

Programme Specification

I. Programme Details

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|---|---|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| Programme title | Environmental Law & Sustainable Development | | | |
| Final award (<i>exit awards will be made as outlined in the Taught Degree Regulations</i>) | BA | <input type="checkbox"/> | MA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | BSc | <input type="checkbox"/> | MSc | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Other ... | <input type="checkbox"/> | LLM | <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 | | | | |

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

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To develop broad-ranging knowledge of applications of and issues in environmental law and sustainable development, in a context of international and comparative law. 2. To be able to engage in theoretical and empirical analysis of international and comparative law, with particular reference to environmental law. 3. To be able to explain and debate events and trends in environmental law. |
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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 | |
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will acquire specialist knowledge of environmental law in an international and comparative perspective. 2. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, knowledge and understanding of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the theoretical and practical underpinnings of environmental law internationally; • the context in which law is made, interpreted, adjudicated, and amended; • the role played by law, particularly environmental law in different situations internationally, particularly its role in promoting sustainable development in the global South; • the role and function of legal institutions in managing the environment and natural resources; • the weight and significance of different sources and methodologies. 3. Students will develop knowledge of how to locate relevant materials and assess their relevance and/or importance. | |
| Typical Teaching Methods | Typical Assessment Methods |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through attendance in all classes, independent and group study, and class preparation. • In some subjects through non-assessed as well as assessed coursework. • Through in course lectures/ seminars and through coursework. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through unseen examinations. Long essays, written course work, seminar presentations and dissertations may also be used/required. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through a compulsory but non-assessed Preparatory course on law and legal method. | |
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| Learning Outcomes: Intellectual (thinking) skills | |
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students should develop rigour in analysis and assessment of legal arguments. 2. Students should develop the ability to understand, summarise and critically assess differing perspectives on theoretical debates. 3. Students should develop independence of thought and the confidence to challenge the accepted wisdom. 4. Students should learn to identify issues and formulate questions for further research through independent work. 5. Students will be encouraged to bring to bear their own previous experience and knowledge in addressing legal issues in an interdisciplinary manner. | |
| Typical Teaching Methods | Typical Assessment Methods |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through courses which introduce information and ideas that need to be assessed critically and analysed in context. Students are encouraged not simply to summarise evidence and arguments but also develop their own assessments as to the relative value of different strategies/ arguments/ evidence. • Through independent dissertation and course work which entail selecting, designing and refining topics [with advice and assistance from tutors] and elaborating precise research questions/hypotheses. • Through the structure and content of courses of an interdisciplinary nature. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through unseen examinations. Long essays, course work and dissertations may also be used/ required. |

| Learning Outcomes: Subject-based practical skills | |
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| <p>The programme will help students develop the ability to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write clear research essays and dissertations. 2. Research in a variety of specialized research libraries and institutes and online, and retrieve, sift and select information from a variety of sources. 3. Present seminar papers and defend the arguments therein. 4. Discuss ideas introduced during seminars. 5. Develop essay and dissertation research questions. 6. Read legal source materials rapidly and critically. 7. Present legal arguments in moots and debates. | |
| Typical Teaching Methods | Typical Assessment Methods |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the writing of long essays and dissertations. • Through regular seminar presentations. • Through seminar discussion. • Through independent work for essays/ dissertations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through unseen examinations. Long essays, course work and dissertations may also be used/ required. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through independent work, departmental dissertation guidance notes and meetings, and meetings with supervisor. • Through required regular readings for weekly seminar discussions. • Through the holding of moots and debates in the law and legal method seminars and in some of the taught courses. | |
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| Learning Outcomes: Transferrable skills | |
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| <p>The programme will enable students to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communicate effectively in writing. 2. Structure and communicate ideas and arguments effectively both orally and in writing. 3. Read and comprehend significant quantities of reading rapidly and effectively and develop critical faculties. 4. Find and use a variety of written and digital materials, especially legal materials, in libraries and research institutes. 5. Present (non-assessed) material orally. 6. Develop teamwork skills. | |
| Typical Teaching Methods | Typical Assessment Methods |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through preparation for seminars, writing of long essays and other course work, dissertation and examinations. • Through individual and /or joint seminar presentations and class participation. • Through preparation for seminars, through discussion in seminars, through correction of course work by tutors and through preparation of answers to exam questions. • Through the formation of study groups. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through unseen examinations. Long essays, course work and dissertations may also be used/ required. |

| General statement on contact hours – postgraduate programmes |
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| <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> |

