

BA INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

Programme Specification



1. Programme title	BA International Politics
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	<i>Please ensure Campuses and Franchised Partners are listed if applicable</i>
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	N/A
5. Final qualification	Cert HE International Politics Dip HE International Politics BA International Politics
6. Year of validation Year of amendment	2020
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full time and Part time

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

We normally make offers on 112 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. Applicants with previous Level 4+ academic experience can be considered for admissions via a claim for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). Applications for admission via RPL are considered by the Programme Leader on the basis of case-by-case consideration and a specific form verifying the decision is completed by the Programme Leader and submitted for ratification to the University Accreditation Board. All applicants for admission must have competence in English language and we normally require Grade 4/5 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:

1. Provide a learning experience that is intellectually challenging, engaging, supportive and respectful of students from diverse backgrounds
2. Equip students with critical knowledge and analytical skills to confront the global challenges emerging in International politics
3. Introduce students to key concepts and theories to make sense of complex issues and encourage them to appreciate the relevance of these to contemporary politics and their own life experiences
4. Provide students with an up to date and innovative curriculum, reflecting both a diverse student cohort and staff research interests in line with advanced scholarly knowledge and rapid changes in the field of International Politics.
5. Give students access to a broad intellectual environment through the provision of innovative teaching and extra-curricular activities with a view to reinforcing a sense of learning community.
6. Provide students with varied pathways to develop and reflect upon their employability and experiential learning through direct participation in work placement, team work 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. Key concepts, theoretical approaches, developments and movements in global, regional and national contexts
2. Regional, global and international organisations, institutions and processes
3. The global interrelationship of different regional political and geopolitical developments
4. Divisions and inequalities of class, gender, sexuality, race and ethnicity within global, regional and national spheres

Teaching/learning methods

Students gain knowledge and understanding through *lectures, seminars, workshops, group work, in-class exercises, debates, work-based learning opportunities, field visits* and *self-directed learning* through a variety of resources including library and the virtual learning environment. Level 4 and 5 modules introduce the essential knowledge of international politics (A1, A2) providing a platform for Level 5 and 6 modules to develop more sophisticated and applied knowledge and understanding (A3 and A4)

Assessment methods

Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by various methods across all modules. More conventional assessment methods of **essays** and **examinations** (both seen and unseen papers) are augmented by **tests** (in-class and on-line),

	<p>contributions to debate and discussion, case studies, policy reviews (e.g. <i>The Politics of Policy in Practice</i> and <i>Post-Brexit Europe</i>), presentations (individual and group), workshop reports, data reports, reflective reports and diaries (e.g. <i>Integrated Learning and Work Placement</i>), blogs (<i>Global Political Economy and Peace, Conflict and Society in the Middle East and North Africa</i>), annotated bibliographies, research proposals (<i>Dissertation</i> module), data analysis, projects reports, placement reports and dissertation (<i>Dissertation</i> module and <i>Project</i> module). (A1, A2, A3 and A4).</p>
<p>B. Skills On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate critical skills of numeracy and literacy in textual, visual, digital and social media 2. Identify and reflect upon major issues in international politics and formulate questions, lines of inquiry and arguments concerning their impact and development 3. Critically evaluate concepts, theories and ideologies in international politics 4. Think reflexively and creatively about their own values, strengths and weaknesses, give and receive feedback, accept responsibility for themselves and take appropriate and ethical action to improve and enhance their capabilities 5. Gather, process, analyse and present data and evidence from a variety of sources 6. Work effectively, both independently and as part of a team 7. Comprehend and use the English 	<p>Teaching/learning methods Students learn cognitive skills through a breadth of <i>reading</i> (textual and digital) enabling the development of their reflective, critical and evaluative skills (B1, B2 and B3). There are also <i>Seminars</i> in which there are opportunities for presentation, discussion and debate and which are settings where students can enhance their skills in critical thinking, evaluation and effective communication in a multi-cultural environment, both individually and as part of a team (B3, B6, B7, B8). These are also settings in which students have the opportunity to reflect upon their own development as a learner (B4). <i>Seminars</i> encourage effective communication between students and between tutors and students. <i>Workshops</i> are provided where students can improve their literacy and numeracy skills (B1) and collect and analyse data and evidence (B5)</p> <p>Assessment methods Students' cognitive skills are assessed by essays, case studies, various types of reports, diaries and dissertations (B1, B2, B3, B5 and B7). Presentations and contributions to <i>debate</i> on different modules provide a means to assess a range of skills (B5, B6, B7 and B8). Three modules at level 5 and 6 (<i>Global Political Economy, Theories of Global Political</i></p>

