

Programme Specification

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| 1 | Awarding body | University of London | | | | |
| 2 | Teaching Institution | Birkbeck College | | | | |
| 3 | Programme Title(s) | MSc Global Politics | | | | |
| 4 | Programme Code(s) | TMSPOGLB_C | | | | |
| 5 | UCAS code | N/A | | | | |
| 6 | Home Department | Politics | | | | |
| 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) | 7 | | | | |
| 11 | Other teaching depts or institution (or not applicable) | N/A | | | | |
| 12 | Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details | N/A | | | | |
| 13 | QAA Benchmark Group | N/A | | | | |

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| 14 | Programme Rationale & Aims |
| | <p>The MSc Global Politics explores the history of global political and economic forces and the ideas that have shaped them. It considers and evaluates the genesis and transmission of neoliberal economic orthodoxy, the development of global politics and global structures of governance, including the creation and operation of institutions such as the World Trade Organization, foreign direct investment, migration, and the idea and reality of globalisation.</p> <p>It aims to develop students' ability to analyse political debates and issues in a critical manner, via teaching by academics with expertise in global history and politics. The course combines theoretical approaches with empirical knowledge and real-world case studies.</p> |

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| 15 | Entry Criteria |
| | A second-class honours degree (2:2) or above in a social science or other relevant subject, or equivalent professional experience (<i>subject to interview</i>). |

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| 16 | Learning Outcomes |
| | <p>On successful completion of the programme, a student will have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiarity with a broad range of theoretical approaches in politics and the ways they are brought to bear on current global political issues; • Understanding: a) key aspects of the history, politics and institutions of global governance as a response to the challenges of globalisation, and; b) gaining a familiarity with key issues and policy debates in international political economy; |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of major lines of contestation and critique within politics, and how these relate to political debates in the wider world; • A knowledge of contemporary research in politics, including engagement with the research done by members of the teaching staff through their research-led teaching, via readings, workshops and seminars; • An understanding of key approaches to research design in politics, the issues they present and their implications for doing political research; • Enhancement of generic intellectual skills, particularly relating to clear and persuasive communication of ideas, and engagement with political arguments. |
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| 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.</p> <p>Depending on the module, students submit essays, research projects, take-home exams and unseen exams, and also take quizzes, participate in online forums and maintain seminar logs during the teaching period.</p> |
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| 18 | <p>Programme Description</p> <p>The MSc Global Politics introduces students to literature, concepts and debates in global security, global politics and International Political Economy within the academic discourse and discipline of international relations.</p> <p>Students take four core modules and four options (all 15 credits) and write a 60 credit dissertation. This is the standard structure for Politics masters programmes. Full-time students take all eight taught modules Oct-July and submit their dissertation by 15 Sept. Part-time students take four modules each year (two core in 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"> SSPO222H7 Contemporary Political Sociology SPPO221H7 Political Sociology of the Modern State SSPO223H7 Reading Classic Texts Today SSPO224H7 Political Theory and Contemporary Politics SSPO225H7 Political Communication SSPO226H7 Digital Technology in Governance and Politics SSPO227H7 British Politics: Participation, representation and deliberation SSPO228H7 Divided power in British politics SSPO229H7 Nationalism and Ethnic Politics SSPO230H7 Nationalism and Ethno-Religious Conflict SSPO231H7 The Political System of the European Union SSPO232H7 The European Union: Policy Modes SSPO233H7 The Rise of the Modern Food System SSPO234H7 The Politics of the Global Food System |
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Year of entry: 2022/23

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| SSPO235H7 Governing Public Services SSPO236H7 The Political Economy of the Public Sector SSPO237H7 Theories of Public Policy-making SSPO238H7 The Puzzles of Policy: Policy in Politics and Practice SSPO239H7 Introduction to Quantitative social research SSPO240H7 Intermediate Quantitative social research SSPO241H7 Advanced Quantitative social research SSPO242H7 Qualitative social research SSPO243H7 Qualitative research design |
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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 | SSPO254H7 | International Political Economy: Concepts and History | 15 | Core |
| | SSPO255H7 | Issues and Policies in Global Political Economy | 15 | Core |
| 7 | SSPO250H7 | Fragmentation and Integration in Global Politics | 15 | Core |
| 7 | SSPO251H7 | Flashpoints in Global Security | 15 | Core |
| 7 | | Optional module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | | Optional module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | | Optional module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | | Optional module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | SSPO244D7 | Dissertation MSc Politics | 60 | Core |
| Part-Time programme – 2 years | | | | |
| Year 1 | | | | |
| Level | Module Code | Module Title | Credits | Status* |
| 7 | SSPO250H7 | Fragmentation and Integration in Global Politics | 15 | Core |
| 7 | SSPO251H7 | Flashpoints in Global Security | 15 | Core |
| 7 | | Option module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | | Option module | 15 | Option |
| Year 2 | | | | |
| Level | Module Code | Module Title | Credits | Status |
| 7 | SSPO254H7 | International Political Economy: Concepts and History | 15 | Core |
| 7 | SSPO255H7 | Issues and Policies in Global Political Economy | 15 | Core |
| 7 | | Option module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | | Option module | 15 | Option |
| 7 | SSPO244D7 | Dissertation MSc Politics | 60 | Core |
| Note: Up to 30 credits of options can be taken as 'open' options from either politics or related areas, with the remainder from the list above. | | | | |

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

Year of entry: 2022/23



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| 20 | Programme Director | David Styan |
| 21 | Start Date <i>(term/year)</i> | Oct 2000 |
| 22 | Date approved by TQEC | Spring 2000 |
| 23 | Date approved by Academic Board | Summer 2000 |
| 24 | Date(s) updated/amended | March 2022 |