

## PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION – POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

### KEY FACTS

Programme name	Global Political Economy
Award	MA
School	School of Policy & Global Affairs
Department or equivalent	Department of International Politics
Programme code	PSGBPE
Type of study	Full Time/ Part Time
Total UK credits	180
Total ECTS	90

### PROGRAMME SUMMARY

The programme is studied over one year full time and 24 months part-time.

By taking the MA programme in Global Political Economy at City, you will engage in advanced study of various aspects of power and authority in global capitalism, and learn to critically examine the impacts of major shifts within the international economic system and political scene.

You will be pursuing a specialised MA degree in global political economy with a mixture of core courses covering general concepts, theoretical traditions and policy-related issues and methodological training, and more specialised optional modules that address specific areas of the operation of the global economy and its social and political consequences. At City, University of London, the MA in GPE places a particular emphasis on contemporary issues and processes in global political economy in the context of the broader shifts associated with 'globalization', such as crisis, institutional change, global governance, and domestic and international decision-making. As a student in this programme, you will be free to choose from a wide range of modules that are directly relevant to the study of the global economic and political issues, and which are offered by the Department of International Politics, as well as by other units within City (Departments of Sociology, Economics, School of Journalism, Centre for Food Policy Studies).

#### Aims

- To provide an advanced specialist education in the field of global political economy.
- To enable you to develop your analytical capacities and the ability to examine and critically evaluate the complex structure of relationships between markets, governments, transnational actors and networks in the setting of the globalising economy.
- To provide you with an advanced conceptualisation of problems of global capitalism in the 21st century.
- To enable you to critically examine rapid economic change and its socio-political roots in the contemporary world.
- To enable you to develop your analytical capacities and articulate your analysis of complex issues and debates to a high level.
- To prepare you for a diverse range of careers, as well as to develop contextual knowledge that will be applicable for life-long learning in a rapidly changing economic environment.

**Postgraduate Certificate**

Following successful completion of the Postgraduate Certificate in Global Political Economy you will be able to examine the theoretical approaches to the world economy, synthesise and apply these to economic processes and events in particular. You will have critical insight into problems related to economic decision-making and governance and be able to analyse economic issues using qualitative methodologies, and theories deriving from GPE. You will also use a range of techniques to undertake your scholarly work.

**Postgraduate Diploma**

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

**MA /MSc**

Following successful completion of the MA/MSc in GPE you will be able to demonstrate original application of knowledge to the political-economic processes and issues at the global level, and analyse current economic issues and dilemmas from a variety of conceptual perspectives. You will be engaged in research or scholarly activity that contributes new views to the study of the world economy, governance, regulation and competition 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 GPE 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 actors, institutions and structures of global political economy participate in the core processes of economic and political life.
- Analyse to an advanced level the complex and changing roles of private markets, states, institutions and transnational forces and actors in the context of global capitalism.
- Analyse the different ways in which key economic and socio-political relationships inform, and are shaped by, national, regional, local and global structures of power and authority.
- Understand how different theoretical positions in Global Political Economy tend to be associated with different substantive concepts, methodological positions, research strategies, research methods and underlying philosophical positions.
- Critically evaluate the interrelationships between evidence and theory in a wide range of different contexts.

Skills:

- Incorporate, analyse and articulate complex ideas about the nature of the economic system.

- Gather, retrieve and synthesise information from a number of different primary and secondary data sources in order to understand the complexities of issues in global political economy.
- Articulate arguments based on sound evidential and theoretical reasoning.
- Reflect on your own learning and make use of constructive feedback.
- Challenge received explanations of topics and controversies in mainstream (formal) economics.
- Unpack the systemic nature of markets and employ a variety of sources of information, to interpret the political, social, environmental and cultural connotations of economic decisions and processes.
- Place individual economic phenomena in the wider historical context of processes of economic change and globalisation.

