

Programme Specification Document

Approved, 2022.04

Overview

Programme Code	36485
Programme Title	International Relations
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Top-up
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Programme Leader	
Link Tutor(s)	Matthew Hill

Partner Name	Partnership Type
International College of Business and Technology	Franchised

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Target Award	Bachelor of Science with Honours - BSH	See Learning Outcomes Below
Alternative Exit	Bachelor of Science - BS	See Learning Outcomes Below

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External Benchmarks

Subject Benchmark Statement	UG-Politics and International Relations (2019)
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Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length
Part-Time, Distance Learning	March	ICBT, Colombo	1 Year
Part-Time, Distance Learning	September	ICBT, Colombo	1 Year

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

To understand the world we live in today, and to develop opinions and determine how we want to engage with the world, this programme provides students with a thorough understanding of international relations. Alongside this knowledge of the world, this programme develops the necessary transferable skills essential to succeeding in the work place. The programme supports these aims through a grounding of the subject alongside an in-depth research project, engagement with practitioners, and an optional study abroad, or work placement in an international relations-related organisation. The distinctive features of the programme are: Its core emphasis on the ability to reflect critically on the international system, the methods used by International Relations scholars and the subject's function in society. The close relationship between research and teaching. Staff research outputs and analysis employed for learning and teaching, and students have direct experience of the work conducted at the frontiers of International Relations. Its commitment to internationalisation, in terms of the broad geographical and thematic range of modules but also the opportunity to engage in a year-long work placement or study abroad with partner institutions for one to two semesters, alongside field trips to relevant places. Within this context the aims of the programme are: To offer a balanced and coherent programme of study to students from varied backgrounds choosing International Relations and Politics. To provide students with a range of concepts, theories and methods used in the field of International Relations and Politics. To encourage critical engagement with the concepts, theories and methods in order to support the student's own political development. To provide an intellectually challenging programme that develops knowledge and critical insight into the origins, evolution and contemporary dynamics of the international system, and the challenges to it. To support the student's development of subjectspecific and transferable skills within a practical and critical environment that progressively encourages increased responsibility for autonomous learning. To encourage students to engage with the development of employability skills by completing a self-awareness statement.

Learning Outcomes

Code	Description
PLO1	Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of a range of concepts, theories and methods used in the field of International Relations.
PLO2	Reflect on their own learning and make constructive use of feedback
PLO3	Identify, investigate, analyse and advocate solutions to problems in the field of International Relations and Politics.
PLO4	Effectively and fluently communicate information in written and oral forms.
PLO5	Work independently and as part of a team, demonstrating initiative, self-organisation, collaboration, and time management.

Code	Description
PLO6	Use communication and information technologies for the retrieval, analysis and presentation of information.
PLO7	Work in a flexible and independent way, showing self-discipline and reflexivity.
PLO8	Plan and implement tasks in a professional manner.
PLO9	Develop independent judgements on issues and topics examined
PLO10	Retrieve and generate information, and critically evaluate sources, in carrying out independent research.
PLO11	Communicate ideas clearly, deliver work to a given length, format, brief and deadline, properly referencing sources and ideas and adapting a problem-solving approach.
PLO12	Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the origins, evolution and contemporary dynamics of the international system and the challenges to it.
PLO13	Critically analyse issues and topics using appropriate methodological methods.
PLO14	Present material with fluency, clarity and reasoned argument.
PLO15	Competently use communication and information technologies.
PLO16	Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of world political events and issues.
PLO17	Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of different political systems; the nature and distribution of power in them; the social, economic, historical and cultural contexts within which they operate; and the relationships between them in order to better understand the relations between multiple polities in the international system.
PLO18	Critically reflect on the nature and significance of politics as a human activity, and the political significance of multiple polities coexisting and of political boundary drawing and transforming practices.
PLO19	Describe, evaluate and apply, as well as engage critically with a range of concepts, theories and methods relating to the field of International Relations, including the analysis of political ideas, institutions, practices and issues regarding the international system.
PLO20	In employing the different concepts, theories and methods learned, examine and evaluate different interpretations of world political events and issues.
PLO21	Locate, gather and critically analyse evidence from relevant sources.
PLO22	Conduct detailed research, synthesise relevant information and exercise critical judgement in order to develop reasoned arguments in written and oral forms.

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

Students will take 120 credits of core International Relations modules including the 40 credit research project (L6).

Programme Structure - 120 credit points		
Level 6 - 120 credit points		
Level 6 Core - 120 credit points	CORE	
[MODULE] 6505IRICBT Politically Engaging with the State Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points		
[MODULE] 6501IRICBT Non-western Political Theories Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points		
[MODULE] 6500IRICBT Research Project in International Relations and Politics Approved 2022.01 - 40 credit points		
[MODULE] 6503IRICBT The International Politics of Development Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points		
[MODULE] 6502IRICBT Aesthetics and Politics Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points		

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

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The programme tops-up students who have completed the HD International Relations to complete Level 6. Level 6 is the culmination of the International Relations degree at which point students, building upon their independent learning and research skills developed in the HD. Modules in Level 6 enable students to develop a high degree of specialisation in their chosen topics. In acknowledging that Politics and International Relations 'reach[es] out to other subjects such as anthropology, cultural studies, economics, sociology, geography, history, languages, law, literature, international development, philosophy, marketing and media', this undergraduate programme has covalidated a number of modules from other disciplines, in particular History, Sociology, Law and Criminology (QAA Politics and International Relations benchmark statement 2015, p. 7). The programme has an integrated teaching, learning and assessment strategy. The assessment strategy 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. Critical awareness is achieved through a variety of learning and assessment activities, as well as 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). International Relations students will be encouraged to engage actively in the learning process. 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. These small group settings are 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 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' knowledge and skills are assessed through the selfdirection, innovation and judgement required to complete exams, research essays, presentations and the dissertation. The development of transferable skills is a core aim of the programme, with the study of International Relations enabling students to apply their knowledge and aptitude in a variety of employability settings. 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. Attention is paid to those students with particular needs (SENDA compliant) and alternative assignments will be given if required. All teaching and learning activities, including lectures, workshops, seminars, independent study and research, presenting work and the production of assessments all contribute to the development of professional practical skills. Students will develop an awareness of professional skills in discussion with practitioners in the expert workshops. Preparation and independent study, as with other related subjects, outweighs contact time and students are supported to work independently.

Entry Requirements

Туре	Description
Alternative qualifications considered	Completion of HD International Relations at ICBT

Extra Entry Requirements