

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY & PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

LEVEL 7 – POSTGRADUATE

These modules will have pre-requisite requirements which you must meet before study commences. It is important that you pay particular attention to this to ensure that you have the necessary level of study to take these modules.

Module information	Semester	ECTS
<p>Theories of International Relations</p> <p>Module Description: The module aims to introduce and develop students' knowledge and ability to deploy the principal classical and contemporary theories of International Relations. It will do this by developing theory within the context of contemporary and historical case studies. It is essential to give students without a background in IR a baseline understanding of different theoretical accounts of the international.</p> <p>Module content: The module will cover theories of IPE, which will include some of the following: Antecedents such as Hobbes, Macchiavelli, Thucydides, Locke, Kant; Classical theory such as Idealism, Realism, Imperialism, English School; and Contemporary theories Neo-Realism/Liberalism, Neo-Gramscian and Neo-Imperialism, Constructivism, Post-Modernism, Feminism.</p> <p>Assessment: Essay 70%; Presentation 30%</p>	Autumn	10
<p>The European Union as a Global Actor</p> <p>Module Description: The module will explore the EU as a global actor, in order to understand international relations at a regional and inter-regional level. It will engage with theoretical debates about the 'actorness' and the conceptualisation of power in the study of international relations, as well as providing an opportunity for empirical study of the inter-relationship between national, regional and global governance.</p> <p>Module content: Indicative module content: Introduction: Module overview; Supranationalisation and the institutions of the EU; The EU as a Foreign Policy Actor; Global governance and the EU; Colonialism, post colonialism and neo colonialism; EU – Africa relations; EU – Latin America relations; EU – China relations; EU – India Relations; EU – Maghreb; and Theorising integration and neo-colonialism within Europe.</p> <p>Assessment: Presentation 25%; Essay 75%</p>	Autumn	10
<p>Global Perspectives on Development</p> <p>Module Description: The module will deepen students' awareness of current international development challenges & critically examine the contribution of the social sciences to the understanding of issues relating to development in a global context, and to explore alternative perspectives on the processes involved.</p> <p>Module content: Indicative module content: Introduction: the meaning & measurement of development including the limits to economic measures & the use of e.g. human development index [HDI]; Evolution of development: mainstream theory; international aid; the development project; Alternative visions of development: view from the south; Latin American school; new international economic order [NIEO]; social movements; current impasse; Development Economics & endogenous growth theory; Current development & aid landscape: new modalities; sector-wide approaches [SWAPS]; budget support, poverty reduction strategy papers [PRSPs];</p>	Autumn	10

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<p>millennium development goals [MDGs]; high level fora; aid versus trade; China/multinationals in Africa; Gender: life chances, gender roles, access to resources / decision-making; Poverty: cycles; acute/chronic/life-course; multi-dimensional deprivation; improving life chances; micro-finance & social protection; Participation & the role of civil society: community participation; engagement; NGOs; governance; Rights: decolonisation; Sen's rights & entitlements; rights-based approaches; Livelihoods: peasant rationality; sustainable/natural resource-based livelihoods & diversification; food; and The future development & aid landscape: rise of south-south; new trade regime/the end of aid?; MDGs2.</p> <p>Assessment: Essay 50%; Case Study 50%</p>		
<p>Postconflict Reconstruction & Peace Building</p> <p>Module Description: This module will critically examine and integrate peace and development discourses around issues of post conflict reconstruction and peace building. Considerations will also be applied to humanitarian assistance & recovery from major natural disasters such as earth quakes, storms and tsunami.</p> <p>Module content: Indicative module content: Introduction: the post conflict situation; The Peace Context of Conflict; The Development Context of Conflict; Security & Demilitarisation; Getting Development Moving; Peacebuilding from Below; Student Led Seminars: PCR Case Studies; International Actors in PCR; Reconciliation; Community Building & recreating sustainable livelihoods; Peacebuilding: Actors & Stakeholders; and Role of private sector & business in sustainable PCR & Development.</p> <p>Assessment: Coursework 50%; Essay 50%</p>	Autumn	10
<p>Theories of International Political Economy</p> <p>Module Description: The module aims to introduce and develop students' knowledge and ability to deploy the principal classical and contemporary theories of International Political Economy. It will do this by developing theory within the context of contemporary and historical case studies.</p> <p>Module content: The module will cover theories of IPE, which will include some of the following: Classical theories of Political Economy such as the work of Adam Smith, Riccardo and Marx; Post-war theories of Political Economy such as the work of Schumpeter and Keynes; and Contemporary theories of International Political Economy such as Realism, Liberalism, New Institutionalism, Game Theory, Critical Political Economy, Constructivism, Dependency and World Systems theory, Neo-Gramscian approaches and Open Marxism.</p> <p>Assessment: Essay 50%; Presentation 50%</p>	Autumn	10
<p>Civilian Protection</p> <p>Module Description: This module provides insight, debate and practical strategies in the field of the protection of civilians from violence on a local, national and international level. This is increasingly becoming a central concern for international interventions, but on the local level innovative projects are being supported. From understanding the roles of international agencies, NGOs and local organisations, to investigating strategies and tactics of those affected, this module will enable you to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions and the way in which it fits with peace and conflict theory and human rights.</p> <p>Module content: Indicative content: The nature of violence and war, security systems; International standards on Protection of civilians (dealing with top level actors); Actors in Protection of civilians: levels of concern; Methods of protection and protection from whom (humanitarian, security, peacekeeping, police); The principle of local ownership for transformation, determining change and capacity; UCP as protecting civilians, what is it and how does it work; Local peace teams,</p>	Autumn	10

