Social Data Analysis in R, Advanced Quantitative Social Research, Qualitative Social Research Methods Qualitative Research Design OR Experiments in Social Science | 15 | Core |
| 7 | EITHER SSPO240H7, SSPO241H7, SSPO242H7, SSPO243H7, OR SSPO245H7 | Applied Social Data Analysis in R, Advanced Quantitative Social Research, Qualitative Social Research Methods Qualitative Research Design OR Experiments in Social Science | 15 | Core |
| 7 | | Optional module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | | Optional module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | POSO072D7 | 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

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| 20 | Programme Director | Barry Maydom |
| 21 | Start Date (<i>term/year</i>) | October 2009 |
| 22 | Date approved by TQEC | Spring 2009 |
| 23 | Date approved by Academic Board | Summer 2009 |
| 24 | Date(s) updated/amended | March 2022 |