

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

KEY FACTS

Programme name	MA in Diplomacy and Foreign Policy
Award	MA
School	School of Policy & Global Affairs
Department or equivalent	Department of International Politics
Programme code	PSDIPF
Type of study	Full Time / Part Time
Total UK credits	180
Total ECTS	90

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Diplomacy and foreign policy are central features of international politics. They capture our imagination and their conduct affects our lives through their impact on war, peace, the global economy, human rights, international law, global institutions, and the norms that govern relations between states. The MA in Diplomacy and Foreign Policy provides you with an opportunity to examine and critically evaluate issues of contemporary international politics, with a particular emphasis on the political, economic, and decisional dynamics underpinning foreign policy and diplomacy. The module incorporates a significant practical element, whilst being firmly grounded within contemporary academic debates. This training develops several practical skills associated with roles in the diplomacy and foreign policy-making fields and the learning outcomes reflect this practice-oriented component, in conjunction with a formal academic training also offered in the degree. The MA covers various issues including theories of foreign policy formulation and implementation; economic diplomacy; the art of decision-making; the foreign policy of states in key regions; global conflict and security; human rights; the use (and misuse) of foreign policy tools such as economic aid, sanctions, coercive diplomacy and deterrence. As such, the MA will provide you with a rigorous theoretical and empirical training in the fields of diplomacy and foreign policy *and* expose you to the practical dimensions of decision-making via case studies and simulation.

There are three core modules in this degree programme (totalling 45 credits) which you will complement with a further 75 credits of elective modules. The three core modules are: Strategy, Diplomacy, and Decision-Making (IPM127); Foreign Policy Analysis (IPM115); and Economic Diplomacy (IPM114). The former is a 15 credit module which comprises the key practice-based training portion of the programme, providing students with experience of practical, scenario-based experience of crisis, negotiation and diplomatic abilities. The latter two 15 credit modules provide the more traditional, textually-based training necessary to hold a degree at Masters level in the field. You will also be required to write a dissertation. As part of this task you will be required to attend Dissertation-related workshops to provide you with the tools you will need to fulfil this very important part of the programme. For the elective modules you are free to choose from a wide range of other modules offered by the Department of International Politics, as well as from modules offered by other departments/centres where access to MA in Diplomacy and Foreign Policy students has been granted.

Aims

The MA in Diplomacy and Foreign Policy has the following aims:

- 1) You will engage in an advanced specialist education in the area of foreign policy, diplomacy, and decision-making.
- 2) You will develop practical and practice-oriented skills and abilities directly applicable to roles in diplomacy at the international level through training in simulation, scenario and case studies.
- 3) You will develop your analytical capacities, and your ability to examine and critically evaluate the role of foreign policy, diplomacy, and decision-making in relation to complex issues such as the capacity of states to meet their economic and political foreign policy goals; the role of foreign policy and diplomacy in global conflict; the relationship between human rights, foreign policy, and diplomacy; the evolution of international organizations as diplomatic and foreign policy forums.
- 4) You will engage in an advanced conceptualization of the challenges and opportunities entailed by foreign policy, diplomacy, and decision-making in the 21st century.
- 5) You will establish a good understanding of contemporary theoretical debates pertinent to the study of foreign policy, diplomacy, and decision-making.
- 6) You will understand the significance of risk and change in contemporary foreign policy and diplomacy.
- 7) You will critically assess complicated issues and debates concerning foreign policy and diplomacy of individual states in a cross national context.
- 8) You will develop your analytical capacities to critically evaluate the utility of foreign policy tools and diplomacy in the contemporary world.
- 9) To prepare you for a diverse range of careers, and to provide you with contextual knowledge that will facilitate life-long learning in a rapidly changing political and social world.

Postgraduate Certificate

Following successful completion of the Postgraduate Certificate in Diplomacy and Foreign Policy you will be able to examine the theories related to world affairs, synthesis and apply these to foreign policy issues in particular. You will have critical insight into problems related to foreign policy and diplomacy and be able to solve these using qualitative methodologies, and theories deriving from foreign policy analysis (FPA). You will also use a range of techniques to undertake your scholarly work.

Postgraduate Diploma

Following successful completion of the Postgraduate Diploma in Diplomacy and Foreign Policy in addition to the above you will explore knowledge related to how a plethora of actors in the international system conduct their foreign affairs from different perspectives to broaden your expertise and skills. You will also evaluate critically current evidence in diplomacy and foreign policy, and provide appropriate critiques of knowledge and techniques in foreign policy analysis, economic diplomacy, and practical decision-making scenarios.

