

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

### KEY FACTS

Programme name	International Politics
Award	BSc (Hons)
School	School of Policy & Global Affairs
Department or equivalent	Department of International Politics
UCAS Code	L240
Programme code	USIPOL
Type of study	Full Time
Total UK credits	360
Total ECTS	180

### PROGRAMME SUMMARY

#### Aims

- To provide you with a high quality, challenging education in International Politics, focusing on the extent to which there are global political systems, engaged in policy-making on contemporary issues and related to politics at the country level.
- To provide you with understanding of political globalisation through the development of transnational and transgovernmental relations and on the way these relations are structured through international organisations.
- To introduce you to important theoretical debates, in the study of International Politics.
- To provide you with an up-to-date curriculum reflecting rapid political change in the contemporary world.
- To enable you to develop your analytical capacities and the ability to examine and critically assess complex issues and debates.
- To enable you to develop a capacity and an enthusiasm for learning, in order to prepare you for a diverse range of careers, as well as for further study and life-long learning in a rapidly changing political and social world.
- Part One: Following successful completion of the first year or the Certificate of Higher Education in International Politics, you will be able to discuss underlying concepts and principles associated with the study of international politics and interpret these within the context of your practice.
- Part Two: When you have successfully completed the second year or the Diploma of Higher Education in International Politics you will have built on your previous knowledge and experience. You will have developed skills of enquiry in your subject and different approaches to problem-solving, you will also be able to identify the limitations of your knowledge.
- Part Three: Following successful completion of the third year or the degree you will have a coherent, systematic and detailed knowledge of the study of international politics. You will be able to develop techniques for practice drawing on research and scholarship demonstrating your role as a reflective practitioner.

## **WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?**

**On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to:**

### Knowledge and understanding:

- Apply key concepts and theoretical approaches within International Politics and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of these approaches in a wide range of different contexts (PIR-B1.1 key concepts, theories).
- Analyse how political actors mobilise support for their positions on global issues (PIR-B1.2 the vocabulary of political debate; political systems and behaviour).
- Understand and evaluate the role of governments, transnational actors, intergovernmental organisations and international non-governmental organisations in global politics (PIR-B1.2 political systems and behaviour).
- Analyse the different ways in which global social and political relationships affect, and are affected by, local and global, economic, cultural, religious and political differences (PIR-B1.2 the contexts of political behaviour; political change).
- Understand how different theoretical positions in International Politics tend to be associated with different substantive concepts, methodological positions, research strategies and research methods (PIR-B1.3 apply theories, concepts and methods).

### Skills:

- Distinguish empirical, normative and explanatory statements from each other, in writing on and discussion of international politics
- Read and describe accurately complex written materials.
- Analyse and interpret critically different kinds of research evidence (PIR-B2.1 deploy evidence).
- Communicate clearly in writing and in presentations. (PIR-B3.1 communicate effectively)
- Read political documents and use other sources of information, to interpret the intentions of political actors, the targets of their actions and the possible responses they will receive.
- Challenge received explanations of topics and controversies in social and political life (PIR-B2.3 exercise critical judgement; and PIR-B2.3 develop reasoned argument)
- Gather, retrieve and synthesise information from a number of different sources in order to understand the complexities of issues in social and political life (PIR-B2.1 collect information).
- Assess the value and relevance of the ideas of others, including evaluating complex arguments and the extent of their factual support. (PIR-B3.4 collaborate with others)

### Values and attitudes:

- Understand, respect and engage with those who do not share your own political values.
- Produce written materials that indicate in a precise and honest manner what is your own work and what is attributable to others.

- Demonstrate a habit of reflection and independent study, the capacity to identify and question your own assumptions, to work with rigour and consistency, and appreciate the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge.

This programme has been developed in accordance with the QAA Subject Benchmark for Politics and International Relations.

