

School of International Relations

Head of School

Professor A. Watson

Degree Programmes

Postgraduate Diploma:

International Political Theory
International Security Studies
Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies
Peace and Conflict Studies
Terrorism Studies (distance learning only)

M.Litt.:

International Political Theory
International Security Studies
Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies
Peace and Conflict Studies
Terrorism Studies (distance learning only) - available from 2010

M.Phil.:

International Political Theory
International Security Studies
Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies
Peace and Conflict Studies

M.Res.:

International Relations

Programme Requirements

International Political Theory

Postgraduate Diploma:

IR5401, and a further 90 credits from, IR5403- IR5409

M.Litt.:

120 credits as for Postgraduate Diploma plus IR5099

M.Phil.:

120 credits as for Postgraduate Diploma, IR5601, plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words.

International Relations

M.Res.:

SS5101 – SS5104, IR5601, IR5602, one of IR5651, IR5603, IR5604 or IR5605 plus a dissertation (IR5699)

International Security Studies

Postgraduate Diploma:

All students will take IR5001 and IR5007 in Semester 1. In Semester 2 they will take two of IR5011, IR5012, IR5015, IR5017, IR5023, IR5024, IR5026, IR5027, IR5029, IR5030, IR5031, IR5034, IR5035, IR5502, IR5510, IR5524, IR5721, IR5723, (NB Other modules may become available nearer the time).

M.Litt.:

120 credits as for Postgraduate Diploma plus IR5099

M.Phil.:

120 credits as for Postgraduate Diploma, IR5601, plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words.

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies

Postgraduate Diploma:	First Semester, all students normally take IR5501 and IR5520. Second Semester, all students normally take IR5510, plus an option chosen from the following: IR5015, IR5029, IR5502, IR5518, IR5519, IR5522, IR5523 or MH5111.
M. Litt	120 credits for Postgraduate Diploma plus IR5099
M.Phil.:	120 credits as for Postgraduate Diploma, IR5601, plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words.

Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies (Language)

Postgraduate Diploma:	First Semester, all students normally take IR5501, IR5520 and a language (chosen from <i>either</i> AR5237, AR5023, IR5530 - IR5531 <i>or</i> MH5110. (Language modules continue second semester). Second Semester, all students normally take IR5510. Language modules continue semester 2
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NOTE: Students may take no more than 40 credits of language training.

M. Litt	120 credits for Postgraduate Diploma plus IR5099
M.Phil.:	120 credits as for Postgraduate Diploma, IR5601, plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words.

Peace and Conflict Studies

Postgraduate Diploma:	All students take IR5151, IR5701 and IR5702 and one optional module chosen from IR5518 and IR5721 - IR5729
M. Litt	120 credits for Postgraduate Diploma plus IR5099
M.Phil.:	120 credits as for Postgraduate Diploma, IR5601, plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words.

Terrorism Studies

Postgraduate Diploma:	120 credits from IR5901 - IR5920
M. Litt	120 credits for Postgraduate Diploma plus IR5999 (available from 2009)

Modules

IR5001 International Security

Credits:	30	Semester:	1
Programme(s):	Compulsory module for International Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.		
Description:	This module considers various schools of thought which have dominated twentieth-century thinking about international relations and international security which constitute in part competing, and in part complementary theoretical explanations. Each approach is considered in the context of leading authors and is illustrated by reference to important current issues.		
Class Hour:	to be arranged.		
Teaching:	Two hour seminar.		
Assessment:	Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%		

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

IR5007 Terrorism and Liberal Democracy

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for International Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module will deal with: conceptual and definitional problems and theories and doctrines of terrorism; the relationship of terrorism to other forms of violence; origin and development of contemporary international terrorism; the efficacy of terrorism as a political weapon; dilemmas of liberal democratic responses. Analysis of trends in international terrorism and international response are all addressed within the syllabus.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5017 The United Nations and Global Governance

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for International Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module explains the post-Cold War evolution of the United Nations and its system of related agencies and programmes. It is primarily concerned with changes in the post-cold war conceptualization of collective security and peacekeeping / peacemaking responsibilities. The continuing debate and proposals for structural reform of the United Nations system will be addressed within the larger theoretical debate concerning the future of multilateralism. The contested approaches to reform serve to illustrate the likely future directions of global governance viewed from various schools – liberal, realist, critical and cosmopolitan.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5029 Conflict and Peace in Post-communist Eurasia

