

Overview

Programme Code	35783
Programme Title	International Relations
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Masters
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Programme Leader	Jan Ludvigsen
Link Tutor(s)	

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Target Award	Master of Arts - MA	See Learning Outcomes Below
Alternative Exit	Postgraduate Certificate - PC	<p>Display a critical awareness of political, historical and legal aspects of international relations. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of debates that inform an appreciation of International Relations, International Relations theory and related subjects. Draw upon knowledge of the ways in which theories and concepts have developed in particular contexts in their assessment of relevant issues and debates. Demonstrate a detailed and critically informed knowledge and understanding of the role and contribution of state and non-state actors in shaping international politics. Engage critically with theories and concepts relating to International Relations and put them to productive use. Develop substantive and detailed knowledge and understanding in one designated areas of the field(s) Engage with new and emerging forms and arguments, drawing upon a variety of professional and academic skills. Conduct advanced forms of research for essays involving sustained independent enquiry. Propose, design, conduct and present sustained independent research at an advanced level that will demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of International Relations related issues. Appreciate how diverse audiences and communities engage in the discussion of International Relations at local, regional, national and international levels. Manage time and resources effectively, by drawing on planning and organisational skills. Work in a flexible and independent way, showing self-discipline and reflexivity. Plan and implement tasks in a professional manner. Retrieve and generate information, and critically evaluate sources, in carrying out independent research. Communicate ideas at an advanced level, deliver work to a given length, format, brief and deadline, properly referencing sources and ideas and adapting a problem-solving approach demonstrating professionalism</p>

Alternative Exit	Postgraduate Diploma - PD	<p>Display a critical awareness of political, historical and legal aspects of international relations. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of debates that inform an appreciation of International Relations, International Relations theory and related subjects. Draw upon knowledge of the ways in which theories and concepts have developed in particular contexts in their assessment of relevant issues and debates. Demonstrate a detailed and critically informed knowledge and understanding of the role and contribution of state and non-state actors in shaping international politics. Display an ability to critically reflect upon their research and, if relevant, professional practice. Engage critically with theories and concepts relating to International Relations and put them to productive use. Consider and critically evaluate their own work in a reflexive manner with reference to academic and/or professional issues, debates and conventions. Develop substantive and detailed knowledge and understanding in one designated area of the field(s). Engage with new and emerging forms and arguments, drawing upon a variety of professional and academic skills. Conduct advanced forms of research for essays involving sustained independent enquiry. Propose, design, conduct and present sustained independent research at an advanced level that will demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of International Relations related issues. Understand the limits of the major research methods associated with the study of International Relations, and be able to apply this knowledge critically to their own work. Appreciate how diverse audiences and communities engage in the discussion of International Relations at local, regional, national and international levels. Manage time and resources effectively, by drawing on planning and organisational skills. Work in a flexible and independent way, showing self-discipline and reflexivity. Plan and implement tasks in a professional manner. Retrieve and generate information, and critically evaluate sources, in carrying out independent research. Communicate ideas at an advanced level, deliver work to a given length, format, brief and deadline, properly referencing sources and ideas and adapting a problem-solving approach demonstrating professionalism</p>
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Alternate Award Names	
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External Benchmarks

Subject Benchmark Statement	
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Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length
Full-Time, Face to Face	September	LJMU Taught	1 Years

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

The programme is innovative and challenging because it provides a multidisciplinary approach to examining international relations. The programme will critically engage with theoretical approaches to International Relations in order to better understand the world. To further aid understanding of the world, the programme will critically examine in-depth issues of enduring international significance, including: conflict, the role of multilateral institutions, US foreign policy, state-building in the colonial and post-colonial world, and the role of humanitarian actions by state and non-state actors. The programme will enable students to carry out original and independent research through developing research methodologies appropriate to the study of International Relations. The programme will provide networking opportunities to increase the opportunity of obtaining employment in a related field. It is why a series of fieldtrips and expert practitioner workshops will be held throughout the year, along with developing internship opportunities for students.