#### Values and attitudes:

- Appreciate the social and political connotations of economic processes and market mechanisms.
- Analyse the nature of the economic system as a complex web of socio-political relationships.
- 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?**

MA modules are delivered through a combination of lectures, class discussions/seminars, students' presentations and practical workshops. Teaching is supported by a personal tutorial and supervision system, as well as organised seminar series with outside speakers, both professional and academic. As MA student you are also invited to attend PhD workshops organised by doctoral students in the Department.

The dissertation in MA GPE is grounded in a specialised stream of the Research Design module (IPM111), where GPE students receive specialised training in research methodology tailored for their dissertation in the field of global political economy.

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

#### Assessment and Assessment Criteria

At MA level, we do not use exams as forms of assessment.

In your taught modules you will be assessed by coursework (100%); your final dissertation is worth 60 credits (1/3rd of your overall mark).

Coursework for the two core 15 credit modules is a 3,000-word essay. Optional 15 credit modules are typically assessed by a 3,000-word essay. Many MA modules contain not only formative (formally assessed) coursework, but also summative 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 rule, these types of work are due to be submitted at the end of the reflective learning week. You may expect feedback on formative assignments within two week of submission.

Your dissertation is a 15,000 word product of self-directed research, conducted under supervision, focused on one of the specialised areas in global political economy. You are assigned a relevant supervisor for the dissertation from members of the Faculty, who advises you on the appropriate approach in investigating the topic. You can expect an equivalent of three hours of supervision from your assigned supervision while working on your dissertation and dissertation proposal. At the same time, the Department operates an open door policy: you are welcome to consult any member of staff, in addition to your own supervisor.

The dissertation is worth 60 credits (1/3rd of the overall mark).

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.

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](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
Taught	7	120	67	With Merit	60
				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	70
				With Merit	60
				Without classification	50

## WHAT WILL I STUDY?\*

### Taught component

The taught modules are taken in Periods 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 two core modules (totalling 30 credits). The remaining credits will be made up of electives that you must choose from the list of modules opened to students in the MA in Global Political Economy. Students in this programme are eligible to take all MA courses offered by the IP Department. The number of elective modules you will 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 11 weeks (or one term).

### Full Time route:

As a Full Time student you study on a full-time basis over 12 months. You take 60 credits in term 1, 60 credits in term 2, and complete your dissertation (IPM111) in term 3. 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, plus a dissertation in the summer of your second year (with submission in December of that year). In your first year you must take IPM126 Global Capitalism: Past, Present, Future and IPM128 Theories of Global Political Economy. 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
Global Capitalism: Past, Present, Future	IPM126	15	C	N	7
Theories of Global Political Economy	IPM128	15	C	N	7
Political Economy of Global Finance	IPM106	15	E	Y	7
Global Governance	IPM108	15	E	Y	7
Theories of International Politics	IPM125	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
Religion in Global Politics	IPM119	15	E	Y	7
Strategy, Diplomacy and Decision-Making	IPM127	15	E	Y	7
Economic Diplomacy	IPM114	15	E	Y	7
Foreign Policy Analysis	IPM115	15	E	Y	7
The Politics of Forced Migration	IPM107	15	E	Y	7
Border Violence	IPM131	15	E	Y	7

International Trade Law	LMM075	30	E	N	7
International Banking Law	LLM032	30	E	N	7
Qualitative Research Methods	SAM004	15	E	Y	7
Applied Qualitative Research Methods	SAM005	15	E	Y	7

#### Dissertation component

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

You are normally required to pass all taught modules before progressing to the dissertation.

*\*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.*

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

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. 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>.

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

You should have a first or second class honours degree in any subject but applications are also welcome from those with experience in the local and national government, the non-governmental sector, international finance, media, information or the communication sectors. An equivalent qualification from an overseas university will be considered.

##### **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 CNAAB.
- \* A first degree from an overseas institution recognised 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.

Version: 11.1  
Version date: June 2023  
For use from: 2023-24