1. Programme Title(s):

MA in Human Rights and Global Ethics
Postgraduate Diploma Human Rights and Global Ethics*
Postgraduate Certificate in Human Rights and Global Ethics*
*Approved as exit awards only

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Part-time

b) Type of study

Distance learning

4. Registration periods:

The normal period of registration is two years (25 months).

The maximum period of registration is four years.

5. Typical entry requirements:

Either a first or a good second class honours degree from a British university or its equivalent in Politics, History, International Relations or other related subjects. In certain cases, equivalent relevant professional experience will be considered.

Where English is not a candidate's first language, applicants will be required to provide evidence of appropriate language skills, equivalent to IELTS 6.5.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning:

None.

7. Programme aims:

The course provides a thorough grounding in human rights and global ethics, allowing students to explore a range of key political and international theories and concepts. It aims to critically examine the complex links between human rights theory and practice, including the role of values in world politics, and the practical, theoretical and ethical constraints on the achievement of human rights. The programme aims to critically examine the increasingly important relationship between human rights, power, and international politics and analyse the political contexts, uses, and misuses of human rights. Students will have the opportunity to engage with a range of pressing challenges - for example, the ethics of intelligence, contemporary slavery, the limits of citizenship, animal rights, security, and war. They will be exposed to theory and analysis that is at the forefront of debates about how we should live, and about what rights people, groups and states can legitimately claim. The overall aim is to explore the ethical challenges for order, co-operation, participation, and human rights posed by the political realities of competing values, identities and interests, and of the vastly unequal distribution of power and other social, economic, and cultural resources.

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

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

- QAA Benchmarking statement for Politics and International Relations
  http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/SBS-politics-15.pdf
- QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- University of Leicester Learning and Teaching Strategy:
  http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/quality/learnteach
- University Employability Strategy
- Periodic Developmental Review Reports (February 2014)

9. Programme Outcomes:

	Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(a) Subject and Professional skills			
Knowledge			
MA	Recognise, describe and discuss a range of ethical challenges for order, co-operation, participation and human rights in contemporary politics and international relations Identify, interpret and apply a range of methods for formulating, defending, developing and applying human rights	Guided private study; directed reading; electronic seminar/forum; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; literature review; research proposal; essays; dissertation
PGDip	Recognise, describe and discuss the major ethical challenges for order, co-operation, participation and human rights in contemporary politics and international relations Identify, interpret and apply a range of methods for formulating, defending, developing and applying human rights	Guided private study; directed reading; electronic seminar/forum; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; literature review; research proposal; essays
PGCert	Identify and explain the major themes and issues relating to human rights, including the challenges for order, co-operation and participation Identify and outline key methods for formulating, defending and developing human rights	Guided private study; directed reading; electronic seminar/forum; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; research proposal; essays
Concepts			
MA	Differentiate between different perspective on human rights; identify controversies surrounding the scope of ethics; interpret and apply relevant concepts Evaluate general theoretical and conceptual frameworks and relate and apply these to specific ethical issues	Guided private study; directed reading; electronic seminar/forum; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; literature review; research proposal; essays; dissertation

	Intended Learning Outcomes	**Teaching and Learning Methods**	**How Demonstrated?**
PGDip	Differentiate between different perspective on human rights; identify controversies surrounding the scope of ethics; interpret and apply relevant concepts Evaluate general theoretical and conceptual frameworks and relate these to specific ethical issues	Guided private study; directed reading; electronic seminar/forum; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; literature review; research proposal; essays
PGCert	Differentiate between different perspective on human rights; identify controversies surrounding the scope of ethics; compare and contrast relevant theories Assess relevant theoretical and conceptual frameworks and relate these to specific ethical issues	Guided private study; directed reading; electronic seminar/forum; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; research proposal; essays
Techniques			
MA	Masterful application of research methods and bibliographical, writing, oral and critical skills Explain and appraise the key ontological, theoretical and methodological problems of human rights, and relate and apply these to empirical practices and developments	Guided private study; directed reading; electronic seminar/forum; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	A range of on-line activities (E-tivities) including online presentations, podcasts, interactive message boards and Wikis; literature reviews; research proposals; essays; dissertation
PGDip	Confidently apply bibliographical, writing, oral and critical skills Explain and assess the key ontological, theoretical and methodological problems of human rights, and relate these to empirical practices and developments	Guided private study; directed reading; electronic seminar/forum; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; literature review; research proposal; essays
PGCert	Apply bibliographical, writing, oral and critical skills Explain the key methodological and theoretical problems of human rights, and relate these to empirical practices and developments	Guided private study; directed reading; electronic seminar/forum; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; research proposal; essays
Critical analysis			
MA	Analyse relevant concepts and practices with independence and rigour, including in an extended research-based dissertation	Guided private study; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; literature review; research proposal; essays; dissertation
PGDip	Analyse relevant concepts and practices with independence and rigour	Guided private study; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; literature review; research proposal; essays
PGCert	Independently analyse relevant concepts and practices	Guided private study; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; research proposal; essays

