

Programme Specification

I. Programme Details

Programme title	Contemporary China Studies			
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				

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

<p>Students taking the MSc in Contemporary China Studies will be expected to achieve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a detailed introduction to contemporary Chinese society, covering key issues and debates; 2. a grounding in the social science research methods and strategies that are relevant to the study of contemporary China; 3. an understanding of interdisciplinary research; 4. critical and analytical skills that enable them to execute a workable research topic (via dissertation) related to contemporary China.

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. Students will be expected to grasp key themes and debates related to the study of contemporary Chinese society. 2. Students will be expected to grasp various social science research methods and strategies that are relevant to the study of contemporary China. 3. Students will develop an understanding of interdisciplinary research and its potential. 4. Students will acquire/develop skills in Chinese language at any of these levels: beginner, intermediate or advanced (optional). 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All learning outcomes will be acquired through readings of recommended texts and issues explored in seminars and lectures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through a combination of unseen examinations, long essays, book reviews, written course work and dissertation as required for the MA programme.

Learning Outcomes: Intellectual (thinking) skills
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will learn to become precise and cautious in their assessment of evidence and their encounters with knowledge, and will develop critical skills in reassessing evidence for themselves. 2. Students will develop presentation skills as part of seminar and dissertation work.

<p>3. Students will learn how to design a research project, set a timetable, understand the principles of fieldwork, and consider questions of ethics.</p> <p>4. Students will learn how to gather, synthesise and assess large bodies of text and also how to represent such a body of knowledge in a synthetic and analytical manner.</p>	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 dissertation may also be used/ required.

Learning Outcomes: Subject-based practical skills	
<p>Students will be expected to learn to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communicate effectively in writing, in academic English 2. Retrieve, sift and select information from a variety of sources including print and other forms of mass media 3. Listen to, discuss and present ideas introduced during seminars. 4. Develop communication and interactive social group skills. 5. Practice research techniques in a variety of specialized research libraries and institutes. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the writing of long essays and dissertations. • Through regular seminar discussion and presentations. • Through independent work and meetings with supervisor. • Through required regular readings for weekly seminar discussions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through unseen examinations. Long essays, course work and dissertation may also be used/ required.

Learning Outcomes: Transferrable skills	
<p>Students will be expected to learn to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan, organise and write masters' level essays and dissertations; 2. Structure and communicate ideas effectively both orally and in writing; 3. Work effectively both alone and as part of a discussion group; 4. Understand unconventional ideas; 5. Develop various IT skills relating to library research and to representation of material; and relating to the production of small research projects. 	
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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through unseen examinations. Long essays, course work and dissertations may also be used/ required.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Through individual and /or joint seminar presentations and class participation.• Through the formation of study groups.	
--	--

General statement on contact hours – postgraduate programmes

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.

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.

At SOAS, most postgraduate modules have a one-hour lecture and a one-hour seminar every week, but this does vary.

More information can be found on individual module pages.

MSc Contemporary China Studies

	Dissertation
credits	60
module code	15PCIC998
module title	Dissertation
status	compulsory module

	Taught Component	Taught Component	Taught Component
credits	30	60	30
module code	15PCIC002	+	+
module title	Understanding Contemporary China	see list below	see list below
status	compulsory module	guided option*	guided option*

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

Code	Title	Credits
15PJKH025	Connections & Intersections: Core Aspects of East Asian Studies	15
15PPOC018	China and international politics	30
15PCHH003	Culture and Society of Taiwan	15
15PECH023	China and World Development	15
15PECH024	China's Economic Transformation	15
15PPOC251	International politics of East Asia	30
15PMSH026	Media Spectacle and Urban Space in East Asia	15
15PCHH001	Modern Chinese Film and Theatre (MA)	15
15PHIH022	Nationhood and Competing Identities in Modern China	15
15PMUH014	Pop and Politics in East Asia (Masters)	15
15PPOC252	Taiwan's politics and cross-strait relations	30
15PPOC012	State and society in the Chinese political process	30
15PCHC007	Elementary spoken Hokkien (Minnanyu, Taiwanese) (PG)	30
15PCHH004	Practical Translation: Chinese to English	15
15PCHH005	Practical Translation: English to Chinese	15
15PCHH031	Chinese 1 A (PG)	15
15PCHH032	Chinese 1 B (PG)	15
15PCHC011	Chinese 2 (PG)	30
15PCHC009	Chinese 3 (PG)	30
15PCHC012	Chinese 4 (PG)	30
15PCHC010	Special Course in Chinese: Reading Classical and Literary Chinese (PG)	30
15PCHC016	Styles of Modern Chinese Literary Language	30
15PCHC020	Chinese 5: Intermediate Business Chinese (PG)	30