

1. Programme Title(s):

MA in International Relations and World Order

Postgraduate Diploma* in International Relations and World Order

Postgraduate Certificate* in International Relations and World Order

* These awards are only available as exit awards, and are not available for students to register onto.

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Full time/Part time

b) Type of study

Campus-based

4. Registration periods:

The normal period of registration is one year full-time or two years part-time.

The maximum period of registration is two years full-time or four years part-time.

5. Typical entry requirements:

Applicants should have at least a good second class honours degree or equivalent, in a relevant subject. Equivalent relevant professional experience may be considered. For candidates whose first language is not English the University's standard English language requirements will apply (IELTS 6.5).

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning:

There are no exemptions on the basis of APL.

7. Programme aims:

The programme aims to achieve a balance between a thorough exploration of the theoretical dimension and the consideration of empirical issues and practical debates in post-Cold War international relations. It aims to provide students with the competencies and skills to understand contemporary debates in international relations and to analyse international relations using a mixture of theoretical and empirical tools. By providing a thorough grounding in the subject, students are made aware of the importance of this topic to a sophisticated understanding of global political developments.

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

The programme has been developed with reference to the following sources:

- [QAA Benchmarking Statement](#)
- [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications \(FHEQ\)](#)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- [University Learning Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy](#)
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

9. Programme Outcomes:

	Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(a) Subject and Professional skills			
Knowledge			
MA	Advanced knowledge of the major themes and issues in post-Cold War international relations	Seminars; directed reading; independent research; dissertation supervision.	Contribution to discussions; problem-based exercises; seminar presentations; essays; dissertation
PGDip	Recognise, describe and discuss the major themes and issues in post-Cold War international relations	Seminars; directed reading; independent research	Contribution to discussions; problem-based exercises; seminar presentations; essays
PGCert	Identify and explain the major themes and issues in post-Cold War international relations	Seminars; directed reading; independent research	Contribution to discussions; problem-based exercises; seminar presentations; essays
Concepts			
MA	Enhanced grasp of the principles and theories of international relations. Ability to evaluate appropriate theories of international relations and apply these to specific issues	Seminars; problem solving tasks; directed critical reading; independent research; dissertation supervision	Contribution to discussions; problem-based exercises; seminar presentations; essays; critical reviews; dissertation
PGDip	Discuss, analyse and appraise the major international relations concepts and theories and relate these to empirical practices and developments	Seminars; problem solving tasks; directed critical reading; independent research	Contribution to discussions; problem-based exercises; seminar presentations; critical reviews; essays
PGCert	Explain and assess key concepts and theories and relate these to empirical practices and developments	Seminars; problem solving tasks; directed critical reading; independent research	Contribution to discussions; problem-based exercises; seminar presentations; critical reviews; essays
Techniques			
MA	Mastery of theories and concepts, methodological tools and bibliographical, writing, oral and critical skills. Understanding of research methods and their application international relations	Induction; library training; study-skills workshops; seminars; problem solving tasks; directed critical reading; dissertation supervision	Contribution to discussions; problem-based exercises; seminar presentations; essays; critical reviews; dissertation
PGDip	Confidently apply key theories and concepts and learnt skills in referencing and appropriate written and verbal communication	Induction; library training; study-skills workshops; seminars; problem solving tasks; directed critical reading	Contribution to discussions; problem-based exercises; seminar presentations; critical reviews; essays
PGCert	Apply key theories and concepts and learnt skills in referencing and appropriate written and verbal communication	Induction; library training; study-skills workshops; seminars; problem solving tasks; directed critical reading	Contribution to discussions; problem-based exercises; seminar presentations; critical reviews; essays
Critical analysis			
MA	Ability to identify and apply concepts and techniques with independence and rigour	Study-skills workshops; seminars; directed critical reading; independent research; dissertation supervision	Contribution to discussions; seminar presentations; essays; critical reviews; dissertation
PGDip	Analyse relevant concepts and practices with independence and rigour	Study-skills workshops; seminars; directed critical reading; independent research	Contribution to discussions; seminar presentations; essays; critical reviews
PGCert	Independently analyse relevant concepts and practices	Study-skills workshops; seminars; directed critical reading; independent research	Contribution to discussions; seminar presentations; essays; critical reviews

	Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Presentation			
MA	Ability to organise research material in a manner appropriate to the medium that is to be assessed; to distinguish relevant and non-relevant material; to write-up and deliver written work to a professional standard.	Induction; online resource-based learning; seminars	Seminar presentations; essays; dissertation
PGDip	Organise and present research material in a range of formats; develop arguments drawing on relevant material; write-up and deliver written work to a professional standard	Induction; online resource-based learning; seminars	Seminar presentations; essays
PGCert	Organise and present relevant material; develop arguments drawing on material read; write-up and deliver written work to a professional standard	Induction; online resource-based learning; seminars	Seminar presentations; essays
Appraisal of evidence			
MA	Ability to analyse and assess a variety of complex political and conceptual issues in contemporary international relations Ability to mount and sustain an independent level of inquiry at an advanced level	Study-skills workshops; seminars; directed critical reading; dissertation supervision	Seminar presentations; essays; critical reviews; dissertation
PGDip	Confidently and persuasively assess the relevance and evaluate the quality of a range of primary sources and secondary literature.	Study-skills workshops; seminars; directed critical reading	Seminar presentations; essays; critical reviews;
PGCert	Appraise the relevance and quality of a range of appropriate sources	Study-skills workshops; seminars; directed critical reading	Seminar presentations; essays; critical reviews;
(b) Transferable skills			
Research skills			
MA	Ability to: plan research projects, and locate, extract, produce and analyse relevant evidence; conduct significant background research and literature surveys; organise and marshal evidence and report on findings; analyse complex ideas and competing viewpoints; and construct informed critical arguments at an advanced level	Induction; online resource-based learning; study-skills and dissertation workshops ; directed critical reading of research methods literature; dissertation supervision	Essay plans; essays; dissertation; supervisory meetings
PGDip	Design appropriate research questions; develop research proposal; discuss the ethical implications of research; recognise and create effective literature reviews.	Induction; online resource-based learning; study-skills workshops ; directed critical reading of research methods literature	Essay plans; essays; tutor meetings
PGCert	Design appropriate research questions; develop research proposal; discuss the ethical implications of research	Induction; online resource-based learning; study-skills workshops ; directed critical reading of research methods literature	Essay plans; essays; tutor meetings
Communication skills			
MA	Ability to: deliver professional oral presentations; respond with focus and clarity to written or oral questions; write clearly and concisely; make effective use of graphical and statistical summaries, where appropriate; produce properly structured, clear essays and dissertations	Seminars; dissertation supervision; dissertation workshop	Contribution to discussions; seminar presentations; essays; dissertation

	Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
PGDip	Summarise, explain and analyse complex material, and formulate and present critical discussions and independent appraisals orally and in writing	Seminars; study skills workshops	Contribution to discussions; presentations; essays
PGCert	Summarise and explain complex material, and formulate and present discussions and appraisals orally and in writing	Seminars; study skills workshops	Contribution to discussions; presentations; essays;
Data presentation			
MA	Ability to synthesise research data and present it coherently and effectively using appropriate IT resources	Online resource-based learning (e.g. accessing online archives, such as Digital National Security Archives); study-skills workshops; directed critical reading of research methods literature; dissertation supervision	Seminar presentations; essays; dissertation
PGDip	Synthesise research data into coherent and sustained arguments using appropriate IT resources	Online resource-based learning (e.g. accessing online archives, such as Digital National Security Archives); study-skills workshops; directed critical reading of research methods literature	Seminar presentations; essays
PGCert	Present research data using appropriate IT resources	Online resource-based learning (accessing online archives, such as Digital National Security Archives); study-skills workshops; directed critical reading of research methods literature	Seminar presentations; essays
Information technology			
MA	Advanced ability to retrieve and present information using appropriate information technology, for example, bibliographic software, data archives, data analysis software	Induction; study skills workshop; online resource-based learning	Problem-based exercises; essays; critical reviews
PGDip	Retrieve, utilise and present information using appropriate information technology, for example, bibliographic software, data archives	Induction; study skills workshop; online resource-based learning	Problem-based exercises; essays; critical reviews
PGCert	Retrieve and present information using appropriate information technology, for example, bibliographic software, data archives	Induction; study skills workshop; online resource-based learning	Problem-based exercises; essays; critical reviews
Problem solving			
MA	Ability to identify, investigate, analyse, formulate and advocate solutions to problems	Seminars; dissertation supervision; online resource-based learning	Problem-based exercises; essays; dissertation
PGDip	Identify, investigate, analyse, formulate and advocate solutions to problems	Seminars; online resource-based learning	Problem-based exercises; essays
PGCert	Identify and analyse relevant problems and select between appropriate responses	Seminars; online resource-based learning	Problem-based exercises; essays
Working relationships			
MA	Knowing how and when to draw on the knowledge and expertise of others; ability to contribute and comment on ideas in seminar groups	Problem solving tasks; seminars; dissertation workshop	Contributions to discussions; problem-based exercises
PGDip	Collaborate effectively as part of a team. Identify appropriate opportunities for drawing on the knowledge and expertise of others; contribute and comment on ideas in learning groups	Problem solving tasks; seminars	Contributions to discussions; problem-based exercises