	Intended Learning Outcomes	**Teaching and Learning Methods**	**How Demonstrated?**
	Presentation		
MA	Organise and present research material in a range of formats, including an extended research-based dissertation; develop arguments drawing on relevant material; write-up and deliver written work to a professional standard	Guided private study; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Essay plans; dissertation outline; 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	Guided private study; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Essay plans; dissertation outline; essays
PGCert	Organise and present relevant material; develop arguments drawing on material read; write-up and deliver written work to a professional standard	Guided private study; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Essay plans; dissertation outline; essays
	Appraisal of evidence		
MA	Confidently and persuasively assess the relevance and evaluate the quality of a range of primary sources and secondary literature	Guided private study; independent research	Participation in online activities; literature review; research proposal; essays; dissertation
PGDip	Confidently and persuasively assess the relevance and evaluate the quality of a range of primary sources and secondary literature	Guided private study; independent research	Participation in online activities; literature review; research proposal; essays
PGCert	Appraise the relevance and quality of a range of appropriate sources	Guided private study; independent research	Participation in online activities; research proposal; essays
	(b) Transferable skills		
	Research skills		
MA	Design appropriate research questions; develop research proposal; discuss the ethical implications of research; recognise and create effective literature reviews. Conceive and produce an independent research-based dissertation.	Formative study/research skills modules (1-4); dissertation supervision; directed reading	Research skills module e-tivities; dissertation outline; literature review; dissertation
PGDip	Design appropriate research questions; develop research proposal; discuss the ethical implications of research; recognise and create effective literature reviews.	Formative study/research skills modules (1-3); directed reading	Research skills module e-tivities; research design outline; literature review
PGCert	Design appropriate research questions; develop research proposal; discuss the ethical implications of research	Formative study/research skills modules (1 & 2); directed reading	Research skills module e-tivities; research design outline
	Communication skills		
MA	Summarise, explain and analyse complex material, and formulate and present critical discussions and independent appraisals orally and in writing, including in an extended research-based dissertation	Guided private study; essay commentary/feedback; electronic seminar/forum; and independent research	Essay plans; dissertation outline; essays; dissertation; participation in on-line activities

	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	Guided private study; essay commentary/feedback; electronic seminar/forum; and independent research	Essay plans; dissertation outline; essays; participation in on-line activities
PGCert	Summarise and explain complex material, and formulate and present discussions and appraisals orally and in writing	Guided private study; essay commentary/feedback; electronic seminar/forum; and independent research	Essay plans; dissertation outline; essays; participation in on-line activities
Data presentation			
MA	Synthesise research data into coherent and sustained arguments using appropriate IT resources	Online resource-based learning; electronic seminar/forum; independent research	Essays; dissertation
PGDip	Synthesise research data into coherent and sustained arguments using appropriate IT resources	Online resource-based learning; electronic seminar/forum; independent research	Essays
PGCert	Present research data using appropriate IT resources	Online resource-based learning; electronic seminar/forum; independent research	Essays
Information technology			
MA	Confidently and effectively retrieve, utilise and present information using appropriate information technology, for example, bibliographic software, data archives, data analysis software	Induction; online resource-based learning; e-tivities	Use of Blackboard and participation in on-line activities; essays; dissertation
PGDip	Retrieve, utilise and present information using appropriate information technology, for example, bibliographic software, data archives	Induction; online resource-based learning; e-tivities	Use of Blackboard and participation in on-line activities; essays
PGCert	Retrieve and present information using appropriate information technology, for example, bibliographic software, data archives	Induction; online resource-based learning; e-tivities	Use of Blackboard and participation in on-line activities; essays
Problem solving			
MA	Identify, investigate, analyse, formulate and advocate solutions to problems	Guided private study; online resource-based learning; electronic seminar/forum	Essays; dissertation; participation in on-line activities
PGDip	Identify, investigate, analyse, formulate and advocate solutions to problems	Guided private study; online resource-based learning; electronic seminar/forum	Essays; participation in on-line activities
PGCert	Identify and analyse relevant problems and select between appropriate responses	Guided private study; online resource-based learning; electronic seminar/forum	Essays; participation in on-line activities
Working relationships			
MA	Collaborate confidently and 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	Electronic seminar/forum; dissertation supervision	Participation in on-line activities: message boards and Wikis
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	Electronic seminar/forum	Participation in on-line activities: message boards and Wikis

