

Programme Specification

I. Programme Details

Programme title	Politics & International Relations			
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	2016/17			
Dates of any subsequent amendments				

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

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a strong background in the concepts, theories, and methods in the study of politics and international relations. To develop excellent knowledge of the international and comparative politics of Asia, Africa, and/or the Middle East To use empirical evidence from around the world, with a particular emphasis on Asia, Africa and the Middle East, to assess the applicability and limitations of disciplinary concepts, theories and methods. The ability to think critically, write persuasively and to analyse international and comparative politics from a variety of scholarly perspectives To prepare students for entry to postgraduate study and professional employment.

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"> Demonstrate basic knowledge of a wide range of concepts, theories, and methods in the discipline of international relations and comparative politics. Demonstrate advanced knowledge of a variety of contemporary debates in international relations and comparative politics. Develop detailed knowledge of regional politics and foreign relations in one or more regions in Asia, Africa, or the Middle East. Assess the relevance of mainstream approaches in International Relations and Comparative Politics for the analysis of the international and domestic politics of Asia, Africa, or the Middle East. Challenge commonly held views about major political issues related to Asia, Africa, and/or the Middle East, including the student's own previous assumptions. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic knowledge of concepts, theories and methods in international relations and comparative politics is to be achieved through Year 1 course lectures and tutorial presentations and discussions. It is assessed through coursework essays and unseen examinations. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced knowledge of contemporary debates in politics and/or international relations is to be achieved through lectures, tutorial discussions and oral presentations in Year 2 - 3 DISCIPLINARY courses. It is assessed through coursework essays, unseen examinations, extended essays and ISPs. • Detailed knowledge of political processes in one or more regions among Asia, Africa, or the Middle East is to be developed through lectures, tutorial discussions, oral presentations in Year 2-3 REGIONAL courses. It is assessed through coursework essays, unseen examinations, extended essays and ISPs. • Evaluation of the relevance of mainstream approaches for the analysis of politics of Asia, Africa, or the Middle East is to be taught through lectures, tutorial discussions, and questions set for presentations, essays, and exams in Year 1-3 courses. It is assessed through coursework essays, unseen examinations and ISPs. 	
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Learning Outcomes: Intellectual (thinking) skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyse academic materials to identify their key arguments and underlying assumptions. 2. Evaluate arguments and empirical evidence from a variety of intellectual perspectives in a critical and balanced manner, with due regard to their strengths and limitations. 3. Construct arguments drawing upon leading theories, concepts and debates relating to Asia, Africa and/or the Middle East. 4. Exercise independence of thought, including a willingness to challenge own previous assumptions about various issues. 5. Engage in debates about current political controversies. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning outcomes will be achieved through attendance of lectures, independent reading of required literature, analysis and synthesis of materials in tutorial presentations, discussions, and assessed work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through unseen examinations, essay assignments, extended essays, and ISPs.

Learning Outcomes: Subject-based practical skills
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collect and synthesise information from a range of library and internet sources 2. Structure and communicate ideas effectively both orally and in writing 3. Assess the validity of different approaches to a topic 4. Make judgments in contexts of conflicting evidence

Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning outcomes will be achieved through course readings; lectures and post-lecture questions; oral presentations and classroom discussions; essays and ISPs; questions set for presentations and essays, in the expectation that students will fulfil the requirements for reading and writing for their courses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through essay assignments, extended essays, unseen examinations, and ISPs.

Learning Outcomes: Transferrable skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work independently and manage schedules 2. Explain and evaluate complex ideas and situations 3. Work effectively under time constraints 4. Work productively in and contribute to groups 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning outcomes will be achieved through independent reading and writing for coursework; contributions to tutorial presentations and regular classroom discussions; and through the opportunity to choose of topics and frame questions for ISPs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through essay assignments, oral presentations, unseen examinations, ISPs, and contribution to classroom discussions.