

Programme Specification for
BA International Politics



1. Programme title	BA International Politics
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	
5. Final qualification	BA (Honours)
6. Year of validation Year of amendment	
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full-time/ Part-time

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

We normally make offers on 260 UCAS tariff points. GCSE English with a minimum of Grade C is required. BTEC National Diploma/International Baccalaureate/Advanced Progression Diplomas are also accepted. We accept Access to HE Diploma. Applications from mature candidates without formal qualifications are welcomed provided they can demonstrate appropriate levels of relevant ability and experience.

You must have competence in English language and we normally require Grade C GCSE or an equivalent qualification. The most common English Language requirements for international students are IELTS 6.0 (with minimum 5.5 in all four components).

University policies supporting students with disabilities apply, as described in the University Regulations 'Information for students with disabilities.'

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

- provide students with a solid grounding in the key themes, concepts and theories

relevant to international politics which will aid them in their academic development and future careers;

- enhance review and search skills and develop specialist in-depth critical understanding of topics of student interest;
- provide students with innovative and up to date core curricula through a continual process of reviewing and updating in line with both international developments in politics and staff research interests;
- give students access to a broad intellectual environment through the provision of innovative teaching and extra-curricular events;
- provide the opportunity for experiential learning and career development through direct participation in political and legal activities through work placement and other forms of practical engagement with the world.

11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of :

1. International political processes and institutions.
2. The global interrelationship of different political systems.
3. Political ideas, concepts, theories and practices.

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through:

- lectures, seminars and workshops;
- fieldwork;
- presentations;
- self-directed study using a variety of resources including the library and virtual learning environment.

Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by:

- summative assessment in all modules which takes a variety of forms including exams (some with seen components), presentations, use of social media and coursework which allow the student to demonstrate a developing and increasingly sophisticated level of knowledge of the discipline.

B. Cognitive (thinking) skills

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

1. Analyse information and relevant

Teaching/learning methods

Students learn cognitive skills through:

- seminars, which are small group discussions interspersed with

<p>areas of research from a variety of sources.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Reflect upon and evaluate the principles, values and ideologies underlying perspectives on politics. 3. Demonstrate the necessary independent critical thinking skills necessary to explore further areas of particular interest within the subject areas, be that through continued study or through more general engagement with contemporary issues and debates. 	<p>exercises and their own reading and application;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • written and oral communication which allows students to practise the identification and analysis of information and existing research and the application of findings to problems. <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' cognitive skills are assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessments at different levels; • identification and critical analysis of issues requiring students to apply knowledge of key principles to practical questions drawing reasoned and arguable conclusions.
<p>C. Practical skills</p> <p>On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake independent research and to identify, retrieve, investigate and manage information from a range of academic sources, both paper and electronic to produce up-to-date information. 2. Locate and use primary and secondary sources relevant to the topic under study; and to reference the sources accurately according to recognised conventions. 3. Understand and use the English Language proficiently both orally and in writing. 4. Reflect critically on his/her own learning, and make constructive use of feedback. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students learn practical skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • literature search, both paper-based and electronic; • independent planning and undertaking tasks; • project/ dissertation; • placement module; • research on specific aspects of the subject which have not been taught; • group discussion and debate in seminars; • directed learning in materials on the VLE and seminars which encourages a reflective and critical review of information from academic sources and from electronic resources, including journals. <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' practical skills are assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • summative assessment in all modules; • exams and coursework, which

	<p>demand clear, succinct and accurate writing as well as the use of accurate terminology;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • presentations; • coursework which requires an advanced level of research information retrieval, processing, reflection, reorganisation and effective presentation using word processing applications.
<p>D. Graduate skills</p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to demonstrate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Personal and career development. 2. Effective learning. 3. Communication. 4. Teamwork: to work in groups as a participant who contributes effectively to the group's tasks. 5. Use of Information technology: to use the internet and electronic information retrieval systems effectively and to compose formal e-mails. 6. Numeracy: where relevant and as the basis for an argument, to use, present and evaluate information provided in numerical or statistical form. 	<p>Teaching/learning methods</p> <p>Students acquire graduate skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seminars which encourages effective communication between students and between tutor and student and allow students to engage in group-based exercises; • use of information technology which is fundamental to the accessing and management of resources; • personal and career; • extra-curricular student-led activities; • numeracy (at a level appropriate). <p>Assessment methods</p> <p>Students' graduate skills are assessed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • summative assessment across the programme; • personal development activities; • teamwork in presentations; • coursework in word-processed text on Turnitin, the University plagiarism software, through the VLE.

