Programme Specification

Awarding Body/Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Name of Final Award and Programme Title	BA International Relations
Name of Interim Award(s)	
Duration of Study / Period of Registration	three years
QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s)	L250
QAA Benchmark Group	Politics and International Relations
FHEQ Level of Award	Level 6
Programme Accredited by	
Date Programme Specification Approved	
Responsible School / Institute	School of Politics and International Relations

Schools which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme

Institution(s) other than Queen Mary that will provide some teaching for the programme

Programme Outline

The programme is designed to provide students with a strong grounding in International Relations, including international political theory, international security, international development and debates around globalisation. The programme is also designed to provide students with some grounding in the relationship between international and comparative politics, providing students with the opportunity to examine the international politics of specific regions.

The programme is designed to provide students with a grounding in all key areas of international relations, especially at levels 4 and 5, but at the same time provide sufficient flexibility for students to specialise in particular topics, regions, and so on (especially at level 6 but also level 5).

The programme is designed to help students develop a strong sense of intellectual integrity, acquire substantial knowledge in the broad fields of International Relations and apply these skills to wider situations.

Aims of the Programme

The programme aims to:
- Provide students with a coherent, wide-ranging and intellectually stimulating programme including themes and issues in

international relations, theories of international relations, international political economy, IR and security, development, nationalism and national identity, cosmopolitanism, and comparative politics including regional specialisms.
- Introduce students to, and encourage them to employ, a range of methodological approaches.
- Enable students to develop independent critical thinking and judgement and to undertake independent research tasks.
- Develop a range of skills necessary to the effective communication of ideas and arguments.
- Provide a basis for further study in International Relations or related disciplines.
- Provide students with a coherent, wide-ranging and intellectually stimulating programme including themes and issues in

What Will You Be Expected to Achieve?

Students who successfully complete the programme will be able to:

Academic Content:	
A1	the nature of international relations, including a range of principles, concepts and terminologies associated with the study of international relations and international politics;
A2	historical and contemporary international political phenomena, including political texts, issues and problems within the field of study;
A3	appropriate theoretical and/or methodological approaches in the field of international relations

Disciplinary Skills - able to:	
B1	demonstrate systematic and critical knowledge and understanding of a range of principles, concepts and terminologies associated with the study of international relations;
B2	apply knowledge and understanding, selecting and using established techniques and a range of sources to evaluate texts, issues and problems in the field of study;
B3	select appropriate theoretical and/or methodological approaches to a range of issues within the field of study

Attributes:	
C1	identify and critically evaluate appropriate information in specific contexts in a self-directed way, and reflect on how this might be used and adapted to different contexts
C2	work independently, demonstrating clarity, initiative, self organisation and time management
C3	establish a skills and learning agenda through negotiation, participation and communication in group discussions.
C4	develop a global perspective and reflect on how this might be adapted to local contexts
C5	develop a reasoned argument and synthesise information, and communicate this clearly and effectively
C6	select and use information, including from IT sources

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C7	exercise critical judgement and self-reflection on their own learning, and to use this to adapt to new situations in professional settings

How Will You Learn?

The programme is taught in accordance with the School's Teaching and Learning Strategy. The School is committed to developing, maintaining and supporting good and innovative teaching practice, and to fostering independent learning and critical thinking in our students. Our strategy is informed by the overall framework set out in the College Teaching and Learning Strategy 2006-9, and within this we consider the following areas to be of central strategic importance:

Teaching takes a number of forms:
- lectures
- seminars
- workshops
- guest speakers
- individual supervision of projects and dissertations
- individual feedback on written work (where requested)

Learning is supported by:
- Coherently designed and effectively delivered modules
- Detailed module handbooks, providing learning outcomes and guided reading for each module - The provision of key materials in libraries or through electronic resources
- Appropriate assessment exercises within each module
- Use of electronic teaching materials including Powerpoint, WebCT and online reading lists
- Encouraging active participation by students in seminar discussions
- Research methods training

How Will You Be Assessed?

