

# Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

For students entering in 2018/19

Date amended: December 2016

# 1. Programme Title(s):

MA in International Security Studies
Postgraduate Diploma/Postgraduate Certificate in International Security Studies \*

## 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 overall aim of the programme is to provide a comprehensive understanding of key issues in international security, focusing on developments since the end of the Cold War.

The programme also aims to:

- Achieve a balance between breadth and depth of study in contemporary international security by providing students with a coherent mixture of theoretical and empirical study.
- Provide students with competencies and skills to understand contemporary international security problems and to be able to analyse international security problems using a mix of theoretical and empirical tools.

## 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

<sup>\*</sup>approved as exit awards only

- University of Leicester Learning Strategy: http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/quality/learnteach
- o University Employability Strategy
- o Periodic Developmental Review Reports (February 2014)

# 9. Programme Outcomes:

	Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?		
	(a) Sub	ject and Professional skills			
	Knowledge				
MA	Recognise, describe and discuss a wide range of important themes and issues in international security and its cognate field, international relations	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 themes and issues in international security and its cognate field, international relations	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 in post-Cold War international relations	Guided private study; directed reading; electronic seminar/forum; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; research proposal; essays		
	Concepts				
MA	Explain and assess the nature and significance of international security.  Discuss, analyse and appraise a wide range of relevant theories and concepts, and relate and apply these to security	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	policy analysis  Explain and assess the nature and significance of international security.  Discuss, analyse and appraise major theories and concepts, and relate these to security policy analysis	Guided private study; directed reading; electronic seminar/forum; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; literature review; research proposal; essays		
PGCert	Explain and assess the nature and significance of international security.  Explain and assess key concepts and theories, and relate these to security policy analysis	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 key theories and concepts, research methods, and learnt skills in referencing and appropriate written and verbal communication	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	Confidently apply key theories and concepts and learnt skills in referencing and appropriate written and verbal communication	Guided private study; directed reading; electronic seminar/forum; essay commentary/feedback; and independent research	Participation in online activities; literature review; research proposal; essays		

	Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning	How Demonstrated?	
		Methods		
PGCert	Apply key theories and concepts and	Guided private study; directed	Participation in online	
	learnt skills in referencing and	reading; electronic	activities; research proposal;	
	appropriate written and verbal	seminar/forum; essay	essays	
	communication	commentary/feedback; and		
		independent research		
		Critical analysis	D. Historia di A. P.	
MA	Analyse relevant concepts and practices	Guided private study; essay	Participation in online	
	with independence and rigour, including in an extended research-	commentary/feedback; and independent research	activities; literature review; research proposal; essays;	
	based dissertation	independent research	dissertation	
PGDip	Analyse relevant concepts and practices	Guided private study; essay	Participation in online	
ГОБІР	with independence and rigour	commentary/feedback; and	activities; literature review;	
	with independence and rigodi	independent research	research proposal; essays	
PGCert	Independently analyse relevant	Guided private study; essay	Participation in online	
	concepts and practices	commentary/feedback; and	activities; research proposal;	
		independent research	essays	
		Presentation	•	
MA	Organise and present research material	Guided private study; essay	Essay plans; dissertation	
	in a range of formats, including an	commentary/feedback; and	outline; essays; dissertation	
	extended research-based dissertation;	independent research		
	develop arguments drawing on relevant			
	material; write-up and deliver written			
	work to a professional standard			
PGDip	Organise and present research material	Guided private study; essay	Essay plans; dissertation	
	in a range of formats; develop	commentary/feedback; and	outline; essays	
	arguments drawing on relevant	independent research		
	material; write-up and deliver written work to a professional standard			
PGCert	Organise and present relevant material;	Guided private study; essay	Essay plans; dissertation	
. 000.0	develop arguments drawing on material	commentary/feedback; and	outline; essays	
	read; write-up and deliver written work	independent research	oute, cosuye	
	to a professional standard			
		Appraisal of evidence		
MA	Confidently and persuasively assess the	Guided private study;	Participation in online	
IVIA	relevance and evaluate the quality of a	independent research	activities; literature review;	
	range of primary sources and secondary		research proposal; essays;	
	literature.		dissertation	
PGDip	Confidently and persuasively assess the	Guided private study;	Participation in online	
	relevance and evaluate the quality of a	independent research	activities; literature review;	
	range of primary sources and secondary		research proposal; essays	
DCCt	literature.	Cuided and and ask ask ask	Doublein skip a in a pline	
PGCert	Appraise the relevance and quality of a range of appropriate sources	Guided private study;	Participation in online	
	range of appropriate sources	independent research	activities; research proposal; essays	
		h \ Turus of a mula la alcilla	essays	
		b) Transferable skills		
NAA	Design appropriate research questions;	Research skills Formative study/research skills	Research skills module e-	
MA	develop research proposal; discuss the	modules (1-4); dissertation	tivities; dissertation outline;	
	ethical implications of research;	supervision; directed reading	literature review;	
	recognise and create effective literature	Supervision, un ecteu reduing	dissertation	
	reviews. Conceive and produce an		aissertation	
	independent research-based			
	dissertation.			

