Programme Specification for

BA International Politics and Law

1. Programme title	BA International Politics and Law
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	Middlesex University
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

The University's standard entry requirement is 240 to 280 UCAS tariff points (or less if only two A levels). Offers may be made towards the lower end of this scale for entry onto the BA International Politics and Law.

Mature applicants with relevant experience and qualifications, including access course qualifications are also welcomed, provided they can show evidence of ability to benefit from the programme.

International students who have not been taught in the English medium must show evidence of proven ability in English such as TOEFL grade 550 or IELTS grade 6.0.

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 and law which will aid them in their 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 law 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 and legal processes and institutions. 2. A range of different political and legal systems across the world. 3. Key ideas, concepts, theories and practices of politics and law.	**Teaching/learning methods** Students gain knowledge and understanding through: - lectures and seminars; - self-directed study using a variety of resources, including the library and the VLE; - formative peer and self-assessment. **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), moots (on some law options), presentations and coursework which allow the student to demonstrate a developing and increasingly sophisticated level of knowledge of the relevant subjects.
B. Cognitive (thinking) skills On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to: 1. Analysed information and relevant	**Teaching/learning methods** Students learn cognitive skills through: seminars, which are small group discussions interspersed with

areas of research from a variety of sources.

2. Reflected upon and evaluated the principles, values and ideologies underlying perspectives on politics and law.

3. The 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.

exercises and their own reading and application, and provide the opportunity for students to develop their ability to reflect on, evaluate and assess competing arguments;

- 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.

Assessment methods

Students' cognitive skills are assessed by:

- demonstrating their understanding and awareness of different sources of information and their application to different problems and questions;
- identification and critical analysis of issues requiring students to apply knowledge of key principles to practical questions drawing reasoned and arguable conclusions.

C. Practical skills

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

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.

Teaching/learning methods

Students learn practical skills through:

- literature search, both paper-based and electronic;
- independent planning and undertaking tasks in areas in which they have studied; project/ dissertation;
- placement;
- research on specific aspects of the subject which have not been taught;
- group discussion and debate in seminars;
- independent study in preparation for seminars, which includes the location and use of primary materials;
- directed learning in materials on the VLE and seminars which encourages a reflective and critical review of

4. Present knowledge or an argument both orally and in writing in a way which is comprehensible to others and directed to their concerns.

5. Read and discuss both orally and in writing materials which may be written in technical and complex language.

6. Use essential electronic resources and applications.

7. Produce a high quality word-processed essay or other text and present it in an appropriate form.

8. Reflect critically on his/her own learning, and make constructive use of feedback.

9. Undertake independent research, with limited guidance, starting from standard information sources in areas of politics or law which they have not previously studied.

10. Act independently in planning and undertaking tasks in areas which they have previously studied.

information from academic sources and from electronic resources, including journals.

Assessment methods

Students' practical skills are assessed by:

- summative assessment in all modules such as exams and coursework, which demand clear, succinct and accurate writing as well as the use of accurate legal terminology;
- presentations.

D. Graduate skills

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

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.

Teaching/learning methods

Students acquire graduate skills through:

- seminars which encourage effective communication between students and between tutor and student and allow students to engage in group-based exercises;
- use of information in accessing and management of resources;
- personal and career development through dedicated careers events, programme of guest speakers drawn from relevant professional and other careers, as well as extra-curricular

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.	student-led activities; • numeracy (at a level appropriate). **Assessment methods** Students' graduate skills are assessed by: • summative assessment across the programme; • personal development activities; • teamwork; • presentations; • submitting 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 BA International Politics and Law (Hons) Programme is made up of year-long thirty credit modules.

Full-time Three Year Mode

Year One

The first year introduces students to the basic concepts of politics and political ideologies (**POI1001**) and international development issues (**POI1010**) which is balanced with an introduction to law (**LAW1101**) and public law (**LAW1107**).

