

Overview

Programme Code	36105
Programme Title	Security Studies
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Masters
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Programme Leader	Peter Williams
Link Tutor(s)	Peter Williams

Partner Name	Partnership Type
Informa Connect	Supported Distance Learning

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Target Award	Master of Science - MS	See Learning Outcomes Below
Recruitable Target	Postgraduate Certificate - PC	See Learning Outcomes Below
Recruitable Target	Postgraduate Diploma - PD	See Learning Outcomes Below
Alternative Exit	Postgraduate Diploma - PD	Evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in security studies. Evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses. Exercise self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level. Advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level. Exercise initiative and personal responsibility, including decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations. Learn independently for the purposes of continuing professional development.
Alternative Exit	Postgraduate Certificate - PC	Exercise self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level. Advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level. Exercise initiative and personal responsibility, including decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations. Learn independently for the purposes of continuing professional development.

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
Part-Time, Distance Learning	September	Informa Connect	2 Years

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

These are distance learning courses which are managed over the internet using a dedicated online learning management system. The courses aim to connect a diverse body of domestic and international students across time zones, to share knowledge and develop expertise in the field of security studies. The courses aim to introduce students to emerging paradigms within security studies, security and intelligence at both local and global levels. The courses will account for what we mean by the concept of 'Security' and to explore some justifications for the increasing 'securitisation' of social life. The courses will provide an overview of important security events and issues of the 20th and 21st centuries including the evolving tensions of the Cold War. Finally, these courses will connect the conceptual basis of the discipline to some of the practical issues facing the international system and to some of the emerging security threats and issues pertaining to law enforcement, government agencies and the private sector. These include a critical view of threats from terrorism, organised crime, radicalisation and intelligence failures. The student is expected to use reflection and analysis to understand and develop their own area of expertise within the fields of Security Studies, Intelligence analysis and Criminology. More specifically to gain an understanding of how the concept of security has been rearticulated and challenged in our contemporary context through an engagement with some of the most pressing issues of our day. These include the ramifications of the Cold War, terrorism, the proliferation of dangerous weapons, organised crime, globalisation and financial crime. The students will be looking at current and emerging security problems as well as evaluating potential solutions to these issues. The courses key aims are to: - To provide a distance learning programme in security studies for full-time employees. - To enable students to make an original contribution to the discipline of security studies and the advancement of professional security practice. - To produce competent, informed reflectively and ethically competent students who have a developed academic understanding the key issues within Security Studies and the theories which underpin the discipline.

Learning Outcomes

Code	Description
PLO1	Demonstrate a critical awareness of the impact and influence evidence-informed policy has, and continues to have, on professional practice in policing, counter-terrorism studies and security studies.
PLO2	Undertake and present scholarly work.
PLO3	Understand the ethical implications of policing related enquiries and show sensitivity to values and interests, to identify and take account of normative and moral positions.
PLO4	Recognise the relevance of the study of security studies to the wider discipline of international relations.
PLO5	Show sensitivity to diversity issues and competing interests in security studies and International relations.
PLO6	Demonstrate the capacity to work independently and with others to professional standards, and display higher skill levels in the subject areas.
PLO7	Select effective information collection methods and use the most appropriate analytical tools.
PLO8	Articulate arguments and conclusions based on evidence and that are subject to a well- developed critical appraisal and imaginative judgement.
PLO9	Present information in various formats and for different audiences.
PLO10	Collaborate and co-operate in working with others to investigate questions or issues relating to security studies, policing studies and international relations.

Code	Description
PLO11	Prioritise time to work to strict deadlines.
PLO12	Demonstrate a critical appreciation of the influences and drivers of policy and practice change in the broad areas of security studies.
PLO13	Communicate effectively in both verbal and written forms.
PLO14	Use ICT to access contemporary sources of information.
PLO15	Apply numerical skills to cases involving a quantitative dimension. Teaching, learning and assessment methods used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated.
PLO16	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the research designs, methodological choices, and validity of sources of empirical research and good/best practice guidance that seek to analyse and measure the performance of counter-terrorism interventions.
PLO17	Show how the boundaries of knowledge are extended through the production of a research-informed critical commentary that advances innovative practice development or serves to enhance the understanding of the need to develop greater efficiencies and enhanced performance in professional practice.
PLO18	Use problem solving skills - show imagination and flexibility in seeking solutions to problems.
PLO19	Apply major theories and concepts to the study of security studies.
PLO20	Independently engage with the subject literature, analyse and assess it to support critical and normative judgements within security studies and theories with relevant evidence and structured argument.
PLO21	Identify a range of research strategies and methods and reflexively assess the merits of each.
PLO22	Demonstrate the skills necessary to plan, conduct and report a research project.

