

Programme Specification

I. Programme Details

Programme title	Politics of China			
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"/>	MRes	<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"> 1. To understand the political processes of China by using the concepts, theories and methods of comparative politics (political sociology and political economy) and international relations. The empirical evidence from the China studied here will test the applicability and limitations of the analytical toolkits of comparative politics and IR beyond the North American-European confines from which they are largely derived. 2. The combination of courses studied will enable students to develop deeper knowledge of how political problems are analysed as well as knowledge of the regions themselves. 3. To provide an excellent and broad-ranging knowledge of the politics of China, enabling the students to discourse fluently and knowledgeably about the governments and politics of China. 4. To be able to address theoretical and normative contexts in which Chinese politics sit, with a view to further study and research. 5. To be able to visit China without false or naïve assumptions. 6. Through the dissertation, the programme will also offer candidates the opportunity of conducting independent research based on the analytical foundations learned from their taught courses. 7. The analytical and case knowledge derived from the programme will facilitate entry into various types of professional employment and into further research.
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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. To disaggregate the governments and politics of China. 2. To establish thematic groupings for the purposes of considering and debating the government and politics of China. 3. The relations between the government and politics of China to regional developments, to international pressures, and the global political economy. 	
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 unseen examinations, course work, seminar presentations and a research for and writing dissertation.

Learning Outcomes: Intellectual (thinking) skills	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assess political developments in China, both in theoretical terms and by way of experiential accounts. • To evaluate accounts of the cultural origins and animations of Chinese politics. • To pay particular attention to Chinese political formations, and their expressions in literature, culture, ideology and technology. • To consider theoretical approaches to the politics of China and to contemplate informed alternatives for the future. • A tendency to question interpretations, however authoritative, and reassess evidence for themselves. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All learning outcomes will be acquired through discussion in seminars and the required readings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through unseen examinations, course work, seminar presentations and a research for and writing dissertation.

Learning Outcomes: Subject-based practical skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research techniques in specialised research libraries and institutes and by drawing on data and analysis available on the web. 2. A developed initiative and capacity to define own dissertation research question/hypothesis, and to adjust hypotheses and approach in the light of work undertaken for the dissertation. 3. The ability to read regularly and rapidly a variety of types of report/paper, incorporating different types of evidence, methodology and disciplinary perspectives. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All learning outcomes come from discussion in seminars and the expectation that students undertake the required reading each week, as well the requirement to write essays and research and write a dissertation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through unseen examinations, course work, seminar presentations and a research for and writing dissertation.

Learning Outcomes: Transferrable skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How to structure and communicate ideas effectively both orally and in writing. 2. How to retrieve, sift, select, analyse and digest information from a variety of sources. 3. How to work effectively in and contribute to groups to marshal and present evidence and arguments both orally and written. 4. How to engage in meetings by presenting, listening to and discussing ideas introduced during meetings. 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All learning outcomes will be acquired through the interactions in both lectures and seminars and in the encouragement of students to benefit from the huge array of China-related events at SOAS and in London. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through student interaction in seminars and lectures, particularly seminar presentations.

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 Politics of China

Dissertation		
credits	60	
module code	15PPOC999	
module title	Dissertation in Political Studies	
status	compulsory module	

	Taught Component	+	Taught Component
credits	90		30
module title	from List A		from List B or C
status	compulsory module		guided option*

Modules that need to be completed successfully for the achievement of an exit award:

module code	module title
15PPOC018	China and international politics
15PPOC012	State and society in the Chinese political process
15PPOC252	Taiwan's politics and cross-strait relations

***List of options**

Code	Title	Credits
List A:		
15PPOC018	China and international politics	30
15PPOC012	State and society in the Chinese political process	30
15PPOC252	Taiwan's politics and cross-strait relations	30
List B: Politics modules		
15PPOC251	International politics of East Asia	30
15PPOC017	Politics of Globalisation and Development in Asia and Africa	30
15PPOC008	State & society in Asia & Africa	30
15PPOC253	Northeast Asian politics: Japan, Korea and Taiwan	30
15PPOH022	State and Society in Central Asia and the Caucasus	15
15PPOH023	Geopolitics and Security in Central Asia and the Caucasus	15
15PPOC247	Government and politics of modern South East Asia	30
15PPOH032	The Indian Ocean in World Politics	15
15PPOH030	Political Thought on the Just Rebellion	15
15PPOH035	Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Social Research	15
15PPOH013	Foreign Policy Analysis	15
List C: Modules focused on China in a cognate discipline:		
15PECC035	Economic problems and policies in modern China	30
15PANH062	Culture and Society of China	15
15PHIH024	Knowledge and Power in Early Modern China	15
15PHIH022	Nationhood and Competing Identities in Modern China	15
15PLAC106	Chinese commercial law	30
15PLAC139	Modern Chinese Law and Institutions	30
15PSAH017	Culture and Conflict in Nepal	15
Language modules: Please contact the relevant module convenor during welcome week to arrange a placement test if necessary.		
15PCHC006	Elementary Spoken Cantonese (PG)	30
15PCHC007	Elementary spoken Hokkien (Minnanyu, Taiwanese) (PG)	30
15PCHC008	Special course in Chinese 1	30
15PCHC018	Intensive Elementary Tibetan	30