

Programme Specification

I. Programme Details

Programme title	Development Studies			
Final award (<i>exit awards will be made as outlined in the Taught Degree Regulations</i>)	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MA	<input type="checkbox"/>
	BSc	<input type="checkbox"/>	MSc	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other ...	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Mode of delivery	Distance-learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	On-campus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Professional body accreditation (<i>if applicable</i>)	n/a			
Academic year this specification was created	2017/18			
Dates of any subsequent amendments				

II. Programme Aims: What will the programme allow you to achieve?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide a solid grounding and training in international development theories and issues; 2. To provide an excellent and broad-ranging knowledge of development processes and policies in developing countries 3. To provide an excellent knowledge of international policies in regard to poverty and development 4. To provide a thorough knowledge of debates over how poverty and development are perceived, including critical voices of orthodox development policies 5. To provide an introductory training in development practice tools and techniques, and a solid grounding in the critique of development practice. 6. To provide strong training in the discipline of development studies, and broader social science disciplinary skills
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III. Programme Learning Outcomes: What will you learn on the programme?

There are four key areas in which you will develop:

Learning Outcomes: Knowledge	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A coherent and solid knowledge and understanding of development theories and critiques 2. A coherent and solid knowledge and understanding of development policies at national and international levels 3. A detailed knowledge of development through specialist optional subjects 4. An understanding of social, political and economic conditions in the developing world and their international context 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundational knowledge of concepts, debates, theories and issues in international development will be achieved through Year 1 core and compulsory lectures, and tutorial presentations and discussions. • Advanced knowledge of concepts, debates, theories and issues in international development will be achieved through 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research essays, unseen examinations, and oral presentations.

<p>lectures, tutorial presentations and discussions in Year 2 core and compulsory modules; as well as lectures and tutorials for optional modules.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed knowledge on specific issues within international development, and on regional contexts will be achieved through lectures and tutorials for core and compulsory modules as well as through lectures and tutorials for optional modules. 	
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Learning Outcomes: Intellectual (thinking) skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ability to devise and sustain arguments related to international development 2. The ability to discuss and critically engage with theories and ideas about international development from a variety of intellectual perspectives 3. The ability to analyse academic materials to identify their key arguments and underlying assumptions 4. The ability to construct arguments drawing on development studies theories and ideas, as well as on empirical evidence 5. The ability to exercise independence of thought, including a willingness to challenge their own previous assumptions about various issues 6. For students taking the Independent Study Project, an ability to formulate research questions, design a research strategy, gather evidence, and work independently to address those questions. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to devise and sustain arguments related to international development will be developed through lectures, tutorials, and class discussions • The ability to critically engage with theories and ideas about international development will be developed through reading materials, lectures, and especially through small-group tutorials in which students will present and discuss the major theories pertaining to a particular issue • Self-management of learning, and effective use of data and information sources, will be developed through the module structure which places a strong emphasis on guided self-learning • The Independent Study Project will encourage students to choose their own topics for research in international development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research essays, unseen examinations, oral presentations, and the ISP paper.

Learning Outcomes: Subject-based practical skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An ability to critically engage with ideas and theories 2. An ability to examine data and theories using a multi-disciplinary social science approach 3. Research techniques in using specialised libraries and resources (including data available on the web) related to international development 4. An ability to read and engage with a variety of types of literature – reports, papers, articles, books – incorporating different types of data and methodology and disciplinary perspectives 5. An ability to use and critique a range of tools, techniques and approaches used in international development practice 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to critically engage with theories and ideas will be developed through the readings for all modules, guided by lectures and tutorials. • The ability to examine data and theories using a multi-disciplinary approach will be fostered through readings which draw on a range of disciplines, and from lectures based on a variety of multi-disciplinary approaches • The ability to acquire research techniques using specialised libraries and resources related to international development will be developed through essay writing, presentations and the Independent Study Project • An ability to read and engage with a variety of types of literature will be developed through the reading materials, essay writing (and feedback on those essays) and tutorial presentations. • The ability to use and critique a range of tools, techniques and approaches used in international development practice will be developed through the 2nd year core module in development practice. • Self-learning in a professional placement with a development organisation (BA Professional Placement, year 3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficiency in the use of these skills is part of the assessment of the coursework (research essays, presentations, reports, and the ISP, and by unseen written examinations. • Oral presentation and research paper on the experience of working in a development organisation (BA Professional Placement)

Learning Outcomes: Transferable skills
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ability to present ideas, oral and written, in a clear, well-structured manner 2. Understanding of how to use a variety of sources and interpret the data contained in those sources 3. The ability to work to deadlines and within time constraints 4. The ability to critically engage with complex ideas and arguments 5. The ability to engage in meetings through presenting, discussing and constructively critiquing ideas 6. The ability to work productively in, and contribute to groups