Year Two

Second year focuses on embedding students and enhances the understanding of international political theories and concepts (**POI2001**) and the international legal basis of human rights (**LAW2465**) and relates them to the international social, economic, and political context in which they operate. Students also select one option from a law list - Equality and the Law, Jurisprudence and the EU Internal Market – and one option from a politics list – Comparative Politics, Global Political Economy, Politics of Europe or Approaches to Research in Social Science. The latter module must be selected if students choose to take the politics based Dissertation in their final year (**POI3330**).

Year Three

Third year combines critical understanding of the aspects of public international law as well as concepts and theories of global and regional geopolitics with statecraft and legal practice in international politics. Students will take the core module in Geopolitics

(**POI3608**) alongside Public International Law (**LAW3181**) in their final year. In addition, students can choose one optional module from a list of law (**List C**) modules and one from a list of politics and social science modules (**List D**)

Full-time
Year One
POI1001 Introduction to Politics (*30 credits*)
POI1010 Introduction to Development (*30 credits*)
LAW1107 Public Law (*30 credits*)
LAW1101 Introduction to Law (*30 credits*)

Year Two
POI2001 Theories of International Relations (*30 credits*)
LAW2465 UK and European Human Rights Law (*30 credits*)
Option 1 (from List A) (*30 credits*)
Option 2 (from List B) (*30 credits*)

Year Three
POI3608 Global Geopolitics: Critical Perspectives and Issues (*30 credits*)
LAW3181 Public International Law (*30 credits*)
Option 3 (from List C) (*30 credits*)
Option 4 (from List D) (*30 credits*)

Option List A (Year Two)
POI2201 Comparative Politics
POI2354 Politics of Europe
POI2100 Global Political Economy
POI2111 Approaches to Research in Social Science (required option if taking **POI3330** in final year)

Option List B (Year Two)
LAW2420 Equality and the Law
LAW2334 Jurisprudence
LAW2914 EU Internal Market Law

Option List C (Year Three)
Choose **one optional** module from the following list:
POI3015 Humanitarianism and Global Change
POI3001 Development Policy Seminars
SOC3580 Migration and Citizenship

POI3330 Dissertation or

LAW3330 Integrated Learning and Work Placement

Option List D (Year Three)

Choose **one optional** module from the following list:

LAW3161 Child and Family Law

LAW3408 Employment Law

LAW3428 Evidence

LAW3424 Immigration, Nationality And Asylum Law in the UK

LAW3141 Medical Law

LAW3109 UK Company Law

LAW3915 Global Trade Law

LAW3565 Project   or

LAW3330 Integrated Learning and Work Placement

*LAW3565 Project and **POI3330** Dissertation is a barred combination

Part-time Mode (Over Six Years)

Year One

In the first year, two compulsory 30 credit year-long modules are taken, Introduction to Politics and Introduction to Law, which are the building blocks of the BA Programme.

Year Two

Two compulsory 30 credit year-long law modules which introduce two of the substantive subjects, Public Law and Introduction to Development are taken in this year.

Year Three

The Level 5 compulsory modules, Theories of International Relations and UK and European Human Rights are taken in this year.

Year Four

Two optional modules from list A and B are taken in Year 4.

Year Five

The Level 6 compulsory modules **POI3608** Geopolitics: Critical Perspectives and Issues and **LAW3181** Public International Law are taken.

Year Six

The programme is completed with two further optional modules from List C and List D.

