

## Programme Specification (PG)

Awarding body / institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Name of final award and title:	MSc in International Business and Politics
Name of interim award(s):	PGCert, PGDip
Duration of study / period of registration:	1 year full-time; 2 years part-time
Queen Mary programme code(s):	PMSF-QMPOLI1, PSIBP
QAA Benchmark Group:	
FHEQ Level of Award:	Level 7
Programme accredited by:	
Date Programme Specification approved:	
Responsible School / Institute:	School of Politics and International Relations

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

School of Business & Management

Collaborative institution(s) / organisation(s) involved in delivering the programme:

### Programme outline

In recent years interest in the relationship between international business and (especially international) politics has increased. This new programme sets out to explore concepts, approaches and methods from a truly inter-disciplinary perspective and offers a rich and stimulating basis for postgraduate study. The degree offers a framework for exploring the changing relationship between states and markets, international institutions of global political-economic governance, transnational companies, work, geo-politics, industrialization and development.

In particular the programme will help students to develop advanced and critical understandings of the politics of international business from various intellectual perspectives, from neo-liberal and mainstream business studies approaches, through to more critical approaches which engage with questions of power and resistance. In addition, it aims to provide an advanced theoretical grounding in the core aspects, history and politics of business and its growing internationalisation, as well as to equip students with the skills to conduct rigorous empirical analysis and enquiry.

### Aims of the programme

1. To develop advanced and critical understandings of the politics of international business from various intellectual perspectives, from neo-liberal and mainstream business studies approaches, through to more critical approaches which engage

with questions of power, sustainability, and resistance.  
2. to provide an advanced theoretical grounding in the core aspects, history and politics of business and its growing internationalisation.  
3. to equip students with the skills to conduct empirical analysis and enquiry.

### What will you be expected to achieve?

On successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

#### Academic Content:

A 1	Understand the relationships between politics and international business, and to be able to theorise and evaluate these in a rigorous manner.
A 2	Situate the histories of the relationship between the state, business and the growing internationalisation of both of these at an advanced level.
A 3	Understand various interpretations of capitalism at an advanced level, in depth contemporary manifestations and examples of the politics of international business, with particular attention to state-market relations and North-South questions, and the geo-political implications of these issues.

#### Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B 1	Develop an advanced ability to work with a range of theoretical frameworks.
B 2	Enable students to undertake rigorous, sophisticated and advanced empirical analysis and research.
B 3	Develop the ability to communicate at an advanced level, and across disciplines in a rigorous, effective and critical way.

#### Attributes:

C 1	Undertake advanced critical reading, oral and written communication.
C 2	Initiate and lead group discussions in a sophisticated and rigorous manner.
C 3	

### How will you learn?

The programme will be delivered through a combination of lectures, seminars, and individual research supervision

### How will you be assessed?

Assessment will be by essays, presentations and a dissertation.

### How is the programme structured?

Please specify the structure of the programme diets for all variants of the programme (e.g. full-time, part-time - if applicable). The description should be sufficiently detailed to fully define the structure of the diet.

Full Time students:

Semester 1

3 Compulsory modules: Approaches to Political Economy POLM059 (30 credits) ; World Economy and Development BUSM090 (15 credits) and Risk and Crisis POLM119 (15 credits)

Semester 2

SBM Elective modules 15 credits x2

SPIR Elective module 30 credits x1

AND POLM017 60 credit dissertation

Part Time students:

Year 1:

Semester 1

POLM059 (30 credits)

Semester 2

SBM Elective modules 15 credits x 2

Year 2:

Semester 1

BUSM090 (15 credits) AND SBM Elective module 15 credits x 1

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Semester 2  
 SPIR Elective module 30 credits x 1  
 AND POLM017 60 credit dissertation

**Academic Year of Study**

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Dissertation	POLM017	60	7	Core	1	Semester 3
Approaches to Political Economy	POLM059	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
World Economy and Development	BUSM090	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Strategic Management	BUSM086	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Risk and Crisis	BUSM119	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Economics of Developing Countries	BUSM073	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Global Supply Chain Management	BUSM091	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International Business Strategy	BUSM089	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Corporate Social Responsibility and Business Ethics	BUSM175	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Sustainable Finance	BUSM217	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
The Business of Climate Risk	BUSM251	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Globalisation and the IPE of Development	POLM026	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International Relations of the Middle East	POLM081	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
International Organisations	POLM099	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
US Public Policy	POLM100	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Governing the EU in times of Crisis	POLM103	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2

### What are the entry requirements?

Upper-second class honours degree or equivalent from a reputable University, professional experience and expertise will also be taken into consideration and welcomed (and judged via interview in the few cases likely to be affected).

Language requirements if first language is not English:

IELTS Academic: 7.0 overall including 6.0 in Writing, 6.0 in Reading, 6.0 in Listening and 6.0 in Speaking.

TOEFL: 100 overall including 21 in Writing, 19 in Reading, 18 in Listening and 21 in Speaking.

PTE Academic: 76 overall including 65 in Writing, and 65 in Reading, 65 in Listening and 65 in Speaking.

### How will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced? How do we listen to and act on your feedback?

The Student Voice Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between Schools 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. Student Voice Committee meet regularly throughout the year.

The School operates an Education Committee 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 this Committee's work in a number of ways, such as consideration of student surveys.

All schools operate a risk based and agile Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. The process is organised at a School-level basis with the Head of School, or equivalent, responsible for the completion of the school's periodic Programme Reviews. Schools/institutes are required to produce a separate Programme Review for undergraduate programmes and for postgraduate taught programmes using the relevant Undergraduate or Postgraduate Programme Review pro-forma. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the module evaluations.

### What academic support is available?

Students take part in a School wide induction programme which will acquaint students with their programme and resources available to them. They will have a designated advisor as well as a designated dissertation supervisor, both of whom will meet with the students on a regular basis. During induction advice is provided on module choice and module convenors are available at designated times each week to see students to discuss academic issues relating to their modules. The School has a Senior Tutor for masters students who will also be available to see students.

Students are also kept informed about support and help available either within the school, or support workshops organised by Advice and Counselling at QM or the Academic Skills Unit.

Part-time students will undertake the same induction programme as full-time students at the beginning of their studies, and wherever possible we will ensure that their advisor is the same for both years of their study, to ensure continuity of support.

### Programme-specific rules and facts

**How inclusive is the programme for all students, including those with disabilities?**

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 needs
- 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 programme will develop a range of skills and expertise including:

- Presentation and groups working skills
- Clear communication, both written and oral
- Research and analysis skills
- Empirical knowledge of areas of contemporary international public policy
- An appreciation of the complexity of policy-making at the international level

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**Programme Specification Approval**

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**Person completing Programme Specification:**

Burcu Biltekin

**Person responsible for management of programme:**

Professor Chris Phillips

**Date Programme Specification produced / amended by School / Institute Education Committee:**

updated 28 August 2024

**Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board:**