Masters in Middle East, Caucasus and Central Asian Security Studies

Also Postgraduate Diploma and MPhil

Taught Element, and PG Diploma:

30 credits: IR5501

30 credits from Central Asia or Caucasus: IR5029 or IR5058 or IR5510 or IR5527

30 - 40 credits from Middle East: IR5059, IR5115, IR5415, IR5502, IR5518, IR5519, IR5520, IR5522, IR5523, IR5525, IR5526, IR5528, MH5111

30 - 40 further credits from: IR5029, IR5058, IR5059, IR5502, IR5510, IR5518, IR5519, IR5520, IR5522, IR5523, IR5525, IR5526, MH5111

MLitt:
120 credits from the Taught Element plus IR5099

MPhil:

120 credits from the Taught Element, 30 credits from IR5601, plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words.

Middle East, Caucasus and Central Asian Security Studies (Language)

Taught Element, and PG Diploma:

30 credits: IR5501

60 credits: from IR5029, IR5115, IR5502, IR5510, IR5518, IR5519, IR5520, IR5522, IR5523, IR5525, IR5526, MH5111.

30 - 40 credits: from a language (chosen from Russian (RU), Arabic (AR) or Persian (PR) language modules at the level appropriate to the student's level of proficiency.

MLitt:

130 credits from the Taught Element plus IR5099

MPhil:

130 credits from the Taught Element, 30 credits from IR5601, plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words.

Compulsory modules:

IR5501 Core in Middle East and Central Asian Security Studies

SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	**Semester:**	1
Planned timetable:	2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Tue			
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, democratisation and theories of globalisation as they impact on the region (e.g. clash of civilisations).				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Middle East and Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Programme.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: 1 lecture and 1 seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof R Hinnebusch, Dr B Teles Fazendeiro			

IR5099 Dissertation for MLitt Programme/s

SCOTCAT Credits:	60	SCQF Level 11	**Semester:**	Whole Year
Planned timetable:	5.00 pm - 6.00 pm Thu			
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.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for International Political Theory, International Security Studies, Middle East, Caucasus and Central Asian Security Studies and Peace and Conflict Studies MLitt Postgraduate Programmes Optional for Central and East European Studies Postgraduate Programme.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: Individual Supervision.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework (Dissertation) = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr F Volpi			

One of:

IR5510 Central Asia in World Order

SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1

Planned timetable:	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Thu

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.

Programme module type:	Compulsory for Middle East, Caucasus and Central Asian Security Studies
	Optional for International Security Studies Postgraduate Programmes.
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: 1 lecture and 1 tutorial.
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr B Teles Fazendeiro

IR5527 Conflicts, Security and Democracy in the Greater Caucasus (30)

SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2

Planned timetable:	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Tue

This module examines one of the world's most fascinating yet least understood regions. The Caucasus are rich in history, languages and culture, having developed as the crossroads between three great empires, the Ottoman, Persian and Russian. It is also a region riven by conflicts and remains of geopolitical importance to world powers, not least for reasons of energy. The module gives particular attention to the sources of the many wars in the Caucasus; the failed efforts to solve them; and the divergent interests there of such actors as Turkey, Iran, Russia, the United States and the EU.

Programme module type:	Optional for Middle East and Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Programme and other Postgraduate Programmes within the School of International Relations.
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: 2-hour seminar.
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof R Fawn
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	Prof R Fawn

Compulsory for MPhil:

IR5601 Research Methods in international Relations				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	**Semester:**	1
Planned timetable:	11.00 am - 1.00 pm Wed			
This is a required module for all MRes, PhD and MPhil 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.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for the completion of the MRes, PhD and MPhil Programmes in the School of International Relations.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: 2-hour seminar			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr V Paipais			

Optional modules:

IR5059 Political Order and Violence in the Middle East				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	**Semester:**	1
Planned timetable:	11.00 am - 1.00 pm Wed			
This module examines the causes and consequences of political order and violence in the Middle East. What constitutes a political order? Why and how are political orders established? What role does violence play in constituting political orders? Why and how does violence ensue with the breakdown of political orders? Drawing on IR, Sociological, and State-formation theories, we will examine different episodes of order and violence in contemporary Middle East politics: from the collapse of the Ottoman Empire to the latest Arab Uprisings, looking at colonial orders, regime-society violence, violent resistance against occupation, and civil wars.				
Programme module type:	Optional for all Postgraduate programmes in the School in International Relations.			
Anti-requisite(s):	IR4601			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: 1 lecture and 1 seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Take-home Written Examination = 40%, Coursework (Essay 50%, Presentation 10%) = 60%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr A Saouli			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	Dr A Saouli			

IR5415 Social Movements and Ideologies

SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	10.00 am - 12.00 noon Wed			

This module examines prominent ideologies in the modern history of the Middle East, and the role ideas play in the political mobilisation of society. The module draws particular attention to anti-colonial, nationalist, religious and liberal social movements; it compares the formation, implementation and evolution of the different sets of ideologies, and the relationships between the social movements and the state. The module aims to a) deepen students' understanding of ideologies in the region, beyond culturalist and power-political frameworks, and b) to highlight the important role of societal forces in Middle East politics.