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for International Security Studies, Middle Eastern and Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module examines where and why conflicts have arisen in post-communist space, Eurasia, particularly in the Balkans, Caucasus and Central Asia, and the contrasting forms these conflicts have taken. It also considers cases that were expected to but did not explode into violence, as well as ones where preventive measures appear to have succeeded. It gives comparative attention to the roles of major states, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations have played in moderating, preventing and resolving these conflicts, and considers alternative scenarios.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 Hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5030 Religion and International Politics

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for International Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module explores the so-called 'global resurgence' of politicised religion, moving out from traditional studies of church-state relations in the West to selected case studies of religio-political interactions in the wider world. After an examination of various theoretical approaches to politics and religion emanating from both sociology and the study of international relations, the focus will be on themes - such as religion and the state, the nation, the international system, religious violence and peacemaking - and on cases - such as the role of the New Christian Right in the United States, political Islam, religious nationalism in the Indian sub-continent, or religious contributions to democratisation in Latin America. The use of specific themes and cases may vary from year to year, depending upon current developments in this area.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 Hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

IR5034 Political Communities, Political Violence

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Availability: not available 2008-09

Programme(s): Optional module for International Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: Theories of international relations, security and terrorism often take political community, as embodied in the state, for granted. This view has been problematised since the end of the Cold War, not least by processes of globalization, which have eroded the sovereignty of states, and with the emergence of wars focusing on a range of non-state actors. The purpose of this module is to raise questions about the factors that contribute to the consolidation of political community and the role of violence in its constitution. How do large numbers of people, many of whom will never meet, come to understand themselves as belong to the same political community? What are the factors that contribute to a willingness to sacrifice human life on behalf of political community? This module draws on an interdisciplinary literature, from psychology, sociology, history, anthropology, politics and international relations, to grapple with these questions.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 Hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

IR5035 The 'Traditional' Security Agenda in the 21st Century

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for International Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: The aim of this inter-disciplinary module is to introduce students to the core concepts and issues that constitute the 'traditional' security agenda in the past, present and future. By updating the 'traditional' security agenda for the 21st century, it challenges conventional wisdom and assumptions that international security is now dominated by 'new' security issues such as terrorism and infectious diseases. Various historical and theoretical debates on the persistence and continued relevance of 'old' security concepts in the 21st century are examined such as the Balance of Power, the Security Dilemma, Arms Races and geo-political competition.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 Hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5099 Dissertation for M.Litt. Programme/s

Credits: 60

Prerequisite: An average grade of at least 13.5 in course work.

Programme(s): Compulsory module for International Political Theory, International Security Studies, Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies and Peace and Conflict Studies M.Litt. Postgraduate Programmes

Description: Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.

Class Hour: At times to be arranged with the supervisor

Teaching: Individual Supervision

Assessment: Dissertation = 100%

IR5151 Approaches to International Theory, Security and Conflict

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module focuses on issues surrounding the theorisation(s) of security and conflict, against the backdrop of an emerging globalization. The module highlights the centrality of the relationship between theory, security and conflict, whilst key questions pertaining to peace and conflict are rigorously examined.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, Three Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

IR5217 International Relations of the Middle East

Credits: 40 Semester: 1

Anti-requisite: IR5520

Programme(s): Optional module for Middle Eastern History and Culture Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module examines Middle East international relations, with a special concern for the following topics: 1) the special character of the Middle East state system; 2) the foreign policies of Middle East states; 3) typical regional patterns of conflict and order. The module has two objectives: 1) to provide students with some expertise in the main issues and conflicts of international politics in the Middle East area (it assumes no prior expertise); 2) to give students experience in applying concepts of international relations to concrete cases in a particular cultural area.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5229 Conflict and Peace in Post-communist Eurasia

Credits: 40 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for Central and East European Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module examines where and why conflicts have arisen in post-communist space, Eurasia, particularly in the Balkans, Caucasus, and Central Asia, and the contrasting forms these conflicts have taken. It also considers cases that were expected to but did not explode into violence, as well as ones where preventive measures appear to have succeeded. It gives comparative attention to the roles of major states, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations have played in moderating, preventing and resolving these conflicts, and considers alternative scenarios.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5401 Texts in International Political Theory