Part-Time
Year One
POI1001 Introduction to Politics
LAW1101 Introduction to Law

Year Two
POI1010 Introduction to Development
LAW1107 Public Law

Year Three
POI2001 Theories of International Relations
LAW2465 UK and European Human Rights Law

Year Four
Option 1 (from List A mentioned above)
Option 2 (from List B mentioned above)

Year Five
POI3608 Global Geopolitics: Critical Perspectives and Issues
LAW3181 Public International Law

Year Six
Option 3 (from List C)
Option 4 (from List D)

12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 4 (1)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must take all of the following:		Successful completion of **POI1001**, **POI1010**, **LAW1107** and **LAW1101** is required to progress on the programme.
POI1001 *30 credits* **POI1010** *30 credits* **LAW1107** *30 credits* **LAW1101** *30 credits*		

Level 5 (2)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: **LAW2465** *30 credits* **POI2001** *30 credits*	Students must also choose one from the following list: **POI2201** *30 credits* **POI2354** *30 credits* **POI2100** *30 credits* **POI2111** (required option if taking **DEV3330** in final year) *30 credits* And one from the following list: **LAW2420** *30 credits* **LAW2334** *30 credits* **LAW2914** *30 credits*	Students must pass modules to the value of 120 credits to progress to the final stage.

Level 6 (3)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must take all of the following:	Students must choose **one** module from the list below:	For an Honours Degree students must achieve 360 credit points in total. At the end of the first year 120 should be gained, 240 credits at Level 5, achieving 360 for completion. Therefore 120 credits per year to progress to the next academic year.
POI3608 *30 credits* **LAW3181** *30 credits*	**SOC3580** *30 credits* **POI3015** *30 credits* **POI3001** *30 credits* **POI3330** or *30 credits* **LAW3330** *30 credits* And **one** module from the list below: **LAW3161** *30 credits* **LAW3408** *30 credits* **LAW3428** *30 credits* **LAW3424** *30 credits* **LAW3141** *30 credits* **LAW3109** *30 credits* **LAW3915** *30 credits* **LAW3565** or *30 credits* **LAW3330** *30 credits*	

12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)	
Module level	**Module code**
Level 4	LAW1101, POI1001
Level 5	LAW2465, POI2001
Level 6	LAW3181, POI3608

13. Curriculum map
See attached.

14. Information about assessment regulations
The University's assessment regulations which can be found at: www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations apply to the programme.

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)
Students may choose to undertake a placement year during their third year, and then return to Middlesex for the final (fourth) year. The Placement Office provides information and guidance on obtaining placements.
Students must complete 240 credits before starting a placement and obtain the written permission of the BA International Politics and Law Programme Leader. This will only be given if the placement is considered to be of sufficient standing.
A placement adds an extra year onto the BA International Politics and Law degree.

16. Future careers (if applicable)
The BA International Politics and Law degree is not a qualifying degree for purposes of exemption from the academic stage of training for the legal professions. However, it does provide a basis for a variety of careers in the administrative, professional and business fields, particularly those with an international focus related to politics and law.
Successful BA International Politics and Law graduates who wish to pursue a career in the legal profession may be eligible to take the Common Professional Examination/ Graduate Diploma in Law.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

- Focus in Level 4 modules on study skills, legal writing and legal research.
- Availability of academic guidance from all module leaders during regular open office hours.
- Availability of guidance from library staff, including a dedicated Law Librarian as well as a dedicated Politics and Social Science Librarian.
- Opportunities to consult Student Achievement Officers.
- Availability of computer assisted learning facilities.
- E-mail access to tutors.
- Electronically accessible generic feedback on all summative module assessments.
- Comprehensive information in programme and module handbooks.
- Facilities and equipment available to assist disabled students.
- Access to careers information and a careers office staffed with careers advisers with extensive knowledge of career options related to law.
- Increasing use of online systems on myUniHub to support learning opportunities.

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	M200 L240
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Law Political and International Studies

20. Reference points

The following reference points were used in designing the programme:

- QAA Subject Benchmark for Law.
- QAA Subject Benchmark for Politics and International Studies.
- University and School Learning and Teaching policies and strategies.
- Middlesex University Learning Framework.
- Middlesex University Student Charter.
- National Qualifications Framework.
- QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications.

21. Other information

Students may choose to take a year abroad in their third year, and return to Middlesex

for their final (fourth) year.

