

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College
3	Programme Title(s)	MSc Government, Policy and Politics
4	Programme Code(s)	TMSGOPPO_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 FT, 2 years PT
9	Mode of Study (FT/PT/DL)	FT/PT
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	7
11	Other teaching depts or institution	N/A
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A
13	QAA Benchmark Group	N/A
14	Programme Rationale & Aims	<p>This programme provides an intellectually stimulating guide to politics, policy-making and the processes of government in contemporary Britain. It is ideal for candidates who aspire to, or already have, a career in policy research, lobbying, journalism, the civil service, local government, further and higher education, or NGOs.</p> <p>Distinctive features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities to engage with the practicalities of politics in class discussions and through meetings with practitioners. • Part-time, evening, face-to-face study • Taught by leading figures in the field
15	Entry Criteria	<p>Our standard postgraduate entry requirement is a second-class honours degree (2:2 or above) in a related area, or relevant experience combined with an adequate academic background (subject to interview).</p>
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 critically the key theories, models and concepts used in the study of politics to the analysis of politics and government in Britain; • demonstrate substantive knowledge of political institutions and processes at the national, subnational and European level <p><i>On successful completion of this programme students will be expected to have</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extended and developed their analytical, evaluative and critical capacities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrated the ability to conduct an independent research project. developed their ability to obtain and analyse information from a wide array of sources
--	--

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. Assessment consists of an essay and seminar log.

18	Programme Description
	Students take four core modules and four options (all 15 credits) and write a 60 credit dissertation. Full-time students take all four 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.

19	Programme Structure			
Full-Time – 1 year				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	SSPO227H7	British Politics: Participation, Representation and Deliberation	15	Core
7	SSPO228H7	Divided power in British politics	15	Core
7	SPO237H7	Theories of Public policy-making	15	Core
7	SSPO238H7	Puzzles of Public Policy	15	Core
7		Optional	15	Option
7		Optional	15	Option
7		Optional	15	Option
7		Optional	15	Option
7	SSPO244D7	Dissertation MSc Politics	60	Core
Part Time – 2 years				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	SSPO227H7	British Politics: Participation, Representation and Deliberation	15	Core
7	SSPO228H7	Divided power in British politics	15	Core
7		Optional	15	Core
7		Optional	15	Core
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	SPO237H7	Theories of Public policy-making	15	Core
7	SSPO238H7	Puzzles of Public Policy	15	Core
7		Optional	15	Option
7		Optional	15	Option
7	SSPO244D7	Dissertation MSc Politics	60	Core

Year of entry: 2022/23

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	Ben Worthy
²¹	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	October 2003
²²	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2003
²³	Date approved by Academic Board	Summer 2003
²⁴	Date(s) updated/amended	February 2022