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for International Political Theory Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module begins by examining the concept of 'international theory' as it has developed within International Relations since 1945 and introduces students to the broader idea of international political thought. The main body of the module consists of close readings and analysis of classic texts in the field, ranging from Hobbes' *Leviathan* and Burke's *Letters on a Regicide Peace* to Waltz's *Man, the State and War* and Rawls' *Law of Peoples*.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminars.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5403 Political Philosophy and World Order

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Optional module for International Political Thought and International Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module discusses philosophical reflections on the idea of world order through a study of certain key texts of political philosophy, selected each year from an approved list. This will consist of some Roman and Greek texts (e.g. Thucydides, *History*, Lucretius *De Rerum Natura*) some medieval Christian texts (e.g. Augustine, *De Civitate Dei*, Dante, *De Monarchia*), some modern texts (e.g. Hegel, *Philosophy of History*) and some twentieth century texts (for example, Voegelin, *Order and History*, Santayana, *Dominations and Powers*). These texts would be bracketed by a general methodological and philosophical introduction and a concluding discussion of the implications of these readings.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminars.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

IR5406 Theories of Friendship and Enmity

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for International Political Thought Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module addresses a number of classical texts in western political thought on the themes of friendship and enmity. Its main aim is to alert students to the link between different notions of enmity and friendship on the one hand and different understanding of the political on the other hand. Relevant passages from Plato's *Republic*, Aristotle's *Politics* and *Ethics*, Machiavelli's *Prince* and *Discourses*, Hobbes' *Leviathan* and *Behemoth*, Kant's *Perpetual Peace*, Schmitt's *Concept of the Political* and *The Crisis of Parliamentary Democracy* and Derrida's *Politics of Friendship* will be analysed in some depth with the aim to single out their assumptions about human nature and to derive their implications for politics.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5407 Rethinking Human Rights

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for International Political Theory Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module examines some of the lively debates surrounding alternative perspectives on human rights in contemporary political and international thought. In recent years the nature of universal human rights, the boundaries of political community, and the dominant meanings given to concepts such as sovereignty, power, identity, and humanism have been questioned by critical philosophical and political theories calling for the discourse of human rights to be pluralized and historicized. The main focus of the module will be on how contemporary theorists informed by poststructuralism, discourse theory, and postcolonial theories are problematising the genealogy of the concept of human rights, and reconceptualising human rights as a progressive ideal in light of the challenges posed by global political developments.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5408 Global Constitutionalism

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Optional module for International Political Theory Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module will explore the role of constitutional thinking at the global level. It will allow students to read theorists of constitutional thought - ancient, mediaeval and modern - in light of increasing demands for the rule of law at the global level. The module will explore specific thinkers and key themes in the area of constitutionalism. The module will draw upon legal theory and international law as well as broader themes in international political theory.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5501 Core in Middle East & Central Asian Security Studies

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Middle East & Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module focuses on major themes in the study of international security and applies them to the study of the Middle East and Central Asia. These addressed may include war and political violence, nationalism and ethnic conflict, arms control and nuclear proliferation, democratization and theories of globalization as they impact on the region (e.g. clash of civilizations).

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

IR5502 Global & Transnational Islamism

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Availability: not available 2008-09

Programme(s): Optional module for Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module examines the causes and the patterns of diffusion of Islamism in the core regions of the Muslim world and beyond. It aims to describe the key features of this essentially trans-national phenomenon, its influence on national and regional politics as well as on international relations. It describes the specificity of Islamism as a global political ideology and its evolution and influence on the pro-Islamic movements across the Muslim world. It focuses on the relationship between Islamic movements and state, and between Islamic movements and civil society within the context of political liberalisation and pluralism. The liberal and scriptural interpretations that dominate contemporary debates will be examined in relation to the local, national, regional and global context of contemporary international politics. Of particular relevance are the issues of the compatibility of Islamism and democracy, of Islamism and state power, of Islamism and liberal-democracy, and of the Western representation of Islamism as a global security threat.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 Hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5510 Central Asia in Global Politics