MA /MSc

Following successful completion of the MA in Diplomacy and Foreign Policy you will be able to demonstrate original application of knowledge to the political, economic, and decisional aspects underpinning diplomacy and foreign policy, and in choice of approaches to practice. You will be equipped to perform a range of practical skills relevant

to the diplomacy and foreign policy-making spheres. You will be engaged in research or scholarly activity that contributes new views to the study of foreign policy, diplomacy, and international politics more broadly.

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 advanced concepts and theoretical approaches within foreign policy, diplomacy, and decision-making, and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of these approaches in a wide range of different competing contexts;
- Analyse and articulate the means and processes through which states, international organizations, and territorial non-state actors mobilize support and resources in pursuit of milieu and possessional foreign policy goals;
- Analyse to an advanced level the complex and changing roles of governments, transnational actors, intergovernmental organizations, international non-governmental organizations, economic players, and human rights in the context of contemporary foreign policy and diplomacy;
- Understand how different theoretical positions in foreign policy and diplomacy tend to be associated with different substantive concepts, methodological positions, research strategies, research methods and underlying philosophical positions;
- Evaluate to an advanced level the interrelationships between evidence and theory in a wide range of different contexts, and relate them to foreign policy events and diplomacy.

Skills:

- Incorporate, analyse and articulate complex political ideas;
- Analyse and interpret critically different kinds of research evidence to an advanced level;
- Challenge perceived explanations of topics and controversies in international politics, with special reference to foreign policy and diplomacy;
- Take positions in simulated exercises and understand a range of prevailing diplomatic skills and approaches;
- Gather, retrieve and synthesize information from a number of different primary and secondary data sources in order to understand the complexities of the issues underpinning contemporary foreign policy and diplomacy ;
- Make judgements based on sound evidential and theoretical reasoning;
- Reflect on personal learning and make constructive use of feedback;
- Self critically manage personal learning;
- Distinguish among theoretical, empirical, and normative statements in writing about and discussing foreign policy and diplomacy;
- Define advanced abstract concepts used in the analysis of foreign policy and diplomacy, and utilise them with rigour and consistency;
- 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 to these actions;
- Position individual political events in the wider context of processes of political change;
- Read and describe with accuracy complex written materials;
- Communicate clearly in writing and in presentations;

- Study and reflect on ideas independently to develop self-reliance and confidence;
- Assess the value and relevance of the ideas of others;
- Evaluate complex arguments and the extent of their factual support;
- Use both primary and secondary data sources to construct complex research.

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.

HOW WILL I LEARN?

The education aims are achieved through a combination of lectures, case studies, and simulations of decision-making scenarios, class discussions/seminars, student presentations, analysing case studies, and methodology workshops. Teaching will be complemented by a personal tutor and supervision system, and a general lecture series delivered by professional academic and non-academic speakers. As MA student you are also invited to attend PhD workshops organised by doctoral students in the Department.

You are required to complete a dissertation that will be grounded in a specialised series of Dissertation workshops, where you will receive appropriate research training tailored to your dissertation in diplomacy and foreign policy.

You will be expected to undertake extensive reading and independent study in order to understand the topics covered in lectures and class discussions/seminars and to broaden and deepen your knowledge.

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessment and Assessment Criteria

In taught diplomacy and foreign policy modules you will be assessed on written coursework (100% of the module mark), with the exception of IPM127 (Strategy, Diplomacy and Decision-making) where - due to the module's more practical nature - the assessment will also include performance in class exercises. In addition, as a student in the diplomacy and foreign policy degree programme, you will have to complete a dissertation (60 credits or one-third of your overall mark). There are no exams at the MA level.

Elective modules opened to diplomacy and foreign policy students but offered by other Departments/Schools (as mentioned earlier) may have different sets of assessment requirements.

Coursework for diplomacy and foreign policy modules typically is a 3,000-word essay for 15 credit modules, or an equivalent type of written piece (such as a policy paper or a research proposal – again, the IPM127 exception applies) In this 15 credit core module, you will be assessed via a combination of written work, in the form of a policy paper, and by the successful completion of practical class work, in a combination of instructor and peer review of a series of diplomacy-training exercises and simulations. This practical

training is a primary learning outcome of this degree, equipping you with crucial key skills associated with a range of diplomatic policy roles.

Many MA modules contain not only summative (formally assessed) coursework, but also formative assessments. These may take the form of presentations, book reviews, article reviews, and critical reflections on a set of theories or short essays. As a general rule, these types of work will be due for submission at the end of the reflective learning weeks. Where applicable, details will be provided within modules and/or by the Programme Director during the term.

