

## 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 Global Political Economy</b>				
4	<b>Programme Code(s)</b>	TMSGLECM_C				
5	<b>UCAS code</b>	N/A				
6	<b>Home Department</b>	Politics				
7	<b>Exit Award(s)</b>	PG Cert; PGDip				
8	<b>Duration of Study (number of years)</b>	1 FT; 2 PT				
9	<b>Mode of Study</b>	FT	X	PT	X	DL
10	<b>Level of Award (FHEQ)</b>	7				
11	<b>Other teaching depts or institution</b>	Economics; Criminology; Law; Management				
12	<b>Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details</b>	N/A				
13	<a href="#"><u>QAA Benchmark Statement</u></a>	N/A				

14	<b>Programme Rationale &amp; Aims</b>
	<p><b>Rationale:</b></p> <p>“Global political economy” (also known as “international political economy”) is a well-established and increasingly popular scholarly field — there are more than a dozen “global” or “international” political economy master’s courses in the UK. The proposed programme deploys existing research and teaching expertise in the Department of Politics to put Birkbeck on the map in this field, in the context of a cross-school initiative that launches a family of “political economy” courses in BEI, Law and SSHP interlinked via a common, jointly-taught core module. We are in a very strong position to provide a vibrant, intellectually challenging learning experience and will be able to sustain this programme in the foreseeable future.</p> <p><b>Aims:</b></p> <p>The programme offers a theoretically robust, analytically diverse and policy-relevant approach to investigating the interplay of global economic and political forces shaping our world, and will appeal to a wide range of home and international applicants. Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an in-depth understanding of actors and structures governing the global economy;</li> <li>• Examine the political context of the dynamics of global trade, finance and production to make sense of the current trajectory of international capitalism;</li> <li>• Explore how issues central to global political economy are linked to international politics and can be approached from adjacent fields such as law, economics and management; and</li> <li>• Learn to critically apply the broad range of concepts, theories and methods in the discipline of international / global political economy to independently research real-world phenomena.</li> </ul>

	<p>Together, the three interlinked BEI/Law/SSHP programmes will also foster the development of a distinct learning community of postgraduate political economy students, which will likely have a positive long-term impact on our research environment.</p>
15	<p><b>Entry Criteria</b></p>
	<p>Applicants are expected to have a 2:2 in social sciences or humanities from a UK institution, or an equivalent qualification from a non-UK institution. However, other relevant educational or professional qualifications and experience might also be taken into account by the admissions tutor.</p> <p>International students whose first language is not English must meet the standard language requirement of the Department of Politics (IELTS Academic with a minimum score of 6.5 overall and not less than 6.0 in each sub-test).</p>
16	<p><b>Learning Outcomes</b></p>
	<p>Students completing this degree programme will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the key concepts and major theories of the field of global political economy and a good scholarly grasp of the evolution of global capitalism;</li> <li>• Critically analyse related contemporary issues, from the dynamics of global production, trade and finance to global economic governance and the structure of North-South relations;</li> <li>• Demonstrate awareness and appreciation of contributions to political-economic analysis from other social disciplines such as law and management;</li> <li>• Undertake supervised independent research in a topic within the field of global political economy to a good standard and effectively convey findings of such research in academic style;</li> <li>• Demonstrate skills of analysis and critique that can be transferred to further study in the social sciences and humanities.</li> </ul>
17	<p><b>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</b></p>
	<p>Students will attend weekly lectures and seminars and termly workshops in accordance with the standard teaching scheme in Politics PG taught programmes. Most of the teaching material will be available via Moodle.</p> <p>Standard assessment patterns in Politics for taught modules consists of either an essay OR an open-book exam worth 90% of the final mark, and a 10% seminar participation mark. The MSc dissertation is worth 60 credits and expected to be 12,000-15,000 words. The cross-school core module is evaluated via a single 4,000-word essay; any option module students might take from non-Politics departments may follow a different assessment scheme.</p>

18	<b>Programme Description</b>
	MSc Global Political Economy aims to provide students with a solid grasp in its subject matter while exposing them to political economy analysis elsewhere in social sciences and humanities. Students take three core modules, four option modules worth 15 credits, and write a master's dissertation. One core module is cross-school and team taught, while the others are existing Politics modules that provide a direct advanced introduction to the subject. At least 30 credits of the option modules must be taken from Politics; the remainder can be taken from Law, Politics, Economics or Management. The master's dissertation will be supervised in Politics.