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme

Description: Dramatically and unexpectedly, Central Asia was thrust to independence in 1991. Of all the Soviet republics, the five of Central Asia – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan – had been the largest net recipients of Soviet aid, had benefited most economically from the Soviet Union and had thus been the most reluctant to break from the Soviet empire. Once the path of independence was followed, each of these five states faced considerable ethnic, state, economic, social and foreign policy challenges. This course aims to analyse these nation- and state-building agendas, seeking to address critically some of the now widely held assumptions about this post-Soviet area. Moreover, located in one of the world's most strategic zones, between Russia, China and a troubled Middle East, Central Asia relies on its substantial human and natural resources in the renegotiation of its geopolitical status.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5518 Conflict in The Middle East

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module centralises conflict in the Middle East as a broad area of inquiry and investigates the political, economic and social conditions generating conflict both within and between states in the region. The subjects covered include the emergence and meaning of the "nation-state" in the Middle East; the ideological relationship between Islam and Pan-Arabism; the latter and state nationalism; state-civil society relations, as well as inter-ethnic and gender related conflicts. The module also covers all aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: One lecture and one seminar per week and one tutorial per fortnight.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

IR5519 Politics and State Formation in the Modern Middle East

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Availability: not available 2008-09

Programme(s): Optional module for Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module examines the modern political history of the Middle East, concentrating on the period since 1945. It examines how the pre-modern historical heritage of the region, the impact of imperialism and the advance of modernisation have shaped contemporary politics. This module also examines contemporary political ideologies and movements, elites, the role of the military, authoritarian state structures, economic development policies, and the prospects of Islamisation and democratisation are also examined. This is done through case studies mainly of Turkey, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Syria and, to a lesser extent, other countries.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one seminar per week and one tutorial per fortnight

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

IR5520 International Relations of the Modern Middle East

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Anti-requisite: IR5217

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module examines the arena of Middle East international relations by looking at the formation of the Middle East regional system, its special characteristics, and the impact on it of the global system. It also looks at the foreign policy process inside Middle East states through a comparative case study approach, including studies of the Arab oil monarchies (such as Saudi Arabia), the Arab authoritarian republics (Egypt, Syria and Iraq), Israel, Iran and Turkey. Finally the patterns of regional conflict and order which result from state behaviour are examined.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one seminar per week and one tutorial per fortnight.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5524 Special Topics in the Politics of Modern China

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Availability: not available 2008-09

Programme(s): Optional module for International Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module will examine selected topics in advanced studies of post-1949 China with an eye towards critically assessing the politics of reform in modern China. Students will learn about issues related to political, ideological, social and economic reforms within the PRC using comparative and international relations theories.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One 2 hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

IR5530 Introductory Uzbek

Credits:	15	Semester:	1
Anti-requisites:	No native speakers and no previous qualifications in the subject. A maximum of 2 modules work no more than 40 credits in total.		
Programme(s):	Optional module for Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.		
Description:	This module provides an introduction to spoken and written literary Uzbek for postgraduate students in social sciences who intend to apply their language skills for research purposes. The module introduces the students to vital vocabulary, grammar and linguistic practicalities and conventions of modern Uzbek. The module is also designed thematically with texts, dialogues and exercises giving the students the insight into the contemporary culture and social meanings of the language use.		
Class Hour:	To be arranged.		
Teaching:	Three tutorials.		
Assessment:	Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%		

IR5531 Intermediate Uzbek

Credits:	15	Semester:	2
Anti-requisites:	No native speakers and no previous qualifications in the subject. A maximum of 2 modules work no more than 40 credits in total.		
Programme(s):	Optional module for Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.		
Description:	This module provides intermediate level instruction in spoken and written literary Uzbek for postgraduate students in social sciences who intend to apply their language skills for research purposes. The module introduces the students to vital vocabulary, grammar and linguistic practicalities and conventions of modern Uzbek. The module is also designed thematically with texts, dialogues and exercises giving the students the insight into the contemporary culture and social meanings of the language use.		
Class Hour:	To be arranged.		
Teaching:	Three tutorials.		
Assessment:	Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%		

IR5601 Research Methods in International Relations

Credits:	30	Semester:	1
Programme(s):	Compulsory module for the completion of the M.Res., Ph.D. and M.Phil. programmes.		
Description:	This is a required course for all M.Res., Ph.D. and M.Phil. students in the School of International Relations. It is designed to assist students in understanding the purpose and approaches of international relations scholarship, and to assist them in developing and carrying out their research. As such, it addresses a range of topics, from the history and philosophy of the social sciences to specific research methods.		
Class Hour:	To be arranged.		
Teaching:	Two hour seminar.		
Assessment:	Continuous Assessment = 100%		

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

IR5602 International Relations: Philosophical and Historical Debates

Credits: 15 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Compulsory module for the completion of the M.Res. in International Relations programme.

Description: This module examines some of the most important philosophical and methodological debates that have shaped the way we think about and study international relations. It is not a module looking at philosophical issues in the social sciences (see SS5102) nor is it one detailing the current methodological debates prominent in IR theory (for this see IR5601). Rather it is an attempt to give some general philosophical and historical background to both these sets of debates as they relate to the field of international relations.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Eight 2 hour seminars over the semester.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

IR5603 Texts in International Political Theory - for M.Res. in International Relations

Credits: 15 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Optional module for M.Res. in International Relations

Description: This module begins by examining the concept of 'international theory' as it has developed within International Relations since 1945 and introduces students to the broader idea of international political thought. The main body of the module consists of close readings and analysis of classic texts in the field, ranging from Hobbes' *Leviathan* and Burke's *Letters on a Regicide Peace* to Waltz's *Man, the State and War* and Rawls' *Law of Peoples*.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminar

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

IR5604 Core in Middle Eastern and Central Asian Security Studies – for M.Res. in International Relations

Credits: 15 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for M.Res. in International Relations

Description: This module applies theories and concepts to the study of the region of the Middle East and Central Asia. Key theories and themes covered include: the application of realism, neorealism, intrastate conflict, intervention and new security threats in the region; and the situation of the region in global politics and processes.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One-and-a-half hour seminar and one lecture.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

IR5605 Core in International Security Studies – for M.Res. in International Relations

Credits: 15 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Optional module for M.Res. in International Relations

Description: This module considers competing schools of thought that have dominated twentieth century thinking about international relations and international security. In lectures these various theoretical approaches are explored through the treatment of key themes. The core thus encourages students to think both theoretically and empirically about the region as they will be encouraged to do in their optional modules.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One-and-a-half hour seminars

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

IR5699 Dissertation for M.Res. Programme/s

Credits: 60

Prerequisite: An average grade of at least 13.5 in core and option module assessments

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Res. in International Relations

Description: This module provides students with the opportunity to undertake an in-depth investigation into issues within the field of International Relations and to prepare a 15,000 word (approximately) project detailing justified conclusions and recommendations (as appropriate). The module is a core element of the M.Res in International Relations and is available only to students who achieve an average assessment grade of 14 or above in the core modules and in 1 or 2 option modules from a range of 15 and 30 credit modules. Supervision of the dissertation is also provided.

Class Hour: At times to be arranged with the supervisor

Teaching: Individual Supervision

Assessment: Dissertation = 100%

IR5701 Peace and Conflict Theory

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for the Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This core module examines how and why peace and conflict are both theorised from a number of different perspectives and with different agendas. Understanding the nature of conflict and its key issue areas, both in the Cold War and post Cold War system provides vital insights into both the changing nature of the international system, and into the development of both civil and international society. While peace is rarely explicitly theorised there is an enormous state and non-state mechanism through which peace is installed in conflict zones, often deploying measured force in this cause. Yet, an examination of the key methods which have been used to address conflict highlights their inadequacies. This module begins with an interdisciplinary analysis of the nature of conflict in international politics and covers various analytical models that have been developed, including positivist, structural, and philosophical approaches to the problem of objective causes of conflict (state-interests, territory, sovereignty, development and resources), and its subjective causes (claims for identity, culture and ethnicity, and representation). The course then turns to a critical survey of the various approaches that have emerged for constructing peace, including peacekeeping, 'high level' and 'track II' approaches, and the more sophisticated variants developed since the end of the Cold War. The final part of the course examines how our understanding, and attempts to manage, conflict, may reproduce institutional and hegemonic practices as if they were 'peace'.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminars

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

IR5702 Case Studies in Conflict and Field Work Component

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Compulsory module for the Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This core module provides students with an opportunity to work on case studies in conflict analysis, in which they develop the skills required to analyse the roots, dynamics, key actors and issues-areas in specific conflicts. They will deploy the theoretical frameworks contained within peace and conflict analysis about definitions of conflict, perceptions, historical interpretations, political, social, cultural and economic dynamics, initiation and escalation, and then will be asked to choose and investigate a particular case study according to the different analytical frameworks associated with conflict analysis. Problems associated with researching conflict and violence will also be tackled. This will provide the basis for each student to engage in a detailed case study, chosen from a specific list of key cases.