Assessment is varied and takes a number of forms within the programme. The nature of the assessment is closely connected to the desired learning outcomes and the mode of teaching within each module. Forms of assessment include:
- Unseen examinations
- Critical essays
- Research projects
- Project synopses
- Student presentations - Literature reviews

How is the Programme Structured?
Please specify the full time and part time programme diets (if appropriate).

Year 1 (Level 4):
Compulsory:
-POL100 Introduction to Politics (30 credits)
-POL106 Introduction to International Relations (30 Credits)
-POL105 Political Analysis (30 credits)

Optional:
-POL107 Background to British Politics (30 credits)
-OR: 30 Level 4 credits from another School

Year 2 (Level 5):
Compulsory:
-POL240 International Relations Theory (30 Credits)

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At least two of:
-POL241 War and Security in World Politics (30 Credits)
-POL242 Global Governance (30 Credits)
-POL244 International Politics of the Developing World (30 Credits)
-POL247 Modernity: Theories of the State, Economy and Society (30 Credits)

Optional:
-An additional 30 Level 5 credits from the School or outside

Year 3 (Level 6):
Compulsory:
-POL388 Politics Research Project (45 Credits)

Optional:
-An additional 75 credits from within the School (up to 30 can be taken from outside)

Academic Year of Study   FT - Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Introduction to International Relations	POL106	30	4	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1 & 2
Introduction to Politics	POL100	30	4	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1 & 2
Political Analysis	POL105	30	4	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1 & 2
Background to British Politics	POL107	30	4	Elective	1	Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Year of Study   FT - Year 2

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
International Relations Theory	POL240	30	5	Compulsory	2	Semesters 1 & 2
War and Security in World Politics	POL241	30	5	Elective	2	Semesters 1 & 2
Global Governance	POL242	30	5	Elective	2	Semesters 1 & 2
International Politics of the Developing World	POL244	30	5	Elective	2	Semesters 1 & 2

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Modernity: Theories of the State, Economy and Society	POL247	30	5	Elective	2	Semesters 1 & 2
British Politics	POL243	30	5	Elective	2	Semesters 1 & 2
Comparative European Politics	POL248	30	5	Elective	2	Semesters 1 & 2
US Politics	POL250	30	5	Elective	2	Semesters 1 & 2
Modern Political Thought	POL206	30	5	Elective	2	Semesters 1 & 2

Academic Year of Study   FT - Year 3

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Politics Research Project	POL388	45	6	Compulsory	3	Semesters 1 & 2
Ideology and Political Critique	POL308	15	6	Elective	3	Semester 1
Case Studies in Ethnic Conflict: Northern Ireland	POL322	15	6	Elective	3	
Electoral Behaviour	POL325	15	6	Elective	3	
Theories of the Self	POL326	15	6	Elective	3	
European Integration and the European Union as a Political System	POL330	30	6	Elective	3	Semesters 1 & 2
French Politics	POL333	15	6	Elective	3	
Analysing Public Policy	POL350	15	6	Elective	3	
European Politics: National Identity and Ethnicity	POL351	15	6	Elective	3	
Globalisation: Issues and Debates	POL355	15	6	Elective	3	

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
US Foreign Policy	POL358	15	6	Elective	3	
Resistance, Revolutionary Change and World Politics	POL359	15	6	Elective	3	
Gender and Politics	POL361	15	6	Elective	3	
The Politics of the Post-Colonial Middle East	POL365	15	6	Elective	3	
Contemporary Political Theory: Issue and Approaches	POL366	15	6	Elective	3	
Marxism and World Politics	POL367	15	6	Elective	3	
Socialist Political Thought	POL368	15	6	Elective	3	
Latin American Politics	POL369	15	6	Elective	3	
Nationalism and Ethnicity in International Relations	POL371	15	6	Elective	3	
Africa and International Politics	POL372	15	6	Elective	3	
Parliamentary Studies	POL373	15	6	Elective	3	Semester 1
Parliamentary Studies (internship)	POL374	15	6	Elective	3	Semester 2
Democracy in Action: The Theory and Practice of the 'Politics of the People'	POL375	15	6	Elective	3	
Ideas in Action: Political Thought in the 20th Century	POL376	15	6	Elective	3	
Race and Racism in World Politics	POL377	15	6	Elective	3	
Identity, Difference and Religion	POL378	15	6	Elective	3	
Radical Politics Today	POL379	15	6	Elective	3	
Utopia and Dystopia	POL380	15	6	Elective	3	