## **HOW WILL I LEARN?**

The educational aims are achieved through a combination of lectures, interactive sessions, practical workshops and small group classes, supported by a personal tutorial system. Lectures are used to provide commentary on and explanation of key content areas. Small group classes are used to develop understanding by inviting students to raise questions and participate in the debate and by providing guidance for further study.

You are required to undertake extensive reading and independent study in order to understand the topics covered in lectures and classes and to broaden and deepen your knowledge.

## **WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?**

### Assessment and Assessment Criteria

Assessment is by coursework (assessed essays and assignments), unseen examinations and the final year project. For the third year project, you will receive supervision and the opportunity to develop research methods and writing skills.

Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on the intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured. Grade-Related Criteria are descriptions of the level of skills, knowledge or attributes that you need to demonstrate in order to achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment, providing a mechanism by which the quality of an assessment can be measured and placed within the overall set of marks. Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria will be made available to you to support you in completing assessments. These may be provided in programme handbooks, module specifications, on the virtual learning environment or attached to a specific assessment task.

### Feedback on assessment

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. In particular, you will normally be provided with feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. This would normally include a provisional grade or mark. For end of module examinations or an equivalent significant task (e.g. an end of module project), feedback will normally be provided within four weeks. The

timescale for feedback on final year projects or dissertations may be longer. The full policy can be found at:

[https://www.city.ac.uk/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0009/452565/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy...pdf](https://www.city.ac.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0009/452565/Assessment-and-Feedback-Policy...pdf)

### Assessment Regulations

In order to pass your Programme, you should complete successfully or be exempted from the relevant modules and assessments and will therefore acquire the required number of credits. You also need to pass each Part of your Programme in order to progress to the following Part.

For how each Part of your programme is weighted, please see 'What Award Can I Get?' below.

The Pass mark for each module is 40%.

If you fail an assessment component or a module, the following will apply:

1. Compensation: where you fail up to 30 credits or one sixth of the total credits within a Programme Stage, whichever is greater, you may be allowed compensation if:
  - Compensation is permitted for the module involved (see the What will I Study section of the programme specification), and
  - It can be demonstrated that you have satisfied all the Learning Outcomes of the modules in the Programme Stage, and
  - A minimum overall mark of no more than 10% below the module pass mark has been achieved in the module to be compensated, and
  - An aggregate mark of 40% has been achieved for the Programme Stage, and
  - The total volume of credits compensated over the entire degree does not exceed 45 credits.

Where you are eligible for compensation at the first attempt, this will be applied in the first instance rather than offering a resit opportunity.

If you receive a compensated pass in a module you will be awarded the credit for that module. The original component marks will be retained in the record of marks and your original module mark will be used for the purpose of your Award calculation.

2. Resit: you will normally be offered one resit attempt. However, if you did not participate in the first assessment and have no extenuating circumstances, you may not be offered a resit.

If you are successful in the resit, you shall be awarded the credit for that module. The mark used for the purpose of calculation towards your Award shall be calculated from the original marks for the component(s) that you passed at first attempt and the minimum pass mark for the component(s) for which you took a resit.

If you do not satisfy your resit by the date specified you will not progress to the next Part and the Assessment Board shall require that you withdraw from the Programme.

If you fail to meet the requirements for a particular Part, but satisfy the requirements for the previous Part, then a lower qualification may be awarded as per the table below. If you fail to meet the requirements for a particular Part and are not eligible for the award of a lower level qualification, the Assessment Board shall require that you withdraw from the Programme.

If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at City, please see the full version of the Assessment Regulations at:  
[http://www.city.ac.uk/data/assets/word\\_doc/0003/69249/s19.doc](http://www.city.ac.uk/data/assets/word_doc/0003/69249/s19.doc)

## WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

### Bachelor's Degree with Honours:

Part	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
1	4	120	10
2	5	120	30
3	6	120	60

Class	% required
I	70
II upper division	60
II lower division	50
III	40

### Ordinary Degree:

Part	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
1	4	120	10
2	5	120	30
3	6	60	60

