

Master of Letters Strategic Studies

Programme Requirements

Strategic Studies - MLitt	
IR5800 (30 credits) and IR5801 (30 credits) and 60 credits from Module List: IR5004 - IR5052, IR5403 - IR5449, IR5526 - IR5528, IR5721 - IR5749, HI5010 and 60 credits from Module List: IR5099, ME5099, MO5099	

Compulsory modules:

IR5800 Modern War and Strategy				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	10.00 am - 12.00 noon Thu			
The module will provide students with essential knowledge of strategy and military history. It will be taught in tandem with the second core module of the MLitt in Strategic Studies, which focuses on the history of strategic thought. Taken together, both modules will equip students with an overview of the academic field of strategic studies. It will also help students acquire the necessary skills and techniques for independent further study of topics and questions in strategic studies.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Strategic Studies Postgraduate programme. Optional for International Relations MRes Programme			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr P O'Brien			

IR5801 Strategic Thought				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Mon			
The module will provide students with essential knowledge of strategic theory and the history of strategic thought. It will equip students with an overview of the academic field of strategic studies. It will also help students acquire the necessary skills and techniques for independent further study of topics and questions in strategic studies.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Strategic Studies Postgraduate programme. Optional for International Relations MRes Programme			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Prof H Strachan			

One of:

IR5099 Dissertation for MLitt Programme/s				
SCOTCAT Credits:	60	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	Whole Year
Planned timetable:	5.00 pm - 6.00 pm Thu or 11.00 am - 12.00 noon Fri			
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 and International Relations MRes Programme. 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 coordinator:	TBC			

ME5099 Dissertation for MLitt Programme/s				
SCOTCAT Credits:	60	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	Whole Year
Planned timetable:	At times to be arranged with the supervisor			
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 a specified date late in August.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Mediaeval History MLitt Postgraduate Programme One of HI5099, AP5099, ME5099 or MO5099 compulsory for Middle Eastern History Postgraduate Programme. One of ME5099, MO5099 or IR5099 is compulsory for Strategic Studies.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Individual supervision according to School guidelines			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework (Dissertation) = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Prof J Hudson			

MO5099 Dissertation for MLitt Programme/s				
SCOTCAT Credits:	60	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	Whole Year
Planned timetable:	At times to be arranged with the supervisor.			
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 The Book, Early Modern History, Intellectual History, Modern History, Reformation Studies, and Transnational History MLitt Postgraduate Programmes One of HI5099, AP5099, ME5099 or MO5099 compulsory for Middle Eastern History Postgraduate 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 coordinator:	Dr J Clark			
Module teaching staff:	By arrangement			

Optional modules:

IR5007 Terrorism and Liberal Democracy				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	11.00 am - 1.00 pm Wed			
This module addresses: conceptual and definitional issues concerning terrorism; the relationship of terrorism to other forms of political violence; the origins, dynamics and development of contemporary terrorism; the efficacy of terrorism as a political weapon; the dilemmas and challenges of liberal democratic state responses to terrorism; and case studies in terrorism and counter-terrorism. The module is convened by specialists from the Handa Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence (CSTPV) and the School of International Relations.				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Political Theory, International Security Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies and Terrorism and Political Violence Postgraduate Taught Programmes.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 hour lecture, 1.5 hour tutorial per week + advertised office hours			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr N Brooke			
Module teaching staff:	Various			

IR5030 Religion and International Politics				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Tue			
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.				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Security Studies Postgraduate Programme. Optional for Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Programme.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module coordinator:	Prof J P Anderson			

International Relations - Strategic Studies - 2017/8 - December 2017

IR5036 Critical Security Studies				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	10.00 am -11.00 am Mon			
<p>This module will examine the challenge to traditional conceptions of security presented by the emergence of Critical Security Studies since the end of the Cold War. Students will explore what it means to study the concept and practice of security from a critical perspective. They will examine the various theoretical traditions that have informed critical security studies and the methodological implications for the analysis of different types of security contexts, ranging from alliance relations, terrorism, the environment, migration, famine, etc.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for International Security Studies Optional for International Relations MRes Programme. Optional for other Postgraduate Taught Programmes within the School.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1-hour lecture and 1-hour tutorial.			
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module coordinator:	Dr C Gentry			

IR5040 Emergent Great Powers				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	10.00 am - 12.00 noon Mon			
<p>This module provides a comparative analysis of the emergence of India and China as great powers within the international system. Focusing upon the factors integral to such a phenomenon (from both theoretical and historical perspectives), students will build up a comprehensive understanding of these two states' past, contemporary and future global significance. After an assessment of differing orientating concepts from IR theory, the module will evaluate key factors concerning how India and China measure up as great powers, leading to an evaluation of the future challenges these two states will ace as they define their emergent roles in the twenty-first century.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Political Theory, International Security Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr C Ogden			