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

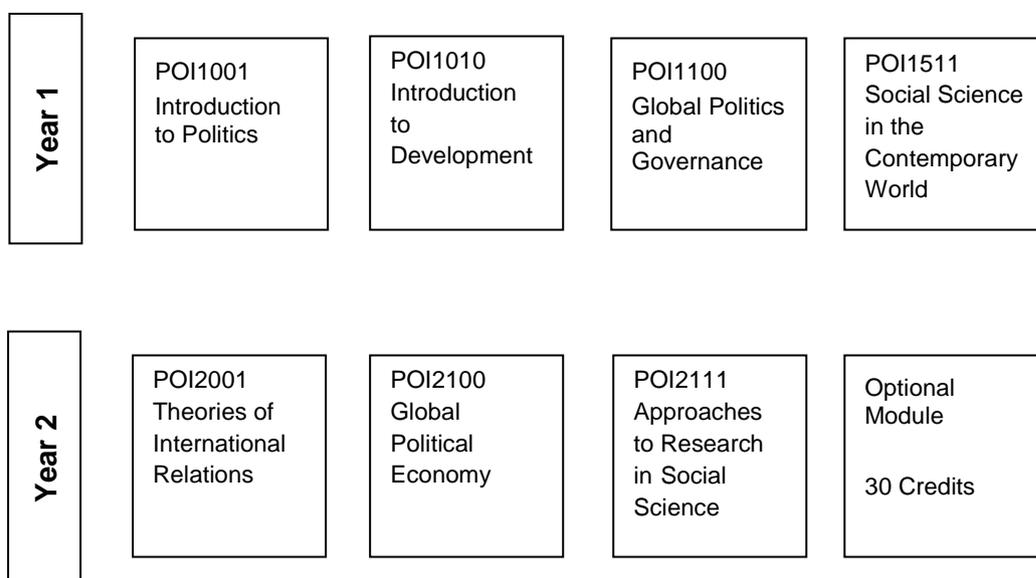
12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

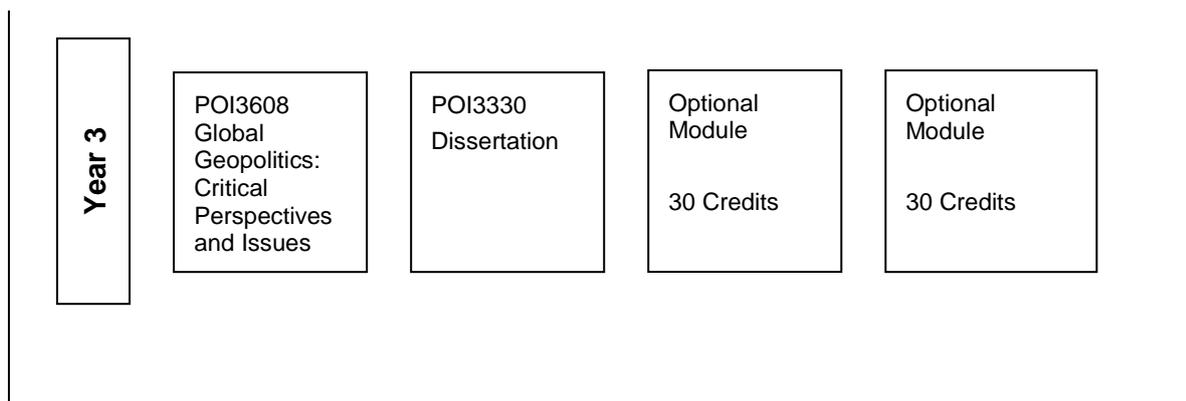
The International Politics programme features a range of modules covering Theories of International Politics, Global Political Economy, Comparative politics, European Politics and Geopolitics. For full information on the range of modules offered please see the Programme Handbook.

To gain the BA (Honours) degree students must study 360 credits (twelve modules). In full-time study this will mean studying 120 credits at Level 1 in Year 1, (four modules), 120 credits (four modules) at Levels 2 or 3 in Year 2 and then 120 credits (four modules) at Level 3 in Year 3.

The **First Year** consists of four compulsory modules: Introduction to Politics, Introduction to Development, Social Science in the Contemporary World and Global Politics and Governance. These four modules need to be passed in order to progress to Years 2 and 3. A re-sit opportunity is offered if any modules are failed first time around. The qualification obtained on the programme will then be determined by the student's performance in the eight modules taken in Years 2 and 3 (longer for part-time students).