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	60
With Pass	40

### Diploma of Higher Education:

Part	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
1	4	120	35
2	5	120	65

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	60
With Pass	40

### Certificate of Higher Education:

Part	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
1	4	120	100

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	60
With Pass	40

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?\*

### Part 1

Level 4 (120 credits): Eight core modules worth 15 credits each which cover the key topics for the degree on theory, global power and issues, study skills, and data analysis.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Can be compensated?	Level
Introduction to Political and Economic Data Analysis	IP1041	15	C	Y	4
Studying Politics	IP1040	15	C	Y	4
Myths and Mysteries in World Politics	IP1014	15	C	Y	4
International Relations Theories	IP1015	15	C	Y	4
Politics and Power in World History	IP1018	15	C	Y	4
Emerging Powers in a Changing World	IP1019	15	C	Y	4
Puzzles in Comparative Politics	IP1031	15	C	Y	4
Introduction to Political Theory	IP1032	15	C	Y	4

### Part 2

Level 5 (120 credits): Two core modules worth 15 credits:

- IP2020 Advanced Theories of Global Politics
- IP2052 Practical Politics

At least sixty credits must come from the following core electives (marked CE below):

- IP2024 Security Studies: Conceptual Approaches
- IP2025 Security Studies: Contemporary and Emerging Issues
- IP2026 Foreign Policy Analysis: Theory and Issues
- IP2027 Foreign Policy Analysis: Instruments and Practice
- IP2028 Religion and Politics in the Age of Global Change
- IP2019 Transnational Social Movements

The remaining 30 credits are chosen from a list of International Politics electives, as well as from other departments.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
<b>International Politics Modules</b>					
Transnational Social Movements	IP2019	15	CE	Y	5
Advanced Theories of Global Politics	IP2020	15	C	Y	5
States and Markets in the Era of Globalization	IP2022	15	E	Y	5
Security Studies: Conceptual Approaches	IP2024	15	CE	Y	5
Security Studies: Contemporary and Emerging Issues	IP2025	15	CE	Y	5
Foreign Policy Analysis : Theories and Issues	IP2026	15	CE	Y	5
Foreign Policy Analysis: Instruments and Practice	IP2027	15	CE	Y	5
Religion and Politics in the Age of Global Change	IP2028	15	CE	Y	5
Comparative Political Economy	IP2031	15	E	Y	5
Advanced Topics in Comparative Politics	IP2033	15	E	Y	5
Politics of the USA	IP2036	15	E	Y	5
Comparative Asian Politics	IP2037	15	E	Y	5
Analysing Political and Economic Data in the Real World	IP2038	15	E	Y	5
Advanced Principles of Economics: Financial Markets and Corporate Systems	IP2039	15	E	Y	5
Political Psychology: Reason & Emotion in Politics	IP2042	15	E	Y	5

Theories of International Political Economy	IP2051	15	E	Y	5
Authoritarianism and Democracy in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	IP2053	15	E	Y	5
The Global Political Economy of Development	IP2054	15	E	Y	5
Practical Politics	IP2052	15	C	Y	5
<b>History Modules</b>					
Fifty Shades of Red – Russia in the Twentieth Century	HI2003	15	E	Y	5
The American Century: The United States in the Twentieth Century	HI2006	15	E	Y	5
The Making of Modern South Asia	HI2011	15	E	Y	5
Slavery, Colonialism and Revolution in the Caribbean	HI2012	15	E	Y	5
<b>Sociology Modules</b>					
New Media Challenges	SG2016	15	E	Y	5
Understanding Social Change	SG2021	15	E	Y	5
Contemporary Social Theory	SG2028	15	E	Y	5
Sociology of Race and Racism	SG2030	15	E	Y	5
<b>Journalism Modules</b>					
Humanitarian Reporting	JO2206	15	E	Y	5
<b>Micro-Placements†</b>	PO2000	15	E	Y	5
<p>†Completing the Micro-Placements module at Level 5 (PO2000) will preclude you from having the option to take the Micro-Placements module at Level 6 (PO3000).</p> <p><b>Language modules</b> (only one of the following language modules can be chosen during Y2)</p>					
Any Language breadth module at	LA1XXX	15	E	Y	4