Learning Outcomes

Code	Description
PLO1	Display a critical awareness of political, historical and legal aspects of international relations.
PLO2	Conduct advanced forms of research for essays, projects, or dissertations involving sustained independent enquiry.
PLO3	Propose, design, conduct and present sustained independent research at an advanced level that will demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of International Relations related issues.
PLO4	Understand the limits of the major research methods associated with the study of International Relations, and be able to apply this knowledge critically to their own work.
PLO5	Appreciate how diverse audiences and communities engage in the discussion of International Relations at local, regional, national and international levels.
PLO6	Manage time and resources effectively, by drawing on planning and organisational skills.
PLO7	Work in a flexible and independent way, showing self-discipline and reflexivity.
PLO8	Plan and implement tasks in a professional manner.
PLO9	Retrieve and generate information, and critically evaluate sources, in carrying out independent research.
PLO10	Communicate ideas at an advanced level, deliver work to a given length, format, brief and deadline, properly referencing sources and ideas and adapting a problem-solving approach demonstrating professionalism.
PLO11	Demonstrate an advanced understanding of debates that inform an appreciation of International Relations, International Relations theory and related subjects.
PLO12	Draw upon knowledge of the ways in which theories and concepts have developed in particular contexts in their assessment of relevant issues and debates.
PLO13	Demonstrate a detailed and critically informed knowledge and understanding of the role and contribution of state and non-state actors in shaping international politics.

Code	Description
PLO14	Display an ability to critically reflect upon their research and, if relevant, professional practice.
PLO15	Engage critically with theories and concepts relating to International Relations and put them to productive use.
PLO16	Consider and critically evaluate their own work in a reflexive manner with reference to academic and/or professional issues, debates and conventions.
PLO17	Develop substantive and detailed knowledge and understanding in one or more designated areas of the field(s).
PLO18	Engage with new and emerging forms and arguments, drawing upon a variety of professional and academic skills.

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

The programme is taught and assessed within the Academic Framework. Students must take 180 credits of modules at Level 7. For full-time students the programme should normally be completed in one academic year and for part-time students it should be normally completed within two academic years. Modules are of two types: Core or Option. For full-time MA students, in the first semester they take the core Understanding International Relations (7100IR 30 credits) and the Research Methods for International Relations (7101IR 10 credit) modules as well as one 20 credit optional module. In the second semester, full-time students have to take the core 20 credit The War/Peace Cycle (7103IR) module along with two 20 credit optional modules. The 60 credit Research Project in International Relations (7102IR) module is yearlong. Optional modules are clustered. In the first semester, students have an option of taking either an International Relations module or a Law module. In the second semester, students have to take two optional modules. Students have to take at least one of the International Relations optional modules to complete this programme. Semester 1 cluster optional modules: International Relations option: 1. War and Peace in Africa since 1990 7104IR Law options: 2. Conflict and Warfare in International Law 7126LAWPL 3. Philosophy of History, International Relations & European Integration 7138LAWPL 4. EU Foreign Security and Defence Policy 7133LAWPL Semester 2 cluster optional modules: International Relations options: 1. International Politics and Development in Asia-Pacific 7110IR 2. Gender, Peace, and Security: 7112IR Law options: 3. The United Nations International Security and Global Justice 7131LAWPL 4. Statehood, peoples and statelessness 7127LAWPL 5. International Human Rights Law 7137LAWPL

Part time students going into Year 2 in 2023 will not be able to select modules 7110IR and 7127LAWPL as they are being discontinued. New module 7113IR will be available for them to select.

