

Programme Specification

Awarding Body/Institution	Queen Mary, University of London
Teaching Institution	Queen Mary, University of London
Name of Final Award and Programme Title	MSc in International Business and Politics
Name of Interim Award(s)	
Duration of Study / Period of Registration	24 months (PT)
QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s)	N1Q7
QAA Benchmark Group	N/A
FHEQ Level of Award	Level 7
Programme Accredited by	N/A
Date Programme Specification Approved	11 Sep 2013
Responsible School / Institute	School of Politics and International Relations

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

School of Business & Management

Institution(s) other than Queen Mary that will provide some teaching for 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, and 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 and resistance.

2. to provide an advanced theoretical grounding in the core aspects, and 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	the relationship between politics and international business, and to be able to theorise and evaluate these in a rigorous manner
A 2	the histories of the relationship between the state, business and the growing internationalisation of both of these at an advanced level
A 3	the various interpretations of capitalism at an advanced level, and 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.

How Will You Learn?

The programme will be delivered through a combination of lectures and seminars.

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How Will You Be Assessed?

Programme will be assessed by a combination of essays and exams.

How is the Programme Structured?

Full Time students:

Sem A

BUSM086 and BUSM015 (15 credits each)

POLM059 (30 credits)

Sem B

BUSM090 plus one SBM Elective

SPIR elective (30 credits)

POLM017 Dissertation (60 credits)

For Part-time students the pattern will be;

Year One

Sem A

POLM059 (30 credits)

Sem B

BUSM090 plus one SBM Elective (30 credits)

Year Two

Sem A

BUSM086 and BUSM015 (15 credits each)

Sem B

SPIR elective (30 credits)

POLM017 Dissertation (60 credits)

Academic Year of Study 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Approaches to Political Economy	POLM059	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
World Economy and Development	BUSM090	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Strategic Management	BUSM086	15	7	Compulsory	2	Semester 1
International Human Resource Management	BUSM015	15	7	Compulsory	2	Semester 1
Dissertation	POLM017	60	7	Core	2	Semester 2 & 3
New Product Development and Business Ecosystems	BUSM084	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Multinationals and Global Business	BUSM028	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Knowledge and Innovation Management	BUSM042	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Global governance and International Organisations	BUSM068	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Public advocacy marketing	BUSM062	15	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Globalisation and the IPE of Development	POLM026	30	7	Elective	2	Semester 2
International Security: War and Peace in the Global Context	POLM027	30	7	Elective	2	Semester 2
Global Politics of Health	POLM049	30	7	Elective	2	Semester 2
International Relations of the Middle East	POLM043	30	7	Elective	2	Semester 2
Sub-Saharan Africa: States and Societies	POLM046	30	7	Elective	2	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). IELTS 7.5

How Do We Listen and Act on Your Feedback?

The Staff-Student Liaison 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. Staff-Student Liaison Committees meet regularly throughout the year.

Each school 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 this Committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys.

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

Academic Support

Students take part in a School wide induction programme. They will have a designated personal tutor as well as a designated dissertation supervisor, both of whom will meet with the students on a regular basis. The School has a Senior Tutor for MA students who will also be available to see students.

Students are also kept informed about support and help available either within the school, such as dedicated personal adviser weeks, or support workshops organised by Advice and Counselling at QM or the Language and Learning Unit, via the postgraduate administrator and school office.

Programme-specific Rules and Facts

The programme will be academically managed jointly by both Schools premised on a co-convenorship model. Overall academic management of the programme will be the responsibility of the designated members of staff from both SBM and SPIR. It will be their responsibility to oversee admissions, course and programme development, assessment and quality assurance, in association with the relevant School Teaching and Learning Committees and Graduate School Committees. In delivering these functions, the programme convenors will work closely with the School and Postgraduate Administrators and other relevant Schools within the College. All students enrolled on this new programme will be allocated a personal adviser, who will be available throughout the year to provide academic as well as pastoral support. Module convenors and other members of staff will also be available at designated times each week to see students and to discuss academic issues relating to their particular courses. All students will also be allocated a supervisor for their dissertations, which will require a minimum of 3 meetings. The administrative side of the programme will ultimately be located in SPIR, who will deal with exam board issues, admissions and marketing (in academic collaboration with SBM).

Progression will be dealt with by the post-graduate subject examination board in SPIR (a designated SBM rep will attend the board), which meets in October to consider all post-graduate students. In accordance with School policies and practice, all assessments will be double-marked internally, and a sample will be sent to the external examiner for the programme

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

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- 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

N/A

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification

Paul Copeland and Liam Campling

Person responsible for management of programme

Paul Copeland and Liam Campling

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

1 Sep 2013

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board

11 Sep 2013