The dissertation is a 15,000-word piece of self-directed research, focusing on a specific issue, phenomenon and/or event within the study of foreign policy and diplomacy, broadly defined. This might include political, economic, and policy issues, and also normative and ethical dimensions, as well as the use (and misuse) of foreign policy tools. You will be assigned a relevant Dissertation Supervisor (a faculty member), who will advise you on the appropriate approach and stages for the investigation of the topic. You can expect to receive a total of three hours of supervision from your assigned supervisor while working on your dissertation and dissertation proposal. The Department operates an open door policy: you are welcome to consult other members of staff, in addition to your own supervisors.

Assessment Criteria are descriptions, based on intended learning outcomes, of the skills, knowledge or attitudes that you need to demonstrate for a successful assessment, and provide a mechanism for measuring the quality of an assessment. 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 for measuring the quality of an assessment and its contribution to 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 assessments

Feedback will be provided in line with our Assessment and Feedback Policy. In particular, you should normally be provided with feedback within three weeks of the submission deadline or assessment date. Feedback typically will include a provisional grade or mark (to be confirmed by the MA Board) and comments explaining the provisional grade/mark awarded. For end of module examinations or an equivalent significant task (e.g. an end of module project), feedback should normally be provided within three 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

Assessment Regulations

In order to graduate from the Programme, you must have completed successfully or been exempted from the relevant modules and assessments and achieve the required number of credits. You must pass all six taught modules before you are formally allowed to progress to the dissertation writing stage.

The Pass Mark for each module is 50%.

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

1. Compensation: where you fail up to a total of 20 credits at first or resit attempt (15 for a Postgraduate Certificate), 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, 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 50% has been achieved overall.

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 shall be used for the purpose of your Award calculation.

2. Resit: where you are not eligible for compensation at the first attempt, you will be offered one resit attempt.

If you are successful in the resit, you will be awarded the credit for that module. The mark for each assessment component that is subject to a resit will be capped at the pass mark for the module. This capped mark will be used in the calculation of the final module mark together with the original marks for the components that you passed at first attempt.

If you do not meet the pass the requirements for a module and do not complete your resit by the date specified you will not progress and the Assessment Board will require that you be withdrawn from the Programme.

If you fail to meet the requirements for the Programme, the Assessment Board will consider whether you are eligible for an Exit Award as per the table below.

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

WHAT AWARD CAN I GET?

Master's Degree:

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)		Class	% required
Dissertation	7	60	33		With Distinction	70
					With Merit	60
Taught	7	120	67		Without classification	50

Postgraduate Diploma:

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)		Class	% required
Taught	7	120	100		With Distinction	70
					With Merit	60
					Without classification	50

Postgraduate Certificate:

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)		Class	% required
Taught	7	60	100		With Distinction With Merit Without classification	70 60 50

WHAT WILL I STUDY?*

Taught component

The taught modules are completed in Terms 1 and 2, normally over a single academic year for Full-Time students and over two academic years for Part-Time students. You are required to take a total of 120 credits in taught modules. There are three core modules (totalling 45 credits) and the remaining credits will be made up of electives that you must choose from the list of modules offered by this department and modules opened to students in the MA in Diplomacy and Foreign Policy in other departments. The number of elective modules you take will vary depending on the number of 15 and 30 credit modules (from other departments) you choose. All modules run for a minimum of eleven weeks (or one term). Students in this programme are eligible to take all MA courses offered by the IP Department.

Full Time route:

As a Full Time student you study on a full-time basis over 12 months (1 academic year). You take 60 credits in Term 1, 60 credits in Term 2, and complete your dissertation (IPM111) in Term 3 (with submission in September of that year). You must also attend the Dissertation workshops that are offered by the Department as part of IPM111, a compulsory and very important part of your MA programme.

Part Time route:

As a Part-Time student you study over 24 months (2 academic years). You take 60 credits in each of your two years, and complete a dissertation (IPM111) in the summer of the second year (with submission in December of that year). In the first year you must take IPM127 Strategy, Diplomacy, and Decision-Making, and it is strongly recommended that you also complete (IPM115) Foreign Policy Analysis. In your second year you must attend the Dissertation workshops that are offered by the Department as part of IPM111, a compulsory and very important part of your MA programme.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Strategy, Diplomacy and Decision-Making	IPM127	15	C	N	7
Foreign Policy Analysis	IPM115	15	C	N	7
Economic diplomacy	IPM114	15	C	N	7
Global Capitalism: Past, Present, Future	IPM126	15	E	Y	7
Political Economy of Global Finance	IPM106	15	E	Y	7

