

Programme Specification

I. Programme Details

Programme title	Research for International Development			
Final award (<i>exit awards will be made as outlined in the Taught Degree Regulations</i>)	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>	MA	<input type="checkbox"/>
	BSc	<input type="checkbox"/>	MSc	<input checked="" 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	2016/17			
Dates of any subsequent amendments	2017/18 for 2018/19 intake			

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

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide students with interdisciplinary training in international development drawn from economics, development studies and other social sciences. 2. To train students in a variety of research methods appropriate for use in the analysis of international development issues. 3. To provide students with coverage of topics and themes in international development that is at the frontier of the discipline.

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. An understanding of a wide spectrum of research methods associated with the analysis of international development ranging from epistemological discussions to qualitative and quantitative statistical research methods; 2. An interdisciplinary understanding of international development issues and themes drawn from development studies, economics or a combination of the two. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transferred via lectures, seminars and, for research methods, computer and software training tutorials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are tested by a combination of final examinations and essay or project based coursework. For most courses this will be in the ratio of 60-40% of the final mark respectively. • For Research Methods II, students are evaluated solely on the basis of an independent project which requires the direct application of the methods taught therein to a problem or question of the student's choosing.

Learning Outcomes: Intellectual (thinking) skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ability to critically appraise development paradigms and development policy from the perspective of economics, heterodox economics and development studies; 2. Capacity to approach development and development policy from an interdisciplinary perspective. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both lectures and seminars will be used to develop students' intellectual and thinking skills on their chosen international development topics. The seminar format is particularly suited to this since students are expected to prepare, present, evaluate and debate questions on the current topics for a given option. This requires the synthesis of a range of material within each option. 	

Learning Outcomes: Subject-based practical skills	
<p>From the research methods modules:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training in discourse, content, statistical, network and other related analyses. 2. Ability to understand and critically appraise statistical evidence on aspects of international development drawn from either household surveys or aggregated data, and both qualitative and quantitative in nature. 3. Ability to collect data methodically and implement specific techniques for systematic analysis of those data using specialised software. <p>From the option modules:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to critically appraise alternative theoretical treatments of international development issues. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within the research methods courses, students will be expected to prepare and present detailed answers to questions weekly, while undertaking exercises using statistical software. This requires the application of newly learned techniques and methods. • Within other options, students are expected to present their work to the class and answer their questions. This develops presentational skills as well as the ability to describe and present different viewpoints and paradigms, whilst putting forward a considered view. 	

Learning Outcomes: Transferrable skills
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Knowledge of a broad range of research methods and their strengths and weaknesses; 2. Ability to appraise and implement a variety research methods; 3. Ability to evaluate and synthesise different theoretical and conceptual arguments; 4. Critical appraisal and critical thinking and writing skills.

Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transferable skills will be developed as a matter of course, as the course unfolds. 	

General statement on contact hours – postgraduate programmes
<p>Masters programmes (with the exception of two-year full-time MAs) consist of 180 credits, made up of taught modules of 30 or 15 credits, taught over 10 or 20 weeks, and a dissertation of 60 credits. 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/) such as reading and research, preparing coursework, revising for examinations and so on. Also included is class time, for example 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>At SOAS, most postgraduate modules have a one-hour lecture and a one-hour seminar every week, but this does vary.</p> <p>More information can be found on individual module pages.</p>

MSc Research for International Development

	Dissertation	
credits	60	All MSc students in Development Studies are eligible to attend the one-term, non-assessed module Economics for Beginners, which introduces students to basic concepts in microeconomics, macroeconomics, development economics, and statistics and econometrics.
module code	15PDSC997	
module title	Dissertation in Research Methods for International Development	
status	compulsory module	

	Taught Component	Taught Component	Taught Component	Taught Component
credits	30	15	15	60
module code	15PDSC008	15PECC052	15PECC053	see list of Economics and Development Studies Options below
module title	Battlefields of Method	+ Statistical Research Techniques in International Development	+ Research Methods in International Development	+ see list of Economics and Development Studies Options below
status	core module	core module	core module	guided option*

*List of modules (subject to availability)

Development Studies

Code	Title	Credits
15PDSH027	Aid and Development	15
15PDSH026	Agrarian Development, Food Policy and Rural Poverty	15
15PDSH023	Borders and Development	15
15PDSH001	Civil society, social movements and the development process	15
15PDSH013	Development Practice	15
15PDSH050	Environment, Governance and Development	15
15PDSH048	Extractive Industries, Energy, Biofuels and Development in a Time of Climate Change	15
15PDSH022	Famine and food security	15
15PDSH010	Gender and Development	15
15PDSH024	Global Commodity Chains, Production Networks and Informal Work	15
15PDSH051	Global Health and Development	15
15PDSH015	Issues in Forced Migration	15
15PDSH053	Marxist Political Economy and Global Development	15
15PDSH029	Migration and Policy	15
15PDSH054	Neoliberalism, Democracy and Global Development	15
15PDSH019	Problems of Development in the Middle East and North Africa	15
15PDSH031	Natural resources, development and change: putting critical analysis into practice	15
15PDSH020	Security	15
15PDSH030	The Working Poor and Development	15
15PDSH032	Understanding Economic Migration: Theories, Patterns and Policies	15
15PDSH018	War to Peace Transitions	15
15PDSH049	Water and Development: Conflict and Governance	15
15PDSH041	Water Resources: Justice and Governance	15

Economics

Students need to get approval from the Module Convenor in order to take modules from the list below:

Code	Title	Credits
15PECC057	Economic development of Africa: microeconomic approaches for political economists	15
15PECC058	Economic development of Africa: macroeconomic approaches for political economists	15
15PECC028	Political Economy of Development and Change in the Middle East	15
15PECC029	Topics in the Political Economy of Contemporary Middle East	15
15PECC030	Economic development in the Asia Pacific region	15
15PECH024	China's Economic Transformation	15
15PECH023	China and World Development	15
15PECC026	Political Economy of Development and Change in South Asia	15
15PECC027	Topics in the Political Economy of Contemporary South Asia	15
15PECH025	Economic Development of Japan	15
15PECC048	Economics of Environment and Development	15
15PECC036	Financial Systems and Economic Development	15
15PECH026	Gender Economics (PG)	15
15PECC063	Global Economic Policy Analysis	15
15PECH027	Global Production and Industrial Policy	15
15PECH030	Green Finance	15
15PECH006	History of Economic Analysis	15
15PECC064	Institutions and Governance	15
15PECH029	Limits to Growth?	15
15PECC005	Macroeconomics	15
15PECC006	Microeconomics	15
15PECC004	The economic development of South East Asia	30
15PECC021	Theory of financial institutions & policy	15
15PECC024	Economic development of Africa: microeconomic approaches	15
15PECC025	Economic development of Africa: macroeconomic approaches	15

Gender Studies

Code	Title	Credits
15PGNH001	Gender in the Middle East	15