This module incorporates a Field Work Component which allows students to observe and develop - over a 10 day period - the range of skills learned in that module and to see these practiced in the field. On-site teaching will enable students to understand conflict in ways that would otherwise be difficult solely within a classroom context, whilst preparation prior to the visit will provide students with an understanding of the nature of the conflict environment. Students will engage with local academics working on the conflict, as well as with policymakers, practitioners, agency and NGO staff and political leaders. They will also gain access to the cartography of a peacebuilding operation; learn how contacts are made and interviews conducted, and also gain experience of developing research resources on-site. [If for any reason the field trip cannot go ahead, it will be replaced by meetings with DFID, FCO, and Agency/ NGO staff in the UK].

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminars

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5724 The United Nations in Africa

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for the Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module provides an advanced assessment of the role of the UN in Africa. The module will evaluate the nature of UN involvement during the Cold War, including decolonization, before moving to a deep focus on the contributions of the UN to peacekeeping and peace-building in Africa since the end of the Cold War. The main actors within the UN will be identified, including the work of the UN's specialized agencies, and issues of sovereignty, intervention, security, and development will be analysed. In-depth case studies of conflict and post-conflict transition will follow, including the DRC, Namibia, Mozambique, Somalia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Sudan. Critical approaches to peacekeeping and peace-building will inform discussion throughout and will provide the foundation of a critique of the UN's record in Africa and analysis about future relevance of the UN to Africa.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminars

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

IR5725 Globalisation and the South

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for the Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: Globalization has become the catch-all phrase of the 21st century. Since the 1980s it has come under particular scrutiny in the social sciences, and it has been used to explain the spread of democracy, economic downturns, the opening of world markets, and the spread of culture, amongst other phenomena. Debates concerning globalization have intensified since 9/11, the US-led intervention and Iraq, the emergence of various Islamist groups, debates concerning the environment, and the rise of new economic powers of China and India. This module examines the relationship between the theory and practice (or /reality/) of contemporary processes of globalization. It critically engages with what is meant by /globalization/ by exploring its economic, political and cultural dimensions and their impact on the global South. It examines globalization /at work /in India, Indonesia, Malaysia and various countries in Africa by exploring challenges or constraints to power structures such as class, caste and gender. It also examines the politics of resistance in the South and the emergence of a 'global civil society'.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminars

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5901 Fundamental Issues and Structures of Terrorism

Credits: 30 Semester: Flexible - Distance Learning

Programme(s): Compulsory module for the Terrorism Studies Distance Learning Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module is the first of four of an elearning Postgraduate Diploma in Terrorism Studies, and is designed to present core conceptual issues. These issues will include: Terrorism as a field of study - emergence and evolution; Definitional, conceptual, typological and theoretical issues; History of Terrorism; Ideology, Religion and Terrorism; Terrorist Organisations and Campaigns - stand-alone terrorism and terrorism combined with guerrilla warfare and political party work; Terrorism and Democracy - legal and human rights issues; Terrorism and Repression - counter-insurgency and counter-terror; Terrorism and Domestic and International Conflict - asymmetric warfare and humanitarian issues; Terrorism and Crime - linkage and law enforcement issues; Terrorism and Communication - propaganda and psychological warfare. We will cover three structures in relation to these concepts. Inside terrorist organizations and their support groups: Profiles of the most active terrorist groups - case studies. The structure of the international system and international counter-terrorist measures. Victims of terrorism and their national and transnational support organizations.

Class Hour: Distance learning

Teaching: Online tutorial support, direct email contact with tutors, podcasts of interviews with area experts, and access to student bulletin boards

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

IR5902 Research Methods

Credits: 30 Semester: Flexible - Distance Learning

Programme(s): Compulsory module for the Terrorism Studies Distance Learning Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module will present appropriate research methods to enable students to critically understand the professional literature, and to lay the foundations to enable students to engage in further research. The broad aim of this module is to provide students with sufficient research skills to identify, read and understand professional literature, and to undertake their own research activities. It will introduce critical elements of research methodology, introduce and develop skills in qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, describe and illustrate literature and documentation search and retrieval strategies, and provide an introduction to the role of the intelligence analyst as a practical example.