<p>language proficiently, both orally and in writing</p> <p>8. Communicate effectively in a culturally literate way by engaging with others, respecting equality and diversity</p>	<p><i>Economy and Peace, Conflict and Society in the Middle East and North Africa</i> require the students to develop blogs which enable students to demonstrate cognitive skills (B1, B4, B5 and B8). Essays, In-class tests and examinations in various modules provide a means of assessing cognitive skills in a number of areas (B2, B3, B5 and B7). Assessments requiring students to design a campaign and to design and manage a symposium in the modules <i>Global Change and Activism</i> and <i>Gender, Power and Politics</i> provide opportunities for students to demonstrate important cognitive skills (B4, B5, B6, B8).</p>
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12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)				
12. 1 Overall structure of the programme				
BA INTERNATIONAL POLITICS pathway (full-time)				
Year 1	Global Political Thought	The Politics of Sustainability and Development	Law, Regulation and Global Governance	Understanding Political Economy
Year 2	POI2001 Theories of International Relations	POI2100 Global Political Economy	Optional modules (level 5) 15 / 30 Credits	Optional modules (level 5) 15 / 30 Credits
Year 3	POI3608 Global Geopolitics: Critical Perspectives	Optional modules (level 6) 15 / 30 Credits	Optional modules (level 6) 15 / 30 Credits	Optional modules (level 6) 15 / 30 Credits
<p>*Students are required to select ONE of POI3330 Dissertation, POI3010 The Politics of Policy in Practice or LAW3330 Integrated Learning and Work Placement as a final year option. <i>Students choosing POI3330 dissertation are advised to take at least one of the two 15 credit research method modules at Level 5 in Year Two of their programme.</i></p>				

BA INTERNATIONAL POLITICS pathway (part-time – 4 years)

Year 1	Global Political Thought	Understanding Political Economy	The Politics of Sustainability and Development
Year 2	Law, Regulation and Global Governance and International Regulation	POI2001 Theories of International Relations	POI2100 Global Political Economy
Year 3	Optional modules (Level 5) 15 / 30 Credits	Optional modules (Level 5) 15 / 30 Credits	POI3608 Global Geopolitics: Critical Perspectives
Year 4	Optional modules (Level 6) 15 / 30 Credits	Optional modules (Level 6) 15 / 30 Credits	Optional modules (Level 6) 15 / 30 Credits

*Students are required to select ONE of POI3330 Dissertation, POI3010 The Politics of Policy in Practice or LAW3330 Integrated Learning and Work Placement as a final year option. *Students choosing POI3330 dissertation are advised to take at least one of the two 15 credit research method modules at Level 5 in Year Two of their programme.*

Options

Level 5 (Choose up to 60 credits of options – 30 credits per term - i.e. 2 x 15 credit modules per term)

- POI2020 Post-Brexit Europe: Transformation and Challenges (15 credits – Autumn term)
- POI2030 Regions and Regionalism in the Global South and Eurasia (15 credits – Winter term)
- POI2301 Comparative Political Systems (15 credits - Autumn term)
- POI2302 Political Systems in Comparison (15 credits - Winter term)
- POI2305 Politics of Climate Change (15 credits - Autumn term)
- POI2306 Gender, Power and Global Politics (15 credits – Autumn term)
- POI2303 Research Design, Theories and Concepts: Analysing Political Discourse (15 credits - Autumn term)
- POI2304 Constructing Knowledge for Politics (15 credits - Winter term)
- POI2307 Social Movements in an International Context (15 credits – Winter term)

Level 6 (Choose up to 90 credits of options – selections of 15 credit modules must be balanced over Autumn / Winter terms – i.e. 2 x 15 credit modules per term)

- ONE of POI3330 Dissertation, POI3010 The Politics of Policy in Practice or LAW3330 Integrated Learning and Work Placement as a final year option
- POI3303 Understanding Migrations (15 credits - Autumn term)
- POI3304 Researching Migration and Migrant Communities (15 credits - Winter term)
- POI3301 Humanitarianism and Global Change (15 Credits – Autumn term)
- POI3302 Global Change and Activism (15 Credits – Winter term)
- POI3305 Peace, Conflict and Society in the Middle East and North Africa (15 Credits – Autumn term)
- POI3306 International Relations of the Middle East and North Africa (15 Credits – Winter term)
- LAW3181 Public International Law (30 Credits)

12.2 Levels and modules

Starting in academic year 2010/11 the University is changing the way it references modules to state the level of study in which these are delivered. This is to comply with the national Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. This implementation will be a gradual process whilst records are updated. Therefore the old coding is bracketed below.