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

Completion of 60 taught credits provides Postgraduate Certificate in Security Studies. Completion of 120 taught credits provides Postgraduate Diploma in Security Studies. Completion of 180 taught credits provides MSc in Security Studies. Students enrolling onto the Postgraduate Certificate in Security Studies will undertake the following modules; 7151PS: Security Studies 7129PS: Intelligence Analysis 7131PS: Contemporary issues in Crime Safety and Security Students enrolling onto the Postgraduate Diploma in Security Studies will undertake the following modules; The modules listed above plus; 7133PS: International Relations in the Contemporary World 7134PS: International Financial Crime and Security 7136PS: Terrorism and Counter Terrorism Students enrolling onto the MSc in Security Studies will undertake the following modules; The modules listed above plus; 7152PS: Dissertation, which will be led by the module leader from the Policing Studies team and students will be supervised by the most appropriate member of academic staff from across the faculty. Skype tutorials with module leaders will be available within office hours for distance learning students. The learning outcomes for the alternative target award applies to any alternative exits that may be awarded.

Programme Structure - 180 credit points	
Level 7 - 180 credit points	
Level 7 Core - 180 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 7129PS Intelligence Analysis Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7131PS Contemporary Issues in Crime, Safety and Security Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7133PS International Relations in the Contemporary World Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7134PS International Financial Crime and Security Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7136PS Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7151PS Security Studies Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7152PS Security Studies Dissertation Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points	
Level 7 Optional - No credit points	OPTIONAL

Module specifications may be accessed at <https://proformas.ljmu.ac.uk/Default.aspx>

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Teaching, learning and assessment methods used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated. On the course, there is an especial emphasis on a sound grasp of the relevant academic literature, including substantial use of key scholarly journals in the field of security studies, intelligence analysis and criminology. The assessment strategy also concentrates on how theory relates to and enhances good practice. This is assessed through a variety of summative and formative assessments including online reports and essays. Students on the programme will be delivered research-informed teaching that is relevant and current to those seeking to understand the challenges facing societies. The input of LJMU based experts actively researching across the disciplines of (amongst others) policing studies, security studies, international relations, and criminology will be supplemented with teaching inputs from Security and Policing stakeholders drawn from such diverse backgrounds as police leaders, the military and Civil Servants. In a programme designed with the demands to balance work and study commitments the MSc in Security Studies combines the extensive use of Informa Connects virtual learning environment to tutor and support students through the development of their agendas for work-based research activity. The diversity of the talents within the teaching team, drawing together as it does established LJMU based researchers and staff currently or recently employed in policing or security professions, enhances the learning development opportunities for students to engage with whilst also ensuring that course content is relevant to, and informed by, professional practice. A range of learning strategies and a variety of modes of interactive delivery conducive to on-line distance learning will be utilised throughout the programme and delivered by the LJMU VLE Canvas or Informa Connects learning platform, including an introductory lecture and a range of on-line activities; e.g. presentations, workbooks, podcasts, blogs, forums both tutor-led synchronous (which can be recorded) and asynchronous, Skype tutorials in addition to utilising suitable OER (open educational resources), such as 'You Tube' videos, supported by digital key readings. Knowledge and understanding is assessed via summative assessment methods suitable for on-line distance-learning, such as formal and reflective essays, and full-scale individual report. A range of periodic formative study skills and knowledge checks will be completed by the students on-line which feedback will be given in order to enable on-going development via reflective practice and aimed at research and compilation of the summative assessment tasks. Target Award Learning Outcomes 1 – 22 are taught through on-line lectures and developed via on-line forums, knowledge checks and appropriate formative tasks designed for on-line learning. These skills are assessed across all modules while the variety of assessments across the programme ensures that these skills are assessed in different ways and in a mode suitable for on-line distance-learning. Formative assessment is used to develop knowledge, understanding and skills, while summative assessment is used to assess the student's success in achieving the learning outcomes.

Opportunities for work related learning

It is envisaged that many of those undertaking this course will already be employed within policing institutions or security related agencies. However, for those based in Merseyside opportunities are available for students to work as Special Constables within Merseyside Police and British Transport Police.

Entry Requirements

Type	Description
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Alternative qualifications considered	Applications will be especially welcomed from those who have at least one of the following: - A relevant first degree (such as a degree in criminology, social or political sciences) - Specific experience related to crime and security (such as police or military work) - Relevant professional qualifications In some circumstances applicants who do not possess the standard entry qualifications may be permitted to enrol on the MSc/PG Dip/PG Cert at the discretion of the course leader. Applications are welcomed from overseas students, and all applicants are considered on individual merit, without regard to gender, marital status, disability, race, ethnic origin, religion or social background. The course will be taught in English, and for those applicants whose native language is not English, evidence of proficiency in the English language will be required. The MSc/PG Dip/PG Cert in Security Studies is tailored specifically for 'in-service' security professionals and those aspiring to work in this field. As outlined above applicants are required to possess an undergraduate degree in a relevant discipline (which is defined broadly to take into account the potential breadth of interests of the students) but can include, criminology, police studies, criminal justice, security studies in a criminal justice or related social sciences discipline.
Other international requirements	Applicants are required to have achieved an IELTS score a minimum of a 6.5 or equivalent English language qualifications.

Extra Entry Requirements