level 1 (beginner level)					
Any Language for specific purposes module at level 1 (beginner level)	LA1XXX	15	E	Y	4
Any Language breadth module at Level 2 (intermediate level)	LA2XXX	15	E	Y	5
Any Language for specific purposes module at Level 2 (intermediate level)	LA2XXX	15	E	Y	5
Any Language breadth module at Level 3 (upper intermediate level or higher)	LA3XXX	15	E	Y	5
Any Language for specific purposes module at Level 3 (upper intermediate level or higher)	LA3XXX	15	E	Y	5

Language for Specific Purposes: The language is taught in the context of your main subject in Media/Journalism/Social Sciences.

*French, German, Spanish, Russian are studied in this format.*

Language Breadth Modules: The language is taught for general purposes.

*Arabic and Mandarin are studied in this format*

### **Part 3**

Level 6 (120 credits): The Third Year has a core module, which is an independent Project worth 45 credits. The remaining 75 credits are chosen from a variety of elective modules in International Politics (ELT1). You may choose up to 30 credits from outside the International Politics Department.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Can be compensated?	Level
<b>International Politics</b>					
The Global Politics of Forced Migration	IP3013	15	E	Y	6

Final Year Dissertation Project	IP3017	45	C	N	6
Advanced Topics in International Political Economy'	IP3016	15	E	Y	6
Global Governance	IP3018	15	E	Y	6
American Foreign Policy	IP3020	15	E	Y	6
Political Change in Europe	IP3022	15	E	Y	6
Global Money and Finance	IP3024	15	E	Y	6
Global Ethics: Power and Principle in World Politics	IP3025	15	E	Y	6
The Theory and Practice of Conflict and Peace	IP3027	15	E	Y	6
Political Economy of Global Inequality	IP3034	15	E	Y	6
The Multinational Corporation: Governance, Politics and Ethics	IP3041	15	E	Y	6
Global Health Policy	IP3046	15	E	Y	6
<b>History</b>					
Radicals and Reformers: Left-Wing Politics and Activism in Britain and the World since 1945	HI3003	15	E	Y	6
Revolution: Rebels and Riots in Modern History	HI3004	15	E	Y	6
Comparative Empires in the Modern Era	HI3005	15	E	Y	6
Genocide and the Holocaust in History and Memory	HI3006	15	E	Y	6
<b>Sociology</b>					
Poverty: What Counts?	SG3074	15	E	Y	6
Global Migration Processes	SG3041	15	E	Y	6
<b>Journalism</b>					
Reporting Conflict	JO3409	15	E	Y	6
Reporting Business	JO3241	15	E	Y	6
<b>Micro-Placements</b>	PO3000	15	E	Y	6
<b>Industry Projects</b>	PO3100	15	E	Y	6
<b>Integrated Professional Training</b>	PO3300	15	E	Y	6

<b>Language modules</b> (only one of the following language modules can be chosen during Y3)					
Any Language breadth module at Level 2 (intermediate level)	LA2XXX	15	E	Y	5
Any Language for specific purposes module at Level 2 (intermediate level)	LA2XXX	15	E	Y	5
Any Language breadth module at Level 3 (upper intermediate level or higher)	LA3XXX	15	E	Y	5
Any Language for specific purposes module at Level 3 (upper intermediate level or higher)	LA3XXX	15	E	Y	5
Any Language for specific purposes module at Level 4 (advanced)	LA4XXX	15	E	Y	6
Foreign Language for Media (Advanced – Portfolio)	LA3500	15	E	Y	6
<p><u>Language for Specific Purposes:</u> The language is taught in the context of your main subject in Media/Journalism/Social Sciences.  <i>French, German, Spanish, Russian are studied in this format.</i></p> <p><u>Language Breadth Modules:</u> The language is taught for general purposes.  <i>Arabic and Mandarin are studied in this format.</i></p> <p><i>*Please note that this is an indicative list. These modules are subject to change depending on staff availability, student demand and some are offered on a biennial basis. There is no guarantee that every elective module listed above will run.</i></p>					

#### **TO WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON?**

If you would like more information on the Careers support available at City, please go to: <http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates>.