7. The ability to work independently	
8. Practical work experience in the development field (If taking the BA professional Placement option)	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through essay writing following clear guidelines and with feedback on written and other coursework • Through strict deadlines and parameters within which essays must be presented • Through the development of presentation and debating skills through tutorial presentations and discussions • Through examinations which encourage clarity of thinking, expression, within a strict time-bound period • Through self-learning in a professional placement with a development organisation (BA Professional Placement, year 3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attainment of these skills is essential in completing the coursework (research essays, presentations, reports, and the ISP, and by unseen written examinations. • Oral presentation and research paper on the experience of working in a development organisation (BA Professional Placement)

General statement on contact hours – undergraduate programmes
<p>All full-time undergraduate programmes consist of 120 credits per year, in modules of 30 or 15 credits. They are taught over 10 or 20 weeks. The programme structure shows which modules are compulsory and which optional.</p> <p>As a rough guide, 1 credit equals approximately 10 hours of work. Most of this will be independent study (see https://www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/ug/teaching/). Also included are class time, which may include lectures, seminars and other classes. Some subjects may have more class time than others – a typical example of this are language acquisition modules.</p> <p>In the Department of Development Studies, most undergraduate modules have a 2-hour lecture and a 1-hour tutorial every week. A few modules, which are jointly taught with PG students, have a 1-hour lecture and a 1-hour tutorial every week.</p> <p>More information can be found on individual module pages.</p>

BA Development Studies

Year 1	credits	30	+	30	+	30	+	30
	module code	151010001		151010048		151010046		
	module title	Introduction to Development Studies		Introduction to the Political Economy of Development		Critical Reasoning in Contemporary Development Studies		open option
	FHEQ status	level 4 core module		level 4 core module		level 4 compulsory module		open option

Year 2	credits	30	+	15	+	15	+	30	+	30
	module code	151010022		151010049		151010047				from the list of Y2 Development Studies options
	module title	Comparative Studies on Development		Key Thinkers and Theories in Development		Introduction to Development Practice		from the list of Y2 Development Studies options		from the list of Y2 Economics or Y2 Politics options, or any level 5 language module
	FHEQ status	level 5 core module		level 5 compulsory module		level 5 compulsory module		guided option*		guided option*

OR

credits	30
module title	open option
FHEQ status	open option

Year 3	credits	120	
	module title	from the list of Y3 Development Studies, Y3 Economics or Y3 Politics options	
	status	guided option*	
	OR		
credits	90	+	30
module title	from the list of Y3 Development Studies, Y3 Economics or Y3 Politics options		open option
status	guided option*		open option

Please note that final year students may not take any introductory level modules, including languages.

List of modules (subject to availability)

Year 2 Development Studies modules

FHEQ level	Code	Title	Credits	Prerequisites
6	151010044	Development Communication	15	
5	151010041	Development and Conflict	15	
5	151010020	Introduction to Global Forced Migration Studies	30	
5	151010040	Governance and Development	15	
5	151010034	Non-Governmental Organisations, Development and Change	15	
5	151010038	Political Economy of Finance, Debt and Development	15	

Year 2 Economics options

5	153400100	Banking and Finance	30	153400003 Introduction to Economic Analysis
5	153400106	International Economics	30	153400003 Introduction to Economic Analysis

Year 2 Politics options

5	153400067	Comparative Political Sociology of Asia and Africa	30	
5	153400071	Government and Politics of China	30	
5	153400020	Government and Politics of South Asia	30	
5	153400060	Government and Politics of the Middle East	30	
5	153400054	Political Theory	30	
5	153400042	Politics of Development	30	
5	153400064	The State and Politics in Africa a level 5 language module	30	

Year 3 Development Studies options

FHEQ level	Code	Title	Credits
6	151010051	BA Professional placement	30
6	151010044	Development Communication	15
5	151010041	Development and Conflict	15
6	151010006	Independent Study Project in Development Studies	30
5	151010020	Introduction to Global Forced Migration Studies	30
6	151010050	Natural Resources, Development and Change: Putting Critical Analysis into Practice	15
6	151010045	Neoliberalism, Democracy and Development	15
5	151010034	Non-Governmental Organisations, Development and Change	15
5	151010040	Governance and Development	15
6	151010028	Issues in Borders and Development	15
6	151010021	Issues in Gender and Development	15
6	151010032	Issues in Global Commodity Chains, Production Networks and Informal Work	15
6	151010037	Issues of the Working Poor and Development	15
6	151010035	Security (BA)	15

Year 3 Economics options

6	153401005	Principles of Marxist Political Economy	15
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Year 3 Politics options

5	153400067	Comparative Political Sociology of Asia and Africa	30
5	153400071	Government and Politics of China	30
5	153400020	Government and Politics of South Asia	30
5	153400060	Government and Politics of the Middle East	30
5	153400054	Political Theory	30
5	153400042	Politics of Development	30
5	153400064	The State and Politics in Africa	30