19	<b>Programme Structure</b>			
<b>Full-Time programme – 1 year</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
<b>Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Status*</b>
7	LALW064S7	Perspectives on Political Economy	30	Core
7	SSPO254H7	International Political Economy: Concepts and History	15	Core
7	SSPO255H7	Issues and Policies in Global Political Economy	15	Core
7		Options (Politics 2 x 15 credits)	30	Option
7		Options (Politics/BEI/Law 2 x 15 credits or 1 x 30)	30	Option
7	SSPO244D7	Dissertation MSc Politics	60	Core
<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	LALW064S7	Perspectives on Political Economy	30	Core
7		Option (Politics 2 x 15 credits)	30	Option
<b>Year 2</b>				
<b>Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Status*</b>
7	SSPO254H7	International Political Economy: Concepts and History	15	Core
7	SSPO255H7	Issues and Policies in Global Political Economy	15	Core
7		Options (Politics/BEI/Law, 2 x 15 credits or 1 x 30 credits)	30	Option
7	SSPO244D7	Dissertation MSc Politics	60	Core
<b>Indicative list of option modules (select at least 30 credits from Politics):</b>				
<b>Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Status*</b>
7	SSPO248H7	Emerging Powers in World Politics (Politics)	15	Option
7	SSPO249H7	Transformations in the Global South (Politics)	15	Option
7	SSPO233H7	The Rise of the Modern Food System (Politics)	15	Option
7	SSPO234H7	The Politics of the Global Food System (Politics)	15	Option
7	SSPO260H7	Geopolitics of Population and Environment: Crises and Contradictions (Politics)	15	Option

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7	SSPO261H7	Geopolitics of Population and Environment: Futures (Politics)	15	Option
7	SSPO250H7	Fragmentation and Integration in Global Politics	15	Option
7	SSPO251H7	Flashpoints in Global Security	15	Option
7	SSPO256H7	Middle East Politics 1 (Core Features)	15	Option
7	SSPO257H7	Middle East Politics 2 (International Angles)	15	Option
7	SSPO229H7	Nationalism and Ethnic Politics	15	Option
7	SSPO230H7	Nationalism and Ethno-Religious Conflict	15	Option
7	SSPO237H7	Theories of Public Policy-Making: Interests, Institutions and Ideas	15	Option
7	SSPO238H7	The Puzzles of Policy: Policy in Politics and Practice	15	Option
7	SSPO231H7	The Political System of the European Union	15	Option
7	SSPO232H7	The European Union: Policy Modes	15	Option
	SPPO221H7	Political Sociology of the Modern State	15	Option
7	SSPO222H7	Contemporary Political Sociology	15	Option
7	SSPO258H7	The Politics of Population Change I: Youth, Aging and Conflict	15	Option
7	SSPO259H7	The Politics of Population Change II: Migration, Identity and Conflict	15	Option
7	LADD072S7	Law, Post-Development and the Critique of Political Economy (Law)	30	Option
7	LADD055S7	Social Justice (Law)	30	Option
7	MOMN028H7	Corporate Governance (BEI)	15	Option
7	BUMN069H7	Institutions, Governance and Development (BEI)	15	Option
7	MOMN042H7	Innovation Systems: Networks and Social Capital (BEI)	15	Option
7	MOMN076H7	Development Policy (BEI)	15	Option
7	MOMN074H7	Globalization: forces, players and management (BEI)	15	Option
7	MOMN026H7	Innovation and the Knowledge Economy (BEI)	15	Option
7	BUEM087S7	Economics: Theory, Policy and Institutions (BEI)	30	Option
7	MOMN008H7	The Dynamics of Global Capitalism: Theory and Practice (BEI)	15	Option
7	MOMN075H7	International Business and Economic Development (BEI)	15	Option
7	MOMN007H7	International Business: Theories and Issues (BEI)	15	Option
7	MOMN032H7	International Business Ethics (BEI)	15	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*

<sup>20</sup>	<b>Programme Director</b>	Dr Ali Güven
<sup>21</sup>	<b>Start Date (term/year)</b>	Autumn 2020
<sup>22</sup>	<b>Date approved by Education Committee</b>	Autumn 2019
<sup>23</sup>	<b>Date approved by Academic Board</b>	Spring 2020
<sup>24</sup>	<b>Date(s) updated/amended</b>	March 2022