Methods for Evaluating and Improving the Quality and Standards of Learning

A variety of sources of information are used to review and evaluate quality of standards of learning. These include:

- operation within a School and University framework for quality evaluation and enhancement;
- regular monitoring of programme and module delivery;
- continuing opportunity for feedback from students during workshops and seminars;
- regular feedback from students through Boards of Study;
- feedback questionnaires completed by students at the close of each module;
- wide participation by staff in the Learning Development Forum;
- participation by staff in external curriculum related staff development programmes;
- an established programme of peer review for academic staff;
- regular discussions in academic group meetings;
- annual appraisal of academic staff;
- regular peer observation of teaching;
- external examiner moderation of assessed work, their end of year reports and our responses to those reports.

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 and Law

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 and legal 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	Different political and legal systems across the world.	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	Key ideas, concepts, theories and practices of politics and law.	C3	Understand and use the English Language proficiently both orally and in writing.
		C4	Present knowledge or an argument both orally and in writing in a way which is comprehensible to others and which is directed to their concerns.
		C5	Read and discuss both orally and in writing materials which may be written in technical and complex language.
		C6	Use essential electronic resources and applications.
		C7	Produce a high quality word-processed essay or other text and present it in an appropriate form.
		C8	Reflect critically on his/her own learning, and make constructive use of feedback.
		C9	Undertake independent research, with limited guidance, starting from standard information sources in areas of politics or law which they have not

			previously studied.
		C 10	Act independently in planning and undertaking tasks in areas which they have previously studied.

Cognitive skills		Graduate Skills	
B1	A deep understanding of the political and legal institutions and processes on the international stage that will shape the student's future life and career.	D1	Personal and career development.
B2	An awareness of the nature and significance of politics and policy making and legal processes in different societies.	D2	Effective learning.
B3	The 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 emails.
		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	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	C10	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	
Highest level achieved by all graduates																						

Module Title	Module Code by Level	A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	C10	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6
Programme outcomes																							
Introduction to Politics	POI1001			X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Introduction to Development	POI1010		X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	
Public Law	LAW1107	X	X	X	X			X	X				X	X	X		X		X	X			
Introduction to Law	LAW1101			X				X			X		X	X	X				X	X			
Theories of International Relations	POI2001			X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X	X		
UK and European Human Rights	LAW2465			X	X	X		X	X				X	X	X		X		X	X	X		
Equality and the Law	LAW2420			X	X	X		X	X				X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X
EU Internal Market Law	LAW2914	X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X			
Jurisprudence	LAW2334			X		X	X	X	X				X	X	X		X		X	X	X		
Comparative Politics	POI2201	X	X				X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	
Approaches to Research in Social Science	DEV2111							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Global Political Economy	POI2100	X		X		X	X		X		X								X	X			
Politics of Europe	POI2354	X	X		X	X					X								X	X			
Public International Law	LAW3181	X	X		X		X	X				X	X	X	X		X		X	X			
Geopolitics: Critical Perspectives and Issues	POI3608	X								X	X												
UK Company Law	LAW3109					X		X	X				X	X	X	X	X		X	X			
Employment Law	LAW3408			X		X		X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			
Immigration, Nationality and Asylum Law	LAW3424			X		X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			
Medical Law	LAW3141					X		X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			
Child and Family Law	LAW3161			X	X	X		X	X				X	X	X	X	X		X	X			
Evidence	LAW3428				X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X		X				
Project	LAW3565				X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X		X				

Course	Code																						
Integrated Learning and Work Placement	LAW3330				X	X	X		X						X		X	X				
Migration and Citizenship	SOC3580	X		X	X		X		X		X								X	X		
Humanitarianism and Global Change	POI3015				X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X			
Dissertation	POI3330				X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X			X			
Development Policy Seminars	POI3001	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	
Global Trade Law	LAW3915	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X			