PGCert Design develoe ethical recogn review  PGCert Design develoe ethical  MA Summon comple present independent independent person independent indepe	arappropriate research questions; op research proposal; discuss the limplications of research  arise, explain and analyse ex material, and formulate and of critical discussions and endent appraisals orally and in g, including in an extended ch-based dissertation arise, explain and analyse ex material, and formulate and of critical discussions and endent appraisals orally and in	Formative study/research skills modules (1-3); directed reading  Formative study/research skills modules (1 & 2); directed reading  Communication skills  Guided private study; essay commentary/feedback; electronic seminar/forum; and independent research  Guided private study; essay commentary/feedback; electronic seminar/forum; and independent research  Guided private study; essay commentary/feedback; electronic seminar/forum; and independent research	Research skills module etivities; research design outline; literature review  Research skills module etivities; research design outline  Essay plans; dissertation outline; essays; dissertation; participation in on-line activities  Essay plans; dissertation outline; essays; participation in on-line activities  Essay plans; dissertation outline; essays; participation in on-line activities		
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PGDip Synthe and su approp PGCert Present	esise research data into coherent	Online resource-based learning;	Essays; dissertation		
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approp PGCert Presen	esise research data into coherent	Online resource-based learning;	Essays		
PGCert Presen	istained arguments using	electronic seminar/forum;			
	priate IT resources It research data using	independent research Online resource-based learning;	Essays		
арргој	priate IT resources	electronic seminar/forum;	Losays		
	priate ii resources	independent research			
	Information technology				
	lently and effectively retrieve,	Induction; online resource-	Use of Blackboard and		
	and present information using	based learning; e-tivities	participation in on-line		
	priate information technology, for		activities; essays;		
	ble, bibliographic software, data		dissertation		
	es, data analysis software				
-	ve, utilise and present	Induction; online resource-	Use of Blackboard and		
	nation using appropriate	based learning; e-tivities	participation in on-line		
	nation technology, for example, graphic software, data archives		activities; essays		
	ve and present information using	Induction; online resource-	Use of Blackboard and		
	priate information technology, for	based learning; e-tivities	participation in on-line		
	priace initial industrial techniquesy, tol	added rearring, e tivities	activities; essays		
archive	le, bibliographic software, data				
	ole, bibliographic software, data es	Problem solving			
	es		1		
and ad	es fy, investigate, analyse, formulate	Guided private study; online	Essays; dissertation;		
2001	es	Guided private study; online resource-based learning;	participation in on-line		
-	fy, investigate, analyse, formulate dvocate solutions to problems	Guided private study; online resource-based learning; electronic seminar/forum	participation in on-line activities		
and ad	es fy, investigate, analyse, formulate	Guided private study; online resource-based learning;	participation in on-line		

	Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning	How Demonstrated?
		Methods	
PGCert	Identify and analyse relevant problems	Guided private study; online	Essays; participation in on-
	and select between appropriate responses	resource-based learning; electronic seminar/forum	line activities
	responses	Working relationships	
MA	Collaborate confidently and effectively	Electronic seminar/forum;	Participation in on-line
	as part of a team. Identify appropriate	dissertation supervision	activities: message boards
	opportunities for drawing on the		and Wikis
	knowledge and expertise of others;		
	contribute and comment on ideas in learning groups		
PGDip	Collaborate effectively as part of a	Electronic seminar/forum	Participation in on-line
, 05.p	team. Identify appropriate	Electronic seminar, for an	activities: message boards
	opportunities for drawing on the		and Wikis
	knowledge and expertise of others;		
	contribute and comment on ideas in		
PGCert	learning groups  Collaborate as part of a team. Identify	Electronic seminar/forum	Participation in on-line
, 55616	appropriate opportunities for drawing	Licetionic Schmary for ann	activities: message boards
	on the knowledge and expertise of		and Wikis
	others; contribute and comment on		
	ideas in learning groups		
N 4 A	Daviden and implement negocial plan	Managing learning	Douticipation in online
MA	Develop and implement personal plan of work to meet a deadline	Non-core module e-tivities; guided independent study;	Participation in online activities; essays;
	of work to meet a acadime	personal tutor system;	dissertation; Personal
	Work independently and in groups	dissertation supervision	Development Planning
	towards the completion of a range of		
DCD:-	tasks	Nan ann an airte a tiritian	Dankisination in online
PGDip	Develop and implement personal plan of work to meet a deadline	Non-core module e-tivities; guided independent study;	Participation in online activities; essays; Personal
	or work to meet a deadine	personal tutor system	Development Planning
	Work independently and in groups		
	towards the completion of a range of		
PGCert	tasks  Develop and implement personal plan	Non-core module e-tivities;	Participation in online
rdcert	of work to meet a deadline	guided independent study;	activities; essays; Personal
	of Work to meet a deadmic	personal tutor system	Development Planning
	Work independently and in groups		
	towards the completion of a range of		
	tasks	Cavacy management	
MA	Take charge of one's own progress and	Career management Non-core module e-tivities;	Participation in online
IVIA	development	personal tutor system; PDP	activities; Personal
		training (on-line)	Development Planning
	Reflect on one's strengths, interests,		
	motivations and skills; recognise one's		
PGDip	achievements  Take charge of one's own progress and	Non-core module e-tivities;	Participation in online
1 GDIb	development	personal tutor system; PDP	activities; Personal
		training (on-line)	Development Planning
	Reflect on one's strengths, interests,		
	motivations and skills; recognise one's		
PGCert	achievements  Take charge of one's own progress and	Non-core module e-tivities;	Participation in online
rocert	development	personal tutor system; PDP	activities; Personal
		training (on-line)	Development Planning
	Reflect on one's strengths, interests,		
	motivations and skills; recognise one's		
	achievements		

## 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 <a href="http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/regulations/general-regulations-for-taught-programmes">http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/regulations/general-regulations-for-taught-programmes</a>

## 13. Progression points

As defined in <u>Senate Regulation 6</u>: <u>Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study</u>

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 <u>Senate Regulation 6</u>: <u>Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of</u> 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 <a href="here">here</a>.

# **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
PL7505	International Security	С	30
PL7503	MA Dissertation	С	60
PL7501	Democracy & Legitimacy in the European Union	0	30
PL7502	Diplomatic Systems	0	30
PL7500	American Interventionism after the Cold War	0	30
PL7504	Intelligence & Security	0	30
PL7508	Post Cold War World Order	0	30
PL7509	The Art of Negotiation	0	30
PL7515	Theories of International Relations	0	30
PL7521	The International Politics of Protection	0	30
PL7587	EU Enlargement and Democratic	0	30
	Consolidation in Post-Communist Europe		
PL7589	The Politics of Human Rights	0	30
PL7591	Strategy in the Modern World	0	30
PL7593	Governance and Corruption	0	30
PL7594	The Politics of European Integration	0	30
PL7595	Euroscepticism	0	30
PL7530	The Politics of Conflict and Violence	0	30
PL7531	Gender in Global Perspective	0	30
PL7532	The Transformation of Modern Warfare	0	30
PL7533	The Politics of Global Nuclear Order	0	30
PL7534	The Politics of Violent Conflict and its Legacies	0	30
	in Northern Ireland		
PL7596	Europe as a Global Actor	0	30
PL7597	Political Economy of International Development	0	30

# **Appendix 2: Module Specifications**

See module specification database <a href="http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation">http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation</a>