Year of entry: 2022/23



Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University	y of Lond	don			
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College					
3	Programme Title(s)	MRes Social Research and Psychosocial Studies					
4	Programme Code(s)	TMRSOCPA_C					
5	UCAS code	N/A					
6	Home Department	School of	Social S	ciences,	History	and Phil	osophy
7	Exit Award(s)	Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma					
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	1 year ful	l time, 2	years p	art time		
9	Mode of Study	FT	Х	PT	х	DL	
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	7					
11	Other teaching depts or institution	Psychoso	cial Stud	lies			
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A					
13	QAA Benchmark Statement	N/A					

Programme Rationale & Aims

This MRes Social Research and Psychosocial Studies combines high quality research methods training with substantive courses in the area of Psychosocial Studies.

- 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.

Distinctive features

- 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

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).

¹⁶ Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:

- apply quantitative and qualitative methods to social research.
- demonstrate understanding of issues in designing social research, including ontological, epistemological and ethical issues.



• demonstrate understanding of a range of theories about Psychosocial Studies and apply these appropriately to the social world.

On successful completion of this programme students will be expected to have

- 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.

Learning, teaching and assessment methods

The programme consists of lectures and seminars for taught modules, along with a dissertation. In the research methods modules, assessment is based on research projects, assignments or essays submitted during the year. In the other modules, assessment is by coursework.

18 Programme Description

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 key topics in quantitative and qualitative methods in addition to different departmental options. 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 and socially engaged research. Students take 15 credits of Quantitative Social Research (Intro or Intermediate), 15 credits Qualitative Social Research, 30 credits of additional methods, 60 credits of psychosocial studies options while writing a dissertation (60 credits). Full-time students take all taught modules throughout the academic year and submit their dissertation by 15 Sept. Part-time students take modules of 60 credits each year and submit their dissertation by 15 Sept of their second year.

19 | Programme Structure

Full-Time programme – 1 year

Year 1

Level	Module Code	Module Title		Status*
7	SSPO242H7	Qualitative Social Research Methods	15	Core
7	SSPO239H7	One from Introduction to Quantitative Social Research	15	Core
	SSPO240H7	or Applied Social Data Analysis in R		
7	SSPO240H7	Two from Applied Social Data Analysis in R,	30	Core
	SSPO241H7	Advanced Topics in Quantitative Social Research,		
	SSPO245H7	Experiments in Social Research or		
	SSPO243H7	Qualitative Research Design		
7		Two options from indicative list	2 × 30	Option
7	SSPO018D7	Dissertation	60	Core





Part-1	Part-Time programme – 2 years				
Year 1					
Level	Module Code	Module Title Credits Sta		Status*	
7	SSPO242H7	Qualitative Social Research Methods 15 Co		Core	
7	SSPO239H7	One from Introduction to Quantitative Social Research	15	Core	
	SSPO240H7	or Applied Social Data Analysis in R			
7		One option from indicative list	30	Option	
Year 2	?				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*	
7	SSPO240H7	Two from I Applied Social Data Analysis in R,	30	Core	
	SSPO241H7	Advanced Topics in Quantitative Social Research,			
	SSPO245H7	Experiments in Social Research or			
	SSPO243H7	Qualitative Research Design			
7		One from indicative list below	30	Option	
7	SSPO018D7	Dissertation	60	Core	
Indicative list of options					
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*	
7	SSPA077S7	Psychoanalysis and History	30	Option	
7	SSPA078S7	Psychoanalysis and Culture	30	Option	
7	PSSL040S7	Theories and sites of the psychosocial	30	Option	
7	PSSL039S7	Texts and Interpretation	30	Option	
7	FDLL004S7	Education Globalisation & Social Change	30	Option	
7	FDLL003S7	Education, Power and Resistances	30	Option	
7	FDRE012S7	Culture, Community, Identity	30	Option	
7	SSPA067S7	Lacanian Psychoanalysis: Theory and Practice	30	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

24	Programme Director	Chao-Yo Cheng
25	Start Date (term/year)	Autumn 2017
26	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2017
27	Date approved by Academic Board	Summer 2017
28	Date(s) updated/amended	May 2022