Programme Structure - 180 credit points	
Level 7 - 180 credit points	
Level 7 Core - 120 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 7100IR Understanding International Relations Approved 2022.02 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 7101IR Research Methods for International Relations Approved 2022.02 - 10 credit points	
[MODULE] 7102IR Research Project in International Relations Approved 2022.02 - 60 credit points	
[MODULE] 7103IR The War/Peace Cycle Approved 2022.04 - 20 credit points	
Level 7 Optional - 60 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 7104IR War and Peace in Africa since 1990 Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7110IR International Politics and Development in Asia-Pacific Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7112IR Gender, Peace, and Security Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7126LAWPL Conflict and Warfare in International Law Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7127LAWPL Statehood, Peoples and Statelessness Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7131LAWPL The United Nations, International Security and Global Justice Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7133LAWPL EU Foreign Security and Defence Policy Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7137LAWPL International Human Rights Law Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7138LAWPL Philosophy of History, International Relations and European Integration Approved 2022.04 - 20 credit points	

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The programme has an integrated teaching, learning and assessment strategy. The assessment strategy for the programme is underpinned by appropriate learning and teaching strategies which are relevant and provide a structured set of learning opportunities enabling achievement, of individual module, and programme level, learning outcomes. Please see Curriculum Map for specific details. Critical awareness is achieved through interactive lectures, workshops, case studies, presentations by experts, student presentations, fieldtrips, seminars and group discussions, internships (where applicable), and individual reading and research. A blended learning approach will be adopted on the programme with resources to support learning provided via Canvas (Virtual Learning Environment). Integration and synthesis across the programme lead to the programme's intended learning outcomes. These are assessed through a variety of formative and summative assessment including: assessed presentations, essays, research based exercises, critical review, research plan, and a dissertation. Specific details of these can be found in the module guides. International Relations students will be encouraged to engage in both primary and secondary research, and through the networking events and field trips talk to practitioners and experts about their experiences and research. Active learning in a constantly changing world provides an opportunity for reflection and critical literacy. Lectures will act as a guide to the area of study and will focus on conceptual frameworks, areas or case studies. In workshops and seminars students will be expected to work both collegially and independently. The nature of the seminars and workshops is intended to be interactive and group activities will be a significant part of student led and defined discussion. Students will be provided with opportunities to strengthen their presentation skills and communicate within an academic community in a professional manner. They will be supported throughout the programme to formulate ideas and responses to past and current debates and research so that they can develop an advanced understanding of the field and apply these ideas appropriately. The assessment strategy provides a structure of assessment through which students can meet the intended learning outcomes of the programme. Students' skills are assessed through the self-direction, innovation and judgement required to complete research essays, presentations and the dissertation. The relationship between formative and summative assessment enables tutors to provide feedback which will support students in their development and enable them to make the most of their academic potential. Students are required to consider different means of communicating their research findings, formulate their response to critical issues and contemporary and past debates, and evaluate contemporary trends across a range of different types of assessment. Lectures, workshops, seminars, independent study and research, presenting work and the production of assessments all contribute to the development of professional practical skills. There will be particular focus on the research design of the dissertation and its management and critique in tutorials. Students will develop an awareness of professional skills in discussion with practitioners in the expert workshops. The extent to which students have developed these skills will be assessed through essays, presentations, reports, critical reflection and the dissertation. Students will be introduced to the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and be encouraged to use it. They will have Personal Development Planning tutorials and ICT will be provided. Seminars, lectures, case studies and interaction with practitioners will allow them to observe and discriminate between different perspectives, communication strategies and understand the responsibilities of academic research. These professional skills will be assessed the

Opportunities for work related learning

We will provide support for establishing contact with International Relations-related organisations in order for students to obtain an internship.

Entry Requirements

Type	Description
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IELTS	IELTS 6.5 (minimum 7.0 in writing and 5.5 in other elements)
RPL	RPL is accepted on this programme
Undergraduate degree	a minimum 2:1 honours degree in a related subject such as Law, History, Politics, Sociology, Geography, Anthropology or Economics
Alternative qualifications considered	applications from candidates with non-related degrees will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please submit an application via the online form or a query to apsadmissions@ljmu.ac.uk
Relevant work experience	we welcome applications from non-standard applicants who can demonstrate relevant work experience of at least 2 years in an international relations related field and an ability to succeed at MA level.

Extra Entry Requirements

to demonstrate the ability to benefit from and contribute to the programme