International Relations - Strategic Studies - 2017/8 - December 2017

IR5051 Human Rights, Politics and Power				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	10.00 am - 12.00 noon Wed			
<p>International legal discourses of human rights have evolved markedly since 1945 with the codification, implementation and enforcement of human rights as international public law. Despite this progress, human rights seem more pivotal in the world today than ever. What the 'war on terror' has highlighted is that military measures are hopeless if they ignore universal aspirations for social justice and human rights. As the title of the module suggests, the principal focus of this module is to explore the relationship between human rights, political discourses and power. More people than ever before believe strongly in the necessity of the inclusion of human rights considerations when thinking about actions at every level of societal interaction; personal, local, national and international. The use of the concept is, however, frequently misused and the outcome of rights campaigns is often far from the original intention. In exploring these complex issues the module is divided into three parts. In PART I attempts to ground rights in philosophy and international law will be explored. In PART II many theorists are now attempting to go beyond this divide to think through the potential for the concept in the process of social transformation. The social constructionist human rights and power will be introduced, as will postcolonialism. Drawing on this theoretical discussion a series of contemporary issues will be explored in PART III and the focus will be on suitability of the concept in any programme of social transformation by considering the role - nationally and internationally - of the legal system, economic relations, government and non-government organisations.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Political Theory, International Security Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1-hour lecture, 1-hour seminar/tutorial			
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module coordinator:	Dr G S Sanghera			

IR5408 Global Constitutionalism				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	One of 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm or 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm Tue			
<p>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.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Political Theory and Peace and Conflict Studies, Postgraduate Taught Programmes			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Prof T Lang			

IR5412 'Reason of State': Origin, Nature and Career of a Concept				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	11.00 am - 1.00 pm Wed			
The module examines the meaning, origins, development, and significance of the notion of 'reason of state' in western political thought. It explores the differences between 'reason of state', 'national interest', 'public interest' and 'common interest'. It engages with a variety of writers from different centuries (e.g. Aristotle, Cicero, Tacitus, John of Salisbury, Machiavelli, Althusius, Botero, Fichte, Morgenthau, Gramsci, Schmitt, Foucault). It encourages students to demonstrate their grasp of the concept by explaining how it works in contemporary global politics.				
Programme module type:	Optional for International Political Theory Postgraduate Taught Programme			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr G Slomp			

IR5415 Social Movements and Ideologies				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	9.00 am - 11.00 am 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 consultation hours (x 12 weeks)			
Assessment pattern:	3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module coordinator:	Dr J Gani			

IR5528 Social Movements, Revolutions and Authoritarianism in North Africa				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	1.00 pm - 3.00 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 coordinator:	Dr F Volpi			

IR5821 The influence of seapower on history 1805-present				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	1.00 pm - 3.00 pm Tue			
<p>This module will look at the theory and practice of Maritime strategy from the Napoleonic Wars to the present day. We will do this by looking at a number of works on the theory of Maritime strategy and then applying those works to a series of historical case studies from the nineteenth and twentieth century. The overall objective of the module is that the student should have an understanding of Maritime strategy and its wider context within the history of warfare and what distinguishes successful from unsuccessful Maritime strategy. The module will be taught by a weekly 2 hour seminar in which we will discuss a number of assigned readings for each week.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for Strategic Studies			
Pre-requisite(s):	IR5800, IR5801			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2 seminar hours (x 11 weeks) 2 optional office hours (x 11 weeks)			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr L F Middup			

IR5822 The American Way of War				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Tue.			
<p>This module will examine how the United States has entered, fought and then left the many wars in which it has been involved. The hope is not to come up with some overarching theory of how the US conducts itself, but to understand the different choices that it has faced and how it went about answering them. All three of these areas have been the subject of great debate. American entry into war has been examined from the point of view of economic interest, security concerns, high political decision-making and even public opinion. The way that the USA has fought wars has been even more controversial. One idea is that the country has been too reliant on equipment/technology/firepower, and has regularly lost its way politically. Finally, how the USA has ended up leaving its wars has been debated. There is a discussion over whether/how/if public opinion compels an administration to pull the USA out of war at different times, and just how 'victory' or 'defeat' should be defined</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for Strategic Studies			
Pre-requisite(s):	IR5800, IR5801			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminars			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Prof P O'Brien			

International Relations - Strategic Studies - 2017/8 - December 2017

HI5010 Directed Reading in the History of War and Strategy				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1 or 2
Planned timetable:	By agreement between tutor and student			
<p>A directed reading project designed to encourage the development of skills of historical analysis related to the history of war and strategy, through concentrated study of topics chosen by the student in consultation with the tutor. The project will develop skills of research, analysis and presentation prior to the dissertation. As such, it will serve as a useful transition between the more structured teaching which characterises undergraduate work and the independence of postgraduate dissertations. Students taking this option will meet with their supervisor regularly in an individual tutorial to develop bibliographies, explore literature, discuss drafts of coursework and receive feedback on submitted work (which could be reviews of existing literature, bibliographic essays, essays on historical problems and issues, or explorations of primary source material.)</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for Strategic Studies Taught Postgraduate Programme.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 tutorial			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework (2 x 3,000-word essays) = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Prof G Rowlands			
Module teaching staff:	Team taught			

[Other optional modules are available - see the pdf online called International Relations - optional modules 2017-2018.](#)