Level 4 (1)

COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

<p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POI1301 Global Political Thought • POI1302 The Politics of Sustainability and Development • POI1303 Law, Regulation and Global Governance • POI1304 Understanding Political Economy 		<p>Students must pass the following modules to progress to Level 5:</p> <p>Successful completion of POI1301, POI1302, POI1303 and POI1304, with a minimum grade of 16 (40%), is required for progression to Year Two programme.</p> <p>Modules at level 4 can be considered for compensation with the exception of POI1301 Global Political Thought which cannot be compensated and must be passed with a minimum grade of 16 (40%)</p>
<p>Level 5 (2)</p>		

COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
<p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theories of International Relations • Global Political Economy 	<p>Students must also choose at least 60 credits from the following (2 x 15 credits per term):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POI2020 Post-Brexit Europe: Transformation and Challenges (15 credits – Autumn term) • POI2030 Regions and Regionalism in the Global South and Eurasia (15 credits – Winter term) • POI2301 Comparative Political Systems (15 credits - Autumn term) • POI2302 Political Systems in Comparison (15 credits - Winter term) • POI2305 Politics of Climate Change (15 credits - Autumn term) • POI2306 Gender, Power and Global Politics (15 credits – Autumn term) • POI2303 Research Design, Theories and Concepts: Analysing Political Discourse (15 credits - Autumn term) • POI2304 Constructing Knowledge for Politics (15 credits - Winter term) • POI2307 Social Movements in an International Context (15 credits – Winter term) 	<p>Students must pass the following modules to progress to Level 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theories of International Relations • Global Political Economy

Level 6 (3)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
<p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POI3608 Global Geopolitics: Critical perspectives 	<p>Students must also choose ONE from the following 30 credit modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POI3330 Dissertation • POI3010 The Politics of Policy in Practice • LAW3330 Integrated Learning and Work Placement <p>- as a final year option</p> <p>Then 60 credits from the following options (2 x 15 credits per term) :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POI3303 Understanding Migrations (15 credits - Autumn term) • POI3304 Researching Migration and Migrant Communities (15 credits - Winter term) • POI3301 Humanitarianism and Global Change (15 Credits – Autumn term) • POI3302 Global Change and Activism (15 Credits – Winter term) • POI3305 Peace, Conflict and Society in the Middle East and North Africa (15 Credits – Autumn term) • POI3306 International Relations of the Middle East and North Africa (15 Credits – Winter term) • LAW3181 Public International Law (30 Credits) 	<p>For an Honours Degree students must achieve 360 credit points in total 120 of which must be at Level 6</p> <p>Students must take all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POI3608 Global Geopolitics: Critical perspectives

12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)	
Module level	Module code
Level 4	POI1301 Global Political Thought
Level 5	POI2001 Theories of International Relations
	POI2100 Global Political Economy
Level 6	POI3608 Global Geopolitics: Critical perspectives

13. Curriculum map
See attached.

14. Information about assessment regulations
The University regulations cover assessment and these can be found at www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support
The Placement module LAW3330 offers the opportunity to take a work placement in a political environment. This final year module is one of three from which students must select in their final year – the alternative is Dissertation module or the Policy Seminars module. Students can work with MPs, MEPs, Political Parties, Pressure Groups or International Institutions on a part-time basis to gain work experience whilst continuing their studies. Students are assessed academically on their placement work experience. Placements are organised and approved MDX Works in liaison with the programme team.

16. Future careers (if applicable)
Among some of the career pathways students have followed in the past are - Politics, Policy, Political Analyst, NGOs, Journalism, Diplomacy, Research, Lobbying & PR. Careers advice is built into the programme through liaison with MDXworks.