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<p>accompaniment; History and research on local civilians protection from violence; Review of key case studies; Expanding and developing local level protection of civilian strategies; and Moving between theory and practice in the protection of civilians field.</p> <p>Assessment: Report 50%; Case Study 50%</p>		
<p>International Human Rights Law</p> <p>Module Description: The aim of this module is to critically explore what is meant by international human rights law and critically evaluate its purpose and application. It will assess the role and function of the United Nations, introducing students to the law as embodied by UN international human rights treaties and legal principles as defined by customary international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The module critiques the international institutions and procedures whose function is to monitor and report upon state compliance with human rights obligations. It will also critically explore the role and function of regional institutions such as the European Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the African Court on Human and Peoples Rights, and their respective conventions. The module covers civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, with reference to other specific rights, such as women's rights and torture</p> <p>Module content: Indicative module content: Introduction to international human rights law: the international human rights framework; the role and function of the United Nations; the nature and structure of international human rights and the systems and institutions that seek to protect and promote human rights; The United Nations Charter and international human rights: Charter-based mechanisms; The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights: the international Bill of Rights and United Nations international human rights; Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: critical assessment and deconstruction of national / domestic commitments and realisation; Introduction to international humanitarian law (IHL); Law of War and Command Responsibility; Asymmetric Warfare and IHL; Indiscriminate War and IHL; Victims' Rights and Reparations; Responsibility to Protect; and Right to Development and Group / Minority Rights</p> <p>Assessment: Assignment 50%; Assessment 50%</p>	Autumn	10
<p>Critical Perspectives on Peace and War</p> <p>Module Description: The module will introduce the theory and practice associated with conflict, peace and reconciliation, terrorism and security. Students will be looking at how we apply the different mechanisms to make a difference and the ethical considerations. Topics include weapons of mass destruction, arms trade, genocide, nonviolent conflict, conflict resolution and peacekeeping.</p> <p>Module content: The indicative content is: Introduction: Strategies and theories of peace and nonviolence; Causes of war (individual, group, state, ideological, environmental, social and economic levels); Strategies and theories of warfare: deterrence, information warfare and structural violence; Weapons of mass destruction, the militarization of space and peace movements; Modeling war and peace; Strategies of conflict resolution; nonviolent conflict; Key examples of security, terror, conflict, reconciliation, peace keeping, nonviolent social change, and militarization as a context for the theoretical and strategic paradigms; Ethical and practical issues related to peace, conflict resolution, and warfare; Achieving change, the work of Gandhi, Sharpe and Martin; education for peace; Total War – Genocide, Holocaust and mass Human Rights Violation; Policies for control and security that maintain inequality and social injustice. Case Studies; and Arms Trade & Conflict.</p> <p>Assessment: Essay 50%; Coursework 50%</p>	Spring	10
<p>Developing & Managing Projects</p>	Spring	10