Years 2 and 3 consist of a mix of compulsory and optional modules. Three compulsory modules: Theories of International Relations, Global Political Economy and Research in Social Science are to be studied in Year 2 alongside one optional module. In Year 3, two compulsory modules are to be studied: Critical Issues in Geopolitics and the Dissertation, and two further optional modules. The full range of optional modules is displayed in the Programme Handbook.





12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 4 (1)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: POI1001 POI1010 POI1511 POI1100		Students must pass all four modules to progress to Level 5.
Level 5 (2)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: POI2001 POI2100 POI2111	Students must also choose one from the following: POI2201 POI2354	Students must pass modules to the value of 120 credits in order to progress to the final stage of the programme.
Level 6 (3)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must take all of the following: POI3608 POI3330	Students must also choose two from the following: LAW3181 POI3015 POI3001 LAW3330 SOC3580	Students must pass modules to the value of 120 credits at Level 6 in order to graduate with honours classification.
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12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)

Module level	Module code
Level 5	POI2001, POI2111, POI2100
Level 6	POI3608, POI3330

13. Curriculum map

See attached.

14. Information about assessment regulations

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

The Placement Module **LAW3330** offers the opportunity to take a work placement in a political environment. Students can work with MPs, MEPs, Political Parties, Pressure Groups or International Institutions on a part-time basis whilst continuing their studies. Students are assessed academically on their work experience. Placements are organised and supported by the Employability Office in liaison with the programme team.

16. Future careers (if applicable)

Politics, Policy, Political Analyst, NGOs, Journalism, Diplomacy, Research, Lobbying & PR.

Careers advice is built into programme.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

Students are encouraged to take full advantage of the learning support schemes and facilities at Campus and University levels, particularly the English Language and Learning Services and the Disability Support Services, and services available from the Student Union.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)

L240

19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)

Political and International Studies

20. Reference points

- QAA (2015) Subject Benchmark Statement for Politics and International Relations, Mansfield: The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education
- Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook
- Student, Staff, External Examiner and Graduates feedback and comments
- Middlesex University Regulations

21. Other information

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Appendix 2: Curriculum Map

Curriculum map for BA International Politics

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding		Practical skills	
A1	International political processes and institutions.	C1	Undertake independent research and to identify, retrieve, investigate and manage information from a range of academic sources, both paper and electronic to produce up-to-date information.
A2	The global interrelationship of different political systems.	C2	Locate and use primary and secondary sources relevant to the topic under study; and to reference the sources accurately according to recognised conventions.
A3	Political ideas, concepts, theories and practices.	C3	Understand and use the English Language proficiently both orally and in writing.
		C4	Reflect critically on his/her own learning, and make constructive use of feedback.
Cognitive skills		Graduate Skills	
B1	Analyse information and relevant areas of research from a variety of sources.	D1	Personal and career development.
B2	Reflect upon and evaluate the principles, values and ideologies underlying perspectives on politics.	D2	Effective learning.
B3	Demonstrate the necessary independent critical thinking skills necessary to explore further areas of particular interest within the subject areas, be that through continued study or through more general engagement with contemporary issues and debates.	D3	Communication.

		D4	Teamwork: to work in groups as a participant who contributes effectively to the group's tasks.
		D5	Use of Information technology: to use the internet and electronic information retrieval systems effectively and to compose formal e-mails.
		D6	Numeracy: where relevant and as the basis for an argument, to use, present and evaluate information provided in numerical or statistical form.

Programme outcomes															
A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6
Highest level achieved by all graduates															
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

Module Title	Module Code by Level	Programme outcomes															
		A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	C4	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6
Introduction to Politics	POI1001			X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X				X	
Introduction to Development	POI1010				X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Social Science in the Contemporary World	POI1511	X	X			X	X	X		X	X	X	X				
Global Politics and Governance	POI1100	X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X				
Theories of International Relations	POI2001	X		X	X			X	X		X		X	X	X	X	
Global Political Economy	POI2100	X	X		X	X	X	X			X		X	X			
Approaches to Research in Social Science	POI2111				X		X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X
Comparative Politics	POI2201	X	X		X	X	X		X		X		X	X			

Politics of Europe	POI2354	X	X			X	X		X		X				X		
Global Geopolitics: Critical Perspectives and Issues	POI3608	X	X	X		X	X	X			X		X	X	X		
Dissertation	POI3330				X		X	X	X							X	
Public International Law	LAW3181	X			X		X		X		X		X		X		
Humanitarianism and Global Change	POI3015	X	X		X		X						X	X	X		X
Development Policy Seminars	POI3001	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Integrated Learning and Work Placement	LAW3330						X	X			X	X	X	X	X		
Migration and Citizenship	SOC3580		X		X		X	X	X				X				