Programme Specification BSc Global Social Science

Middlesex University

1. Programme title	BSc Global Social Science
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University
4. Programme accredited by	N/A
5. Final qualification	BSc Honours
6. Academic year	2008-9
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full time Part time

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

100 Tariff points from 2, 3 unit awards, plus 5 passes at L2 (GCSE) grade C or above, or Access Diploma or equivalent international qualifications.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

Provide students with a multi-disciplinary understanding of the changing trends and issues in social science with a global perspective.

Develop in-depth understanding of the key theoretical and policy debates facing social science

Foster students' ability to collect, analyse and interpret information on key policy issues and to use this to construct reasoned, evidenced argument

Develop abilities and skills as a self-motivated, autonomous and lifelong learner

Develop a range of analytic and graduate skills adequate for a range of professional and life situations

11. Programme outcomes

A. Knowledge and understanding

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

The history and development of welfare state in a global context, its institutions and actors.

The extent of and the causes of social problems in the West and in the developing and globalising world

The means of analysis of social issues and how these can be deployed to allow a critical analysis of global social problems

Interdependencies between the developed and developing areas of the world and the processes strategies deployed to address disadvantage.

Theories of social reform and policy provision

The relationship between policy and citizenship to differing, global, political systems

The problems which face the Third World and their causes

Historical and contemporary processes of underdevelopment and development over time and space

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through a programme of lectures, seminars, workshops in core modules and through independent study

Assessment Method

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by a variety of formative and summative assessment methods. Formal examinations and a range of coursework submissions allow students to demonstrate their understanding of theory and their ability to sustain a coherent and reasoned argument.

B. Cognitive (thinking) skills

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

Describe and assess a range of established theories and concepts.

Review, synthesise and critically evaluate published materials, from a wide range of sources

Critically review and evaluate evidence and use this to construct reasoned, evidenced argument

Critically evaluate the impact of policy

Apply knowledge to practical problems of social science

Apply conceptual and theoretical approaches to empirical material

Teaching/learning methods

Students learn cognitive skills through interactive lectures, workshops, seminars, directed reading and coursework

Assessment Method

Students' cognitive skills are assessed by a variety of formative and summative methods. The core modules place considerable emphasis on the acquisition of skills 1 –4 and students are given the opportunity to demonstrate these in both oral and written form. Students will develop and demonstrate skill 5 while applying theoretical knowledge of social science to practical issues. Skill 6 is demonstrated through the dissertation module.

C. Practical skills	Teaching/learning methods
On completion of the programme the successful student will be able to: Make oral presentations to staff and peers Interpret quantitative and qualitative information Identify key issues and search for relevant information Plan and deliver an individual piece of research	Students learn practical skills progressively throughout the programme. Skills 1 – 3 are developed within the core modules. Research methods are introduced at level one within the core modules and developed in the specific research methods module for application in the dissertation where ability to apply knowledge (skill 4) is demonstrated **Assessment Method** Students' practical skills are assessed by a variety of formative and summative methods. Students are given the opportunity to demonstrate skills 1 – 3 in a variety of modules using different assessment methods. Skills 2 – 4 are demonstrated by the dissertation

D. Graduate Skills
On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:
    Effectively organise their own timetable of work and meet delivery deadlines
    Take initiative and direct their own learning
    Work effectively within a team collaborating with others to achieve common goals
    Demonstrate IT skills including the use of PowerPoint for presentations
    5.Demonstate oral and written communication skills
	Teaching/learning methods
	Students acquire graduate skills through lectures, seminars and workshops. Many of these skills are introduced at level zero and continue to develop throughout the programme of stud. Skills are integrated into the curriculum of the core modules allowing development throughout the 3 years of study. In the final year students have the opportunity to further develop these skills via the dissertation. Students who take the placement year (sandwich degree) will have many opportunities to develop their graduate skills.
	
	Assessment method
	Students' graduate skills are assessed by a variety of formative and summative methods. All modules seek to develop written communication skills and many also allow students to demonstrate oral presentation skills. Small group work involving both formative and summative assessment occur throughout the course
	Graduate skills are also demonstrated through the dissertation.

12. Programme structure

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

BSC Global Social Science is studied full time over three or part-time over six years. Full time students may elect to take the programme over four years by taking a full time placement in the year three. Students normally study 4 modules in the teaching year (or 2 for part-time students). Modules have a credit rating of 30 points and each one will usually have two to three hours contact learning per teaching week. All modules have formative coursework on which students are given feedback before the summative assessment takes place.

During the first year of study students will take four modules each worth 30 credit points as part of a common year with other students from the Department of Social Sciences. The introductory social policy module (SPL1510) introduces the history of social policy in Britain but also takes a case study approach to introduce students to social policy in different parts of the globe. It introduces social policy issues that will be raised and studied in more detail in later modules. This is complemented by TOU1001 which seeks to convey an understanding of the development of tourism and the relevance of tourism in a globalising world. This module emphasises the development of argument and thinking skills. Both these modules also look at key contemporary policy issues. Students also take an introduction to Politics (POI1001). The supposition of the degree is that social policy cannot be understood without the context of politics. The introductory module to Development Studies (DEV1001) introduces students to the development issues and concepts. This has two purposes. It demonstrates that if one looks at the processes and dynamics there is often little difference between first and third world. As students progress they will see that solutions too are often similar. Level One modules also seek to provide the skills basis for future study and while all build on basic skills each provides a specialised skill focus to ensure that all students have acquired key study skills, graduate skills and have basic IT competency by the end of the year.