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<p>Module Description: The module will consider how projects fit within organisations, and how they are developed, funded and managed. It will introduce the essential components of project management, including planning, evaluation, ethics and governance issues, and stakeholder engagement. It will develop key skills in project management, funding applications and communication using authentic sources and case studies.</p> <p>Module content: Indicative content: Introduction to module. Critiquing projects and project structures e.g. matrix, resources, the project cycle and the role of project managers; Writing proposals, funder selection processes; Project planning and design; Project management tools. Introduction to Log frames; Project costing principles; budgeting using Excel; direct & indirect costs; overheads; Managing NGOs and people. Project finances monitoring; Monitoring & evaluation: evaluation for learning and accountability; Integrating and managing evaluation; Communication & dissemination strategies. Press releases, parliamentary briefings etc.; Stakeholder engagement, social impacts and ethics; and Governance, management and sustainability.</p> <p>Assessment: Coursework (Funding proposal) 80%; Coursework (Press release) 20%</p>		
<p>Political Economy of Crisis and Global Governance</p> <p>Module Description: The module introduces students to crisis as a recurring theme in the international political economy. It asks students to reflect on the meaning of the term crisis and to compare between different types of crisis (and for who) conceptually and historically. It starts with a conceptual overview of crisis as an issue and then moves through a series of historical case studies, notably the crisis of the 1930s, 1970s and the Asian Crisis. It then explores the current crisis in global capitalism from its structural roots, trigger points in the US housing and debt markets, through to its evolution as a banking and sovereign debt crisis. It also considers state and private responses to the crisis and puts it in the context of geo-political shifts in the structure of global political economy and the emerging resource, ecological and environmental crisis.</p> <p>Module content: The module will cover theories of IPE, which will include some of the following: The meaning of the word ‘crisis’ in popular and academic debate related to political economy; Theoretical explanations for crises in political economy, including the market-based, Marxist and environmental critiques; A consideration of different case study examples of crisis and the response to them, including the 1930s, the 1970s, the Asian crisis of the 1990s; The structural weaknesses in Neo-liberal capitalism; The US Housing and Debt markets as trigger points for the crisis; The evolution of the current crisis from a banking to sovereign debt crisis; The long-term geo-political shift eastwards in the centre of the IPE; and The building resource, environmental and ecological crisis.</p> <p>Assessment: Essay 50%; Presentation 50%</p>	Spring	10
<p>The Political Economy of Globalisation</p> <p>Module Description: The overall purpose/goals of the module is to critically examine the interrelationship between the theoretical rationale for globalisation and its policy and practice in relation to the issues of the political economy of development and growth.</p> <p>Module content: Indicative module content: Theories of Globalisation; The globalisation of finance, production and trade; The Trade Theory Debate: Neo-liberal, Structuralist and Dependency Arguments; The Political Economy of Trade Growth and Development; Governing Globalisation; The Environmental impacts of globalisation; Migration; Micro-credit; Millenium Development Goals; and Globalisation and labour markets.</p> <p>Assessment: Presentation 20%; Report 80%</p>	Spring	10

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<p>Security Paradigms</p> <p>Module Description: This module will provide the student with an understanding of contemporary security theory and challenges, and how this has evolved from a focus on the state to incorporate human security. The roles of key actors, agencies, policies and interventions are examined. Responses to traditional and new security threats will be examined from a human rights perspective, including case studies on terrorism, new forms of warfare and climate change.</p> <p>Module content: Indicative content: Introduction: Security v peace and conflict studies: evolution of new disciplines; Current paradigms and challenges; concepts of security and human rights; International structures, alliances, organisations & norms; Human security: state and non-state actors; Testing Human security 1: Environment, food security and climate change; Testing Human Security 2: Humanitarian interventions & just war; Testing Human Security 3: Terrorism & Counter-Terrorism; Testing State Security 1: Deconstructing new forms of warfare; Testing State Security 2: Information warfare and cyber-attacks; Testing State Security 3: Deconstructing National Security & counter insurgency; Testing State Security 4: Surveillance, torture & small arms; and Alternative Security paradigms; activism; deconstructing conspiracy theories; sustainable futures.</p> <p>Assessment: Essay 50%; Essay 50%</p>	Spring	10
<p>Theorising Human Rights</p> <p>Module Description: The module will explore the theorisation of Human Rights within International Relations debates. It will explore the contested conceptualisation of Human Rights, via universalist/relativist and cosmopolitan/communitarian debates, and locate the theorisation of rights within the broad schools of International Relations thought. It will explore the tensions that emerge through the institutionalisation of rights at an international level, the operation of sovereignty and the politics of rights at a group and individual level.</p> <p>Module content: Indicative module content: Introduction: Module overview; Key debates in the conceptualisation of Human rights; Gender and human rights; Indigenous rights; Locating Human Rights in traditional IR theory; Locating Human Rights within critical approaches; The UN and the institutionalisation of human rights; Agencies and actors; Sovereignty and Human Rights; Humanitarian Intervention and R2P; and Human Rights Networks and Campaigns.</p> <p>Assessment: Group Wiki 25%; Essay 75%</p>	Spring	10
<p>War, Crime & Violence</p> <p>Module Description: This module aims to critically explore acts of war, political violence and 'crimes of aggression' through the lens of criminological discourse. It will provide an in-depth critical understanding of war and its relationship with 'crime'; this will be achieved by critically evaluating the role of individual states, international communities, as well as victims, bystanders and known perpetrators or combatants.</p> <p>Module content: Introduction to the Criminology of Warfare; Masculinity and Warfare; Female combatants; Mass Rape in wartime; Police states; State Crime; Political Violence; Torture and Detention; Crimes of Obedience; Genocide; States of Denial; Truth and Reconciliation; Nuremberg and war crimes trials; and The War on Terror.</p> <p>Assessment: Essay 100%</p>	Spring	10