	Intended Learning Outcomes	**Teaching and Learning Methods**	**How Demonstrated?**
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	Electronic seminar/forum	Participation in on-line activities: message boards and Wikis
Managing learning			
MA	Develop and implement personal plan of work to meet a deadline Work independently and in groups towards the completion of a range of tasks	Non-core module e-tivities; guided independent study; personal tutor system; dissertation supervision	Participation in online activities; essays; dissertation; Personal Development Planning
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	Non-core module e-tivities; guided independent study; personal tutor system	Participation in online activities; essays; Personal Development Planning
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	Non-core module e-tivities; guided independent study; personal tutor system	Participation in online activities; essays; Personal Development Planning
Career management			
MA	Take charge of one's own progress and development Reflect on one's strengths, interests, motivations and skills; recognise one's achievements	Non-core module e-tivities; personal tutor system; PDP training (on-line)	Participation in online activities; Personal Development Planning
PGDip	Take charge of one's own progress and development Reflect on one's strengths, interests, motivations and skills; recognise one's achievements	Non-core module e-tivities; personal tutor system; PDP training (on-line)	Participation in online activities; Personal Development Planning
PGCert	Take charge of one's own progress and development Reflect on one's strengths, interests, motivations and skills; recognise one's achievements	Non-core module e-tivities; personal tutor system; PDP training (on-line)	Participation in online activities; Personal Development Planning

10. Special features:

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

11. Indications of programme quality:

- Number one politics department in the 2009 and 2010 National Student Surveys;
- Considerable departmental experience in e-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/general-regulations-for-taught-programmes

13. Progression points

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study

Board of Examiners in February and August will confirm that students have satisfactorily completed the requirements to progress to the dissertation.

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

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study

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)

For the award of MA, students must complete four 30 credit taught modules and a 12-15,000 word dissertation worth 60 credits. For the exit award of Postgraduate Diploma students must complete four 30 credit taught modules, and for the exit award of Postgraduate Certificate, two 30 credit taught modules.

Module Code	Module Name	Core or Optional	Credits
PL7589	The Politics of Human Rights	C	30
PL7503	MA Dissertation	C	60
PL7500	American Interventionism after the Cold War	O	30
PL7501	Democracy & Legitimacy in the European Union	O	30
PL7502	Diplomatic Systems	O	30
PL7504	Intelligence & Security	O	30
PL7505	International Security	O	30
PL7508	Post Cold War World Order	O	30
PL7509	The Art of Negotiation	O	30
PL7515	Theories of International Relations	O	30
PL7521	The International Politics of Protection	O	30
PL7587	EU Enlargement and Democratic Consolidation in Post-Communist Europe	O	30
PL7591	Strategy in the Modern World	O	30
PL7593	Governance and Corruption	O	30
PL7594	The Politics of European Integration	O	30
PL7595	Euroscepticism	O	30
PL7530	The Politics of Conflict and Violence	O	30
PL7531	Gender in Global Perspective	O	30
PL7532	The Transformation of Modern Warfare	O	30
PL7533	The Politics of Global Nuclear Order	O	30
PL7534	The Politics of Violent Conflict and its Legacies in Northern Ireland	O	30
PL7596	Europe as a Global Actor	O	30
PL7597	Political Economy of International Development	O	30

Appendix 2: Module Specifications

See module specification database http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation