Overview

Programme Code	36781
Programme Title	International Relations and Politics
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Degree
Programme Leader	
Link Tutor(s)	Peter O'Reilly

Partner Name	Partnership Type
Beaconhouse Group	Franchised

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Alternative Exit	Bachelor of Arts - BA	Demonstrate a broad and comparative knowledge of the general scope of the subject, its different areas and applications, and its interactions with related subjects. A detailed knowledge of a defined subject or a more limited coverage of a specialist area balanced by a wider range of study. In each case, specialised study will be informed by current developments in the subject. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the essential theories, principles and concepts of the subject(s) and of the ways in which these are developed through the main methods of enquiry in the subject.
Alternative Exit	Diploma of Higher Education - DHE	Have become more independent in their approach to study. Identify and apply some key concepts, theories and methods used in the field of International Relations and Politics, and make informed judgements about them. Identify what is the international system, the challenges to it, and the different political systems that inhabit it. Identify, correlate and critically examine a range of relevant documents pertinent to an area of study in International Relations and Politics. Write extensive pieces of work of a discursive and critical nature. Plan for future career development Work constructively towards set goals as part of a team. Productively use communication and information technologies.
Alternative Exit	Certificate of Higher Education - CHE	Have developed an understanding of key concepts, theories and methods used in the field of International Relations and Politics. Have acquired enhanced competence in writing and presentation skills that allow for the interrogation of the international system, the challenges to it and the different political systems that inhabit it. Have acquired competence in referencing and bibliographical techniques. Interrogate relevant documents in a critical way and gather sources. Participate in group work and discussion. Have acquired habits of professionalism, time-management, self-awareness and personal responsibility. Have acquired competence in using communication and information technologies.
Target Award	Bachelor of Arts with Honours - BAH	See Learning Outcomes Below

Alternate Award Names	

External Benchmarks

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

Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length
Full-Time, Distance Learning	September	Beaconhouse IC Distance Learning	3 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 and engagement with practitioners. 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. 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 subject-specific 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.

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 and Politics.
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.
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.

Code	Description
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 and Politics, 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 must take 120 credits of International Relations and Politics modules at each level of the programme (Levels, 4, 5 and 6). Each level of programme will normally be completed in one academic year. There are two module types: core and optional. Modules are all of 20 credits, apart from the 40 credit dissertation (L6).

Programme Structure - No credit points	
Level 4 - 120 credit points	
Level 4 Core - 120 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 4500BCIRDL Introduction to International Relations and Politics Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4501BCIRDL Understanding the theories behind politics Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4502BCIRDL Comparative Politics Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4503BCIRDL Researching International Relations and Politics Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4504BCIRDL Being Politically Engaged Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4505BCIRDL International History and State Formation Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
Level 5 - 120 credit points	
Level 5 Core - 40 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 5500BCIRDL Debating International Relations Theories Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5501BCIRDL Research Paper in International Relations and Politics Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
Level 5 Optional - 80 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 5505BCIRDL International Politics at the Regional Level Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5506BCIRDL Colonial Africa, 1880-1994 Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5509BCIRDL Politics and Popular Culture Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5510BCIRDL International Organisations Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5523BCIRDL A Bitter Resurgence: China into the Modern World (1894-1992) Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
Level 6 - 120 credit points	
Level 6 Core - 40 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 6500BCIRDL Research Project in International Relations and Politics Approved 2022.01 - 40 credit points	
Level 6 Optional - 80 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 6501BCIRDL Public International Law Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6503BCIRDL The International Politics of Development Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6506BCIRDL US Democracy Promotion in the Contemporary Era Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6507BCIRDL The United Nations and International Security Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6508BCIRDL The Politics of War and Organised Violence 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 follows a three-stage progression through L4, L5 and L6. Via core modules at L4, students will be introduced to a variety of conceptual, theoretical and methodological issues. They aim, through a varied assessment matrix, to develop the key skills and practices necessary for them to advance at Levels 5 and 6. Including for example, developing the ability to understand a range of appropriate concepts, theories and methods used in the field of International Relations and Politics, work independently and in a group, understand how to use sources and critically analyse them, and be able to understand relevant texts. Level 5 is a bridge between Level 4 and 6 as it builds on the subject-specific, intellectual and transferable skills developed in the first year and prepares students for their final year. In line with the QAA subject benchmark statement for Politics and International Relations (December 2019), students will further develop understanding of the various concepts, theories and methods used alongside real world events and issues by offering a broad range of modules. Level 6 is the culmination of the International Relations and Politics degree at which point students, building upon their independent learning and research skills developed at Levels 4 and 5 take increasingly more responsibility for their learning. Driven by the research knowledge and output of the academics, the optional modules in Level 6 enable students to develop a high degree of specialisation in their chosen topics. Students at Level 6 also utilise the research and independent learner skills developed in Levels 4 and 5 to pursue an original and independent research project in International Relations and Politics in a yearlong module. In acknowledging that International Relations and Politics 'reach[es] out to out to other subjects such as anthropology, cultural studies, economics, sociology, geography, history, languages, law, literature, international development, philosophy, marketing and media, this programme has co-validated a number of modules from other subjects including, in particular History, MCC, Sociology and Law (QAA Politics and International Relations benchmark statement 2019, p. 4). 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. Please see Curriculum Map for specific details. Critical awareness is achieved through interactive lectures, workshops, case studies, presentations by experts, student presentations, fieldtrips, seminar and group discussions, and individual reading and research. A blended learning approach will be adopted on the programme with resources to support learning provided via the VLE (Virtual Learning Environment). International Relations and Politics 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. 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 the programme to formulate ideas and responses to past and current debates and research so that they can develop an advanced understanding.

Opportunities for work related learning

All LJMU undergraduate programs are required to incorporate into a L4 module an assessment item of the submission of a personal Self Awareness Statement; this is administered through the Being Politically Engaged module. Students have the opportunity to choose from work-based/related/transferrable skills modules at L5 and L6, while the programme's PDP system provides opportunities for students to reflect on and document their achievements inside and outside of university and think about future career paths.

Entry Requirements

Type	Description
Other international requirements	Any applicant whose first language is not English will be required to have IELTS 6.0 (minimum 5.5 in each component) or acceptable equivalent. If a prospective student does not have the required English language scores then LJMU has 6, 12 and 20 week of English training programmes that students can enrol on in order to improve their language skills to a sufficient level to enable them to enrol on the BA. (https://www.ljmuisc.com/programmes/presessional-english) The programme takes place in the summer before the BA starts. HSSC Intermediate Higher Secondary Certificate: 60% overall award mark
International Baccalaureate	24 IB points.
Alternative qualifications considered	Prior to starting the programme applicants must have obtained grade 4 or grade C or above in English Language and Mathematics GCSE or an approved alternative qualification Key Skills Level 2 in English/ Maths NVQ Level 2 Functional skills in Maths and English Writing and or Reading Skills for Life Level 2 in Numeracy/English Higher Diploma in Maths/ English Functional skills Level 2 in Maths/ English Northern Ireland Essential Skills Level 2 in communication or Application of Number Wales Essential Skills Level 2 in Communication or Application of Number Credits may be awarded for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Recognition of Unaccredited Prior Learning (RP(E)L).
BTECs	Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications. DMM in a relevant subject area is required if no other level 3 qualifications are taken.
A levels	96 UCAS points from a minimum of 2 A Levels. Maximum of 20 AS points accepted.