Religion in Global Politics	IPM119	15	E	Y	7
Global Governance	IPM108	15	E	Y	7
Theories of Global Political Economy	IPM128	15	E	Y	7
Global Ethics: Principles, Power and Politics	IPM129	15	E	Y	7
Human Rights and the Transformation of World Politics	IPM130	15	E	Y	7
Theories of International Politics	IPM125	15	E	Y	7
Border Violence	IPM131	15	E	Y	7
The Politics of Forced Migration	IPM107	15	E	Y	7
Global Media Industries	SGM308	30	E	N	7
Criminal Minds	SGM304	15	E	Y	7
Civil Dispute Resolution Options – Strategy, Risks and Costs	LLM302	30	E	N	7
Law and War	LMM138	30	E	N	7
Mediation and Negotiation	LLM303	30	E	N	7
Qualitative Research Methods	SAM004	15	E	Y	7
Applied Qualitative Research Methods	SAM005	15	E	Y	7

Dissertation component

You are required to complete a 60-credit dissertation in order to be eligible for the award of MA. You will normally be required to pass all taught modules before progressing to the dissertation.

Module Title	SITS Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
MA Dissertation	IPM111	60	C	N	7

**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.*

WHAT KINDS OF CAREERS MIGHT BE OPEN TO ME?

The skills of International Politics graduates should be of direct relevance to a wide range of careers in teaching, research, civil service, media communications, journalism, international organizations, NGOs, international finance, and the private sector.

80% of City's 2010 International Politics graduates were in employment or further study six months after graduation. Employers included UNESCO, the Open Rights Group, and the United Nations.

For more information on the Careers Support available at City, please go to:
<https://www.city.ac.uk/careers/your-career>.

WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?

The MA in Diplomacy and Foreign Policy degree programme does not include study abroad options.

WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

There are no placements as part of the MA in Diplomacy and Foreign Policy degree programme.

During the academic year, as a student in this programme you will be invited to attend a number of Careers event organized by the Department. In the past we have organized, for example, an "International Politics Careers Day" which explored career opportunities for International Politics degree holders and provided:

- Talks by speakers within the field (including City alumni). Previous speakers have included staff from the UK Department for International Development, the UK Ministry of Justice, UNESCO, the EU Commission and the UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO).
- Presentations by careers consultants and volunteering coordinators.
- CV, applications and volunteering drop-in sessions with careers professionals.

HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?

You should have or expect to achieve a first or upper second class honours (or equivalent) degree in Politics, the Social Sciences or Humanities, Business or Law from an internationally-recognised institution. However, we would also consider applications from applicants with equivalent degrees in any other subject, who have had significant professional experience in a related field of employment or research.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

For students whose first language is not English, the following qualifications will meet the English language requirement for entry to a postgraduate course of study:

- * A first degree from a UK university or from the CNA.
- * A first degree from an overseas institution recognized by City as providing adequate evidence of proficiency in the English language, for example, from institutions in Australia or the USA.
- * GCE O-level/GCSE English language or English literature, grade C minimum.

- * Cambridge ESOL CPE (Certificate of Proficiency in English) at grade C or above.
- * An overall score of 6.5 in the English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a minimum of 6.0 for each subtest.
- * Satisfactory standard in the verbal section of the Princeton Test (GMAT).
- * US SAT with 500 in verbal performance.
- * Warwick English Language Test (WELT) with pass grades of BBC minimum.
- * Other evidence of proficiency in the English language that satisfies the board of studies concerned.

OVERSEAS QUALIFICATIONS

Equivalent qualifications from an overseas university will be considered.

IT SKILLS

You are expected to be computer literate.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Programme is committed to equal opportunities. The admissions decision will rest on the qualifications, needs and aspirations of the applicant.

RPL/RPEL Requirements

RPL/RPEL: You may apply for RPL/RPEL for a minimum of one module and a maximum of 25% of the overall credits for the programme (taught modules only).

Exemptions are not awarded for programmes/qualifications awarded more than five years before the enrolment date for the intended programme of study at City. Programmes/qualifications awarded more than five years earlier may be considered towards RPL/RPEL requests if the candidate can provide supporting evidence that accounts for how the learning achieved via the programme/qualification, has been actively applied and updated during the previous five years.

Former students of City who have been withdrawn from a programme due to academic failure are not normally permitted to RPL/RPEL any awarded credits back onto the same programme within the School.

Version: 10.1

Version date: June 2023

For use from: 2023-24