Programme module type:	Optional for all Postgraduate Programmes in the School of International Relations.
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: 2 hours of seminars (x 11 weeks), 1-hour tutorial (x 11 weeks), 2 office consutation hours (x 12 weeks)
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr J Gani
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	Dr J Gani

IR5518 Conflict in the Middle East

SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	3.00 pm - 5.00 pm Mon			

This module examines conflict in the modern Middle East looking at the causes, development and consequences of conflict in the region including interstate, civil war, ethnic, religious and terrorism. It examines the historical formation of the nation state system in the Middle East and the development of competing ideologies. The legacies of these processes are explored through case studies including the Arab-Israeli conflict, Lebanon and Iraq. The rise of political Islam in the region is explored in both its violent and non-violent manifestations. The region has been characterised by authoritarian regimes and this legacy and the impact of the 2011 Uprisings is examined including conflicts in Syria, Libya and Yemen. The link between identity and threat is discussed in relation to the Islamic Republic of Iran and its impact on regional security. External intervention in the region is addressed in relation to Iraq post-2003 and debates relating to responses to the 2011 Uprisings.

Programme module type:	Optional for Middle East, Caucasus and Central Asian Security Studies Postgraduate Programmes.
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: 1 lecture and 1 seminar per week and 1 tutorial per fortnight.
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr F McCallum

IR5528 Social Movements, Revolutions and Authoritarianism in North Africa

SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	1.00 am - 3.00 pm or 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm Thu			

This module examines the dynamics and outcomes of social protests in the authoritarian regimes of North African region in the post-colonial period. It aims to describe the structural and inter-subjective features of democratic, authoritarian and revolutionary change, and to locate them in vis-à-vis the evolution of regional politics and of the international system. It describes the specificities and dilemmas of authoritarian and democratic governance in each polity with a particular focus on the developments of the last decade (post-2001). It examines in details the relationship between the state and social movements within the larger context of processes of political and economic liberalisation as well as regional (north-south) integration.

Programme module type:	Optional for Middle East and Central Asia Security Studies and all other Postgraduate Programmes in the School.
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: 1 lecture and 1 tutorial.
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr F Volpi

IR5529 International Society and Central Asia

SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			

This module combines IR Theory and Central Asian studies, exploiting the potential synergies of IR and Area Studies for students' learning. It examines how norms, rules and institutions regulating international relations at the global level, such as sovereignty, diplomacy and international law are understood, applied and contested in Central Asia, thus addressing issues of norm localisation and adaptation. There are three intended goals of this module. The first aim is to show how norms and practices that we assume to be universal find specific interpretations in Central Asia. The second aim is to understand how 'order' is achieved in Central Asia, avoiding regional conflict. The third aim is to portray the Central Asian states as performers of international relations, and not just as 'consumers'. This is the only module that sees international relations from the perspective of the Central Asian states, thus considering them as full protagonists in world politics.

Programme module type:	Optional for Middle East and Central Asia Security Studies and all other Postgraduate Programmes in the School.
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: 2-hour seminar and 2 office hours.
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr F C Buranelli

MH5111 Iran and the World since 1921

SCOTCAT Credits:	40	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2

Planned timetable:	To be arranged.

This module is intended to take an in-depth look at the development of the modern Iranian state from its inception under Reza Khan in the 1920s to the present day. The module will look at the growth of the state, economic development, relations with the West, Britain and the United States in particular, before turning to the Islamic Revolution and its consequences, with particular focus on the social changes engendered by revolution and war, culminating in the Presidency of Mohammad Khatami, its causes and consequences. While following a broad chronological perspective, students will be encouraged to engage with the themes and historical tensions highlighted by the module.

Programme module type:	Optional for the Iranian Studies Postgraduate Programme.
	Optional for Middle East and Central Asia Security Studies Postgraduate Programme.
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	**Weekly contact**: 1 x 2-hour seminar.
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof A Ansari