17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)
There is a varied infrastructure to support student learning outside of the more conventional lectures, seminars, workshops and virtual learning environment (mylearning). This includes allocation to a personal academic tutor, graduate academic assistants, student learning advisors, and access to the Progression and Support

Advisors. The dedicated Learning Enhancement Team (LET) for the School of Law provides regular workshops to support Academic Writing and Language and Maths, Stats and Numeracy. One to one support for students is also available via the LET. Students can access a wide range of well-being support services related to health, finance, personal safety and counselling all of which impact ability to study. Students with disabilities and / or particular conditions which present an impediment to learning can seek support via the Disability Support service to complete a Learning Support Form which is made available to their programme leader, module tutors and personal tutor. Such students can seek help in applying for Disabled Student Allowance (DSA).

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	L240
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Politics and International Relations

20. Reference points
<p>QAA (2015) <i>Subject Benchmark Statement for Politics and International Relations</i>, Mansfield: The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education</p> <p>Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook</p> <p>Student, Staff, External Examiner and Graduate feedback and comments</p> <p>Middlesex University Regulations 2019</p>

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.

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	
A1	Key concepts, theoretical approaches, developments and movements in global, regional and national contexts
A2	Regional, global and international organisations, institutions and processes
A3	The global interrelationship of different regional political and geopolitical developments
A4	Divisions and inequalities of class, gender, sexuality, race and ethnicity within global, regional and national spheres
Skills	
B1	Demonstrate critical skills of numeracy and literacy in textual, visual, digital and social media
B2	Identify and reflect upon major issues in international politics and formulate questions, lines of inquiry and arguments concerning their impact and development
B3	Critically evaluate concepts, theories and ideologies in international politics
B4	Think reflexively and creatively about their own values, strengths and weaknesses, give and receive feedback, accept responsibility for themselves and take appropriate and ethical action to improve and enhance their capabilities
B5	Gather, process, analyse and present data and evidence from a variety of sources
B6	Work effectively, both independently and as part of a team
B7	Comprehend and use the English language proficiently, both orally and in writing
B8	Communicate effectively in a culturally literate way by engaging with others, respecting equality and diversity

Programme outcomes														
A1	A2	A3	A4				B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8
Highest level achieved by all graduates														
6	6	6	6				6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

Module Title	Module Code by Level	A1	A2	A3	A4	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8
		Global Political Thought	POI1301	x	x	x	x		x	x	x		x
The Politics of Sustainability and Development	POI1302	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Law, Regulation and Global Governance	POI1303	x	x	x			x	x			x	x	x
Understanding Political Economy	POI1304	x			x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Theories of International Relations	POI2001	x	x				x	x		x	x	x	x
Global Political Economy	POI2100	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Post-Brexit Europe: Transformation and Challenges (Autumn term)	POI2020	x	x	x		x	x			x		x	x
Regions and Regionalism in the Global South and Eurasia (Winter term)	POI2030	x	x	x			x			x		x	x
Comparative Political Systems (Autumn term)	POI2301	x	x	x			x			x		x	x
Political Systems in Comparison (Winter term)	POI2302	x	x	x			x			x		x	x
Research Design, Theories and Concepts: Analysing Political Discourse (Autumn term)	POI2303	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Constructing Knowledge for Politics (Winter term)	POI2304	x			x	x	x				x	x	x
The Politics of Climate Change (Autumn term)	POI2305	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Gender, Power and Global Politics (Autumn term)	POI2306	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Social Movements in an International Context (Winter term)	POI2307	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x
Global Geopolitics: Critical Perspectives	POI3608	x	x	x	x	x		x		x		x	x

Humanitarianism and Global Change (Autumn term)	POI3301	x		x	x	x	x	x		x		x	x
Global Change and Activism (Winter term)	POI3302	x	x	x			x			x	x	x	x
Understanding Migrations (Autumn term)	POI3303	x	x	x	x		x			x		x	x
Researching Migration and Migrant Communities (Winter term)	POI3304	x			x	x	x		x	x		x	x
Peace, Conflict and Society in the Middle East and North Africa (Autumn term)	POI3305		x	x	x	x	x		x			x	x
International Relations of the Middle East and North Africa (Winter term)	POI3306		x	x	x			x		x		x	x
Dissertation	POI3330	x				x	x	x	x	x		x	x
The Politics of Policy in Practice	POI3010	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Integrated Learning and Work Placement	LAW3330						x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Public International Law	LAW3181	x	x			x	x		x			x	x