The second year develops knowledge of development theorising through SPL2510 Social Policy in Consumer Society. This module re-conceptualises social policy documenting the changes from the traditional model that was described in year two, to an approach that locates the discipline in a world of deregulation, consumption and privatisation. The second year also develops student research skills through a methods module, Approaches to Research in Social Science (HSS2001). This module provides grounding in both quantitative and qualitative methods and these are an important underpinning for the dissertation module in the final year. For their third module students take development in Theory and Practice DEV2001, which provides a framework for understanding the processes of development from the Bretton Woods agreement to better understand contemporary development thinking and theories.

For their fourth module students are allowed to choose from two other modules, either a Tourism or a Politics module to gain more in-depth knowledge in an area of their choice.

After successfully completing the second year of studies, students may choose to undertake a year-long placement in an institution or organisation in the UK or overseas.

In the final year the emphasis is upon developing independent learning skills and module content focuses on today's key policy issues and policy debates. All students must take the core module Social Inclusion (SPL3510). This module integrates issues and concepts acquired over the course of study. It includes discussion of key contested concepts related to notions of 'social inclusion and exclusion' including ideas around participation, local democracy, civil society and social capital. All students must also complete a dissertation. The 30 credit dissertation module is intended to demonstrate the student's ability to carry out a short research oriented piece of work and to relate the theoretical knowledge gained through the programme of study to empirical data. Students then choose two modules from a list of four available to complete their programme of study

12.2 Levels and modules		
Level 1		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: SPL1501 30 credits POI1001 30 credits DEV1001 30 credits TOU1002 30 credits	No options at level 1	
Level 2		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: HSS2001 30 credits SPL2510 30 credits DEV2001 30 credits	Students must also choose at ONE from the following: TOU2002 30 credits POI2350 30 credits	
Level 3		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: SPL3510 30 credits HSS3330 30 credits	Students must also choose at TWO from the following: DEV3050 30 credits DEV3030 30 credits POI3353 30 credits TOU3912 30 credits	Students must pass all four modules to gain an honours degree

12.3 Non-compensatable modules	
Module level	*Module code*

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13. Curriculum map

See attached.

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14. Information about assessment regulations

See Middlesex University Guide and Regulations 2008-09

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

A sandwich year industrial placement is available to students who have successfully completed assessment at level 0,1 and 2. Placements are coordinated by the Placement Team in liaison with academic staff

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16. Future careers (if applicable)

The implementation of the Middlesex University and School of Health and Social Sciences Graduate Skills strategy provides students with opportunities to develop a range of graduate skills. The sandwich degree and the final year placement provide invaluable work experience in the social policy area. Feedback from organisations that have received students on placements indicates the usefulness and applicability of this skills strategy. .Students most usually find work within local government, the voluntary sector and NGOs. Traditionally many social science students have gone on to do postgraduate work both at Middlesex and elsewhere

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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 form the Student Union

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18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	L990
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Social Policy

20. Reference points

Middlesex University and School of Social Science Learning and Teaching Strategies

QAA subject benchmark statement for social policy

UCAS data

Middlesex University Regulation 2008-09

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 student programme handbook and the University Regulations.

Curriculum map for BSc Global Social Science 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	The history and development of welfare in a global context, its institutions and actors	C1	Make oral presentations to staff and peers
A2	The extent of and causes of social problems in the West and in the developing and globalising world	C2	Interpret quantitative and qualitative information
A3	The means of analysis of social issues and how these can be deployed to allow a critical analysis of global social problems	C3	Identify key issues and search for relevant information
A4	Interdependencies between the developed and developing areas of the world and the processes and strategies deployed to address disadvantage	C4	Plan and deliver an individual piece of research
A5	Theories of social reform and political systems		
A6	The relationship between policy and citizenship in differing, global, political systems		
A7	The problems which face the Third World and their causes		
A8	Historical and contemporary processes of underdevelopment and development over time and space		
Cognitive skills		**Graduate Skills**	
B1	Describe and assess a range of established theories and concepts	D1	Effectively organise their own timetable of work and meet delivery deadlines
B2	Review, synthesise and critically evaluate published materials, from a wide range of sources	D2	Take initiative and direct their own learning
B3	Critically review and evaluate evidence and use this to construct reasoned, evidenced argument	D3	Work effectively within a team collaborating with others to achieve common goals
B4	Critically evaluate the impact of policy	D4	Demonstrate IT skills including the use of PowerPoint for presentations
B5	Apply knowledge to practical problems of social policy	D5	Demonstrate oral and written communication skills
B6	Apply conceptual and theoretical approaches to empirical material		
B7	Describe and assess a range of established theories and concepts		

Programme outcomes																						
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	C1	C2	C3	C4	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
Highest level achieved by all graduates																						
3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	3

Module Title	Module Code	Programme outcomes																						
		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	C1	C2	C3	C4	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
Issues in Development	DEV1001			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Introduction to Politics	POI1001			X	X	X	X					X								X				
Introduction to Social Policy	SPL1510	X	X	X		X				X	X	X		X		X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Understanding Tourism	TOU1002			X	X					X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X		X		X
Development in Theory and Practice	DEV2001		X	X	X	X	X	X	X															
Approaches to Research in Social Science	HSS2001																X	X	X					X
Social Policy in Consumer Society	SPL2510	X	X		X	X	X			X		X	X		X		X			X	X	X	X	X
Social Science dissertation	HSS3300										X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X			X
Social Inclusion	SPL3510	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X		X
International Political Theory	POI2350	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X
Tourism Impacts & Sustainability	TOU2002		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X
Disasters & Development	DEV3050		X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X			X	X			X
Globalism	POI3353				X		X	X		X	X	X	X		X			X			X			
Environment & Development	DEV3030		X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X			X		X			X	X			X
Managing Sustainable Development	TOU3912		X	X			X		X	X	X	X	X		X		X						X	X