MA Environmental Law & Sustainable Development

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|--------------|---------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | Dissertation | | Taught Component |
| credits | 60 | | 15 |
| module code | 15PLAC999 | | 15PLAH067 |
| module title | Dissertation in Law | + | Environmental Law and Social Justice |
| status | core module | | core module |

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|--------------|--|---|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| | Taught Component | | Taught Component | | Taught Component | | Taught Component |
| credits | 0 | | 45 | | 30 | | 30 |
| module code | 15PLAC162 | | from List A | | from List A or general Law PGT list | | either guided option from general Law PGT list or open option |
| module title | Preliminary law, legal reasoning & legal methods | + | from List A | + | from List A or general Law PGT list | + | either guided option from general Law PGT list or open option |
| status | pre-sessional | | guided option* | | guided option* | | guided option* |

***List of modules (subject to availability)**

List A:

| Code | Title | Credits |
|-----------|--|---------|
| 15PLAC154 | Climate Change Law and Policy | 15 |
| 15PLAC118 | International Environmental and Sustainable Development Law | 30 |
| 15PLAC126 | Law and Natural Resources | 30 |
| 15PLAC177 | Water Law and Development: Conflicts, Governance and Justice | 30 |
| 15PDSH049 | Water and Development: Conflict and Governance | 15 |
| 15PLAH044 | Water Law: Justice and Governance | 15 |
| 15PLAH070 | Law and Global Commons | 15 |

general Law options

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| 15PLAC104 | Alternative Dispute Resolution | 30 |
| 15PLAC154 | Climate Change Law and Policy | 15 |
| 15PLAH025 | Colonialism, Empire and International Law | 15 |
| 15PLAH021 | Foundations of International Law | 15 |
| 15PGNH005 | Gender, Armed Conflict and International Law | 15 |
| 15PLAH061 | Gender, Sexuality and Law: Selected Topics | 15 |
| 15PLAH062 | Gender, Sexuality and Law: Theories and Methodologies | 15 |
| 15PLAC150 | Human Rights and Islamic Law | 30 |
| 15PLAH065 | Human Rights of Women | 15 |
| 15PLAC153 | International Commercial Arbitration | 30 |
| 15PLAH055 | International Criminal Law | 30 |
| 15PLAC145 | International Human Rights Clinic | 30 |
| 15PLAC119 | International Protection of Human Rights | 30 |
| 15PLAH057 | International Refugee and Migration Law | 15 |
| 15PLAC121 | Islamic Law (MA/LLM) | 30 |
| 15PLAC123 | Justice, Reconciliation and Reconstruction in Post Conflict Societies | 30 |
| 15PLAC160 | Law and Development in Africa | 30 |
| 15PLAC126 | Law and Natural Resources | 30 |
| 15PLAH026 | Law and Policy of International Courts and Tribunals | 15 |
| 15PLAH050 | Law and Postcolonial Theory | 15 |
| 15PLAH049 | Law and Society in Southeast Asia | 15 |
| 15PLAC130 | Law and Society in The Middle East and North Africa | 30 |
| 15PLAC118 | International Environmental and Sustainable Development Law | 30 |
| 15PLAC133 | Law, Human Rights and Peace Building: The Israeli-Palestinian Case | 30 |
| 15PLAH064 | Law, Rights & Social Change | 15 |
| 15PLAC140 | Multinational Enterprises and The Law | 30 |
| 15PLAC162 | Preliminary Law, Legal Reasoning and Legal Methods | 0 |
| 15PLAH022 | The Law of Armed Conflict | 15 |
| 15PLAH044 | Water Law: Justice and Governance | 15 |
| 15PLAC177 | Water Law and Development: Conflicts, Governance and Justice | 30 |
| 15PLAH063 | International Investment Law | 15 |
| 15PLAH070 | Law and Global Commons | 15 |

other non-law options might also be available, for example:

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| 15PFFC017 | Global Energy and Climate Policy | 30 |
| 15PFFH011 | Energy Policy in the Asia-Pacific | 15 |

Open options will need approval of deputy PG programme convenor (LLM or MA)