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
The Politics of Southeast Asia	POL381	15	6	Elective	3	
Contemporary Russian Politics	POL382	15	6	Elective	3	
Political Violence and Liberal Modernity	POL383	15	6	Elective	3	
Ethics of War	POL384	15	6	Elective	3	
Global Ethics	POL385	15	6	Elective	3	
The European Union	POL386	30	6	Elective	3	

What Are the Entry Requirements?

AS/A-level: Typical tariff or grades required: 320 from 3 A-levels, equivalent to ABB at A-level. Excluded subjects: General studies and critical thinking.

International Baccalaureate: Subjects and grades: 34 points overall, with 5,5,5 in Higher Level subjects.

Vocational and other qualifications: The College accepts a wide range of qualifications such as; Access and Foundation programmes, vocational awards, Irish Leaving Certificate, Scottish Highers and other Baccalaureates. Further information on our entry requirements.

Admission is based on academic merit and on the proven ability of the applicant to achieve success on their chosen programme of study. Every application to Queen Mary is considered on its individual merits with personal statement and reference taken into consideration.

How Do We Listen and Act on Your Feedback?

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between schools/institutes and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the school/institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the school/institute. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. Staff-Student Liaison Committees meet regularly throughout the year. Each school/institute operates a Learning and Teaching Committee, or equivalent, which advises the School/Institute Director of Taught Programmes on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at school level including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys.

All schools/institutes operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. APR is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery; the main document of reference for this process is the Taught Programmes Action Plan (TPAP) which is the summary of the school/institute's work throughout the year to monitor academic standards and to improve the student experience. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the NSS and module evaluations.

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Academic Support

The School runs induction and welcome back meetings at the start of each semester, to update students on School/QM policies and advise them on studies.

Each student is assigned a dedicated Personal Adviser throughout their years of study to assist them in choosing their modules and advising them on their studies. The School has 1st, 2nd and Final year dedicated Senior Tutors to deal with Extenuating Circumstances, the Senior Tutors are assisted by the Student Support Manager.

To assist with their final year project students are assigned a supervisor whose research matches the topic/subject they wish to focus on.

Programme-specific Rules and Facts

N/A

Specific Support for Disabled Students

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.
Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:
• Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
• Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
• Arranging DSA assessments of need
• Special arrangements in examinations
• Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
• Specialist one-to-one "study skills" tuition
• Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
• Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)
• Mentoring support for students with mental health issues and conditions on the autistic spectrum.

Links With Employers, Placement Opportunities and Transferable Skills

The BA (Hons) International Relations programme is not connected to a particular employment path and the School does not have links with a particular set of potential employers. However the subject specific and generic skills that are generated by the programme's learning outcomes prepare students for a wide range of employment opportunities. By providing a coherent and thorough overview of the discipline of politics, students are prepared for politics-related careers such as the civil service, journalism, political research, social work, local government and working for a non-governmental organisation. More broadly, the emphasis on written and oral communication in the degree, along with the critical and analytical approaches to problem-solving, equip students for a wide variety of careers, including finance and banking, management training, PR and advertising. By providing a robust academic grounding in the subject students can also progress into higher levels of study, including MSc and research degrees, and professional qualifications in law and teaching.

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Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification	Dr. Bryan Mabee

Person responsible for management of programme	Prof Adam Fagan

Date Programme Specification produced/amended by School Learning and Teaching Committee	20 Jan 2016

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board	