#### **WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?**

As an Undergraduate student you can undertake a period of study abroad whilst completing the programme. This is possible through the SPGA Exchange Programme, a year of study at one of our European and/or international partner universities via

a sandwich year, which is undertaken between completing Programme Stage 2 and entering Programme Stage 3, extending the degree to four years.

The resulting degree title awarded would be: BSc International Politics with Study Abroad.

Participation in the SPGA Exchange Programme is through an application process. You are encouraged to investigate the opportunities available to you within your Department in your first year at City.

Information and support for this programme is provided by the SPGA Exchanges Team ([SPGA-SCC-outgoing@city.ac.uk](mailto:SPGA-SCC-outgoing@city.ac.uk)).

### **WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?**

As an Undergraduate student you can undertake a one year work placement whilst completing the programme. This is possible through joining the Integrated Professional Training Programme, which is a sandwich year that is taken between completing Programme Stage 2 and entering Programme Stage 3, extending the degree to four years.

The resulting degree title awarded would be: BSc International Politics with Integrated Professional Training.

In identifying relevant placement opportunities you should consider your long-term plans for employment; whether the work placement proposed is relevant to final year modules; whether it might provide experience on which a project could be based.

Information and support for this programme is provided by the SPGA Placements Team ([SPGA-Placements@city.ac.uk](mailto:SPGA-Placements@city.ac.uk)).

- 1) You should discuss your plans with the relevant Department Placement Officer at the earliest opportunity, preferably during the autumn term of their second year.
- 2) The work placement must extend over a minimum of 9 months and a maximum of 12 months (including holidays allowed by the employing body). The Placement should normally run between the 1st September and the 31st August in the following year.
- 3) The placement must be approved by City as providing suitable supervision and training.
- 4) Participant students are required to pay an administrative charge to cover the School's costs associated with the work placement. This will be in the form of a reduced tuition fee for the placement year, which will cover continued enrolment with City and access to all of its facilities.

### **HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?**

### **Entry Requirements**

- **'A' Level:** Grades BBB or 120 UCAS tariff points
- **GCSE:** Minimum Grade 4 (C) in GCSE English and Mathematics.
- **IB:** 30 points including 5,5,5 from three Higher Level subjects (no specific subjects required).

Other UK qualifications:

- BTEC National Diploma (DDM required)
- Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subjects
- Advanced Diploma (plus appropriate A Levels)
- Scottish Advanced Highers
- Welsh Diploma (plus appropriate A Levels)

### **International Qualifications**

We accept a wide range of international qualifications for direct entry to our programmes.

### **English Language Requirements**

- IELTS 6.5 overall with a minimum of 6.0 in each component
- PTE Academic: 58 overall with a minimum of 51 in each component

### **Second-year transfers**

We accept students transferring from other universities for second year entry on a case-by case basis. If you wish to apply for second-year entry please be aware that you must:

- Currently be studying on a course in an equivalent subject area.
- Have achieved grades equal to the entry requirements for first-year entry (A Levels, international qualifications, foundation years, access courses, etc).
- Have covered sufficiently similar content to that of our first year students.
- Be gaining or have gained at least a 2:1 in every module in your current first year. You must provide official documentation of this as evidence (e.g. university transcript).

If you feel you meet these requirements then please apply through UCAS as early as possible (transfer students normally apply when their first semester exam results are published) and we can then assess your eligibility. Please be aware you will need to select your 'point of entry' as year two.

Please note: For direct second-year entrants the overall degree classification will be based on the marks obtained at City, University of London only, with the weighting of 33/67 between the second and third year. Marks previously obtained will not be used in the degree classification.

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