PGCert	Collaborate as part of a team. Identify appropriate opportunities for drawing on the knowledge and expertise of others; contribute and comment on ideas in learning groups	Problem solving tasks; seminars	Contributions to discussions; problem-based exercises
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	Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Managing learning			
MA	Management of an extensive literature and familiarisation with key issues and concepts Ability to plan and implement tasks and manage work-loads	Study-skills and dissertation workshops; independent research; dissertation supervision;	Essays; dissertations; supervisor meetings
PGDip	Develop and implement personal plan of work to meet a deadline Work independently and in groups towards the completion of a range of tasks	Study-skills workshops; independent research;	Essays; tutor meetings
PGCert	Develop and implement personal plan of work to meet a deadline Work independently and in groups towards the completion of a range of tasks	Study-skills workshops; independent research;	Essays; tutor meetings
Career management			
MA	Ability to take charge of one's own progress and development Reflection on one's strengths, interests, motivations and skills; recognition of one's achievements	Personal Tutor System; Dissertation Supervision; PhD and careers seminar	Tutor meetings
PGDip	Take charge of one's own progress and development Reflect on one's strengths, interests, motivations and skills; recognise one's achievements	Personal Tutor System; PhD and careers seminar	Tutor meetings
PGCert	Take charge of one's own progress and development Reflect on one's strengths, interests, motivations and skills; recognise one's achievements	Personal Tutor System; PhD and careers seminar	Tutor meetings

10. Special features:

The programme draws on the multitude of approaches within International Relations to the study and examination of global politics, the shift in balances of power, and contemporary issues in war, peace, security, and regional geopolitics. The programme enhances students' competencies in engaging with a the approaches of classical International Relations Theory, Strategic Studies, national security policy, and more.

To reflect the special focus of the MA programme, students taking this programme will be required to choose a dissertation topic that aligns with the many controversies, themes, debates, and issues raised in International Relations.

Students are able to engage with opportunities outside of the core programme by attending events organized by HyPIR research clusters, which include prestigious guest speakers which often include practitioners, panel events, an annual postgraduate research conference, lunchtime seminars and staff research peer review sessions, all of which help provide experience for our students to enhance professional transferrable skills and develop their awareness of professional academic practices and developments in the wider world with guest speakers.

The programme is designed to build on the university's Learning Innovation Strategy, and is subject to on-going collaborative development with Leicester Learning Institute. The programme is based on a social constructivist learning model and includes blended learning environments.

11. Indications of programme quality:

- Considerable departmental experience in blended learning as a result of the development and success of our existing DL programmes;
- Presentations from current students and former students at national and international conferences;
- Regular progression of former students into academic posts and postdoctoral and research projects;
- Consistent, positive feedback from current and former students;
- Consistent positive feedback from external examiners.

12. Scheme of Assessment

Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study applies:

<http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/regulations/documents/2012-13/senatereg6-pgt.pdf>

13. Progression points

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing Taught Postgraduate Programmes of Study (see Senate Regulations)

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course and a recommendation will be made to the Board of Examiners for an intermediate award where appropriate.

14. Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions:

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing Taught Postgraduate Programmes of Study (see Senate Regulations)

15. Additional information [e.g. timetable for admissions]

N/A

16. External Examiners:

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports can be found [here](#).

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

Modules

	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Semester
Core	PL7161	Post-Cold War World Order	30	1
	PL7000	Dissertation	60	Both
Optional	PL7089	The Politics of Human Rights	30	1
	PL7168	International Security	30	1
	PL7093	Governance and Corruption	30	1
	HS7026	The Holocaust: A Genocide – Mass Murder in Comparative Perspective	30	1
	PL7082	Intelligence and Security	30	2
	PL7076	American Foreign Policy	30	2
	PL7095	Global Ethics in Practice	30	2
	HS7037	After the Holocaust	30	2
	HS7034	American Freedom	30	2
	HS7217	Global Cities	30	2

Appendix 2: Module Specifications

See module specification database