Class Hour: Distance learning

Teaching: Online tutorial support, direct email contact with tutors, podcasts of interviews with area experts, and access to student bulletin boards

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

IR5903 Processes and Responses to Terrorism

Credits: 30 Semester: Flexible - Distance Learning

Programme(s): Compulsory module for the Terrorism Studies Distance Learning Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: The aim of this module is to develop knowledge and understanding of the radicalization process and responses to it. A critical feature of this module will be a focus on data-driven research in providing the evidence with which we can build a clearer picture of the complex process of becoming involved, remaining involved, and leaving behind involvement in terrorism. The implications of these issues for the development and assessment of counterterrorism initiatives will be presented.

Class Hour: Distance learning

Teaching: Online tutorial support, direct email contact with tutors, podcasts of interviews with area experts, and access to student bulletin boards

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

IR5920 Electives

Credits: 30 Semester: Flexible - Distance Learning

Programme(s): Compulsory module for the Terrorism Studies Distance Learning Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module gives students the opportunity to apply the conceptual and theoretical knowledge gained in the other modules to selected areas of application reflecting where possible the students own interests and needs. Students choose 3 electives from a list of available courses.

Class Hour: Distance learning

Teaching: Online tutorial support, direct email contact with tutors, podcasts of interviews with are experts, and access to student bulletin boards

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

IR5999 Dissertation for Terrorism Studies M.Litt. Programme

Credits: 60

Availability: 2010-11

Prerequisite: An average grade of at least 13.5 in course work.

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Terrorism Studies M.Litt. Postgraduate Programme

Description: This module allows students to undertake an in-depth investigation into issues within the field of Terrorism Studies and to prepare a 15,000 word (approximately) dissertation. The dissertation will make use of skills acquired during the Postgraduate Diploma to identify, investigate, analyse and report upon an area of contemporary concern or interest. Supervision of the dissertation will be provided.

Class Hour: At times to be arranged with the supervisor

Teaching: Individual Supervision

Assessment: Dissertation = 100%

MH5110 Introduction to Modern Persian

Credits: 40 Semester: Whole Year

Programme(s): Middle Eastern & Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module is intended to introduce students to Modern Persian. No previous knowledge will be required and students will be taught the basic, language, grammar and structure of modern Persian with a view to preparing them for the study of basic texts and conversation. The module, which will run throughout the year, is intended to provide students with the foundations of modern Persian upon which they will be able to build and extend, should they wish to pursue research.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Four lectures and one tutorial

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 70%, Two Hour Examination + 15 minute oral Examination = 30%

International Relations – 5000 Level Modules 2008/09 – February 2009

SS5101 Being a Social Scientist: Skills, Processes and Outcomes

Credits: 15 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for the M.Res. in International Relations

Description: This module focuses on developing students' specific research thinking and writing skills in a practically based way. Thus, the module will address the nature of being a research social scientist including exploring some of the ethical issues involved. The module will also consider selecting suitable research questions and framing these as appropriate for Masters and PhD dissertations.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: 3 hour lecture, fortnightly

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

SS5102 Philosophy and Methodology of the Social Sciences

Credits: 15 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Res. in International Relations

Description: Beginning with a discussion of the evolution of the social sciences, this module addresses central philosophical questions of social science including discussion of epistemological and methodological aspects of positivism and interpretivism.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Details to follow.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

SS5103 Qualitative Methods in Social Research

Credits: 15 Semester: 2

Programme(s) Compulsory module for M.Res. in Health Geography

Description: This module offers both a theoretical and practical introduction to qualitative research. The diversity of the approaches to qualitative research will be addressed but the focus of the module is primarily practical necessitating the active participation of students.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: 2 hour, weekly

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

SS5104 Quantitative Research in Social Science

Credits: 15 Semester: 1

Programme(s) Compulsory module for M.Res. in Health Geography

Description: This module will cover basic concepts and approaches to quantitative research in the social sciences in order to provide students with the basic quantitative tools for collecting, organising and analysing data.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Details to follow

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

