

# FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

## DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY

### POLITICAL RESEARCH

**Master of Science in Political Research**  
**Postgraduate Diploma in Political Research**  
**Postgraduate Certificate in Political Research**

*These regulations are to be read in conjunction with [General Academic Regulations - Postgraduate Taught Degree Programme Level](#).*

#### **Admission**

1. Notwithstanding the [General Academic Regulations - Postgraduate Taught Degree Programme Level](#), applicants shall possess:
  - i. a first or second class Honours degree in Social Science from a United Kingdom university; or
  - ii. a qualification deemed by the Head of Department acting on behalf of the Senate to be equivalent to (i) above.
2. In all cases, applicants whose first language is not English, shall be required to demonstrate an appropriate level of English.

#### **Duration of Study**

3. See [General Academic Regulations - Postgraduate Taught Degree Programme Level](#).

#### **Mode of Study**

4. The programmes are available by full-time and part-time study.

#### **Place of Study**

5. The programmes are available on campus only.

#### **Curriculum**

6. All students shall undertake an approved curriculum as follows:

#### **Compulsory Modules**

| Module Code | Module Title                                  | Level | Credits |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| L2905       | Quantitative Methods: Survey Methods          | 5     | 20      |
| L2908       | Quantitative Methods: Statistics and Analysis | 5     | 20      |
| L2909       | Qualitative Methods                           | 5     | 20      |
| L5981*      | Perspectives on Social Research               | 5     | 20      |

Equivalent modules may be substituted with the agreement of the programme leader.

\* Scottish Graduate School for Social Sciences (SGSSS) funded students are required to take HF905 Becoming a confident Social Science Researcher 20 credits, in place of L5981.

#### **Optional Modules**

No fewer than 40 credits chosen from:

| <b>Module Code</b> | <b>Module Title</b>                                               | <b>Level</b> | <b>Credits</b> |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| L2912              | International Institutions and Regimes                            | 5            | 20             |
| L2992              | Comparative Political Economy                                     | 5            | 20             |
| L2914              | European Governance                                               | 5            | 20             |
| L2916              | Comparative Public Policy                                         | 5            | 20             |
| L2917              | Policy Analysis                                                   | 5            | 20             |
| L2929              | Political Behaviours                                              | 5            | 20             |
| L2962              | Contemporary International Relations                              | 5            | 20             |
| L2963              | Contemporary Security Challenges                                  | 5            | 20             |
| L2964              | Debating International Relations Theory                           | 5            | 20             |
| L2965              | Feminism and International Relations                              | 5            | 20             |
| L2805              | Human Rights                                                      | 5            | 20             |
| L2803              | Advanced Topics in Civil Conflict                                 | 5            | 20             |
| L2805              | Global Nuclear Politics                                           | 5            | 20             |
| L2994              | Politics of Non-Democratic Regimes                                | 5            | 20             |
| L2945              | Theories and Practices of Regulation and Governance               | 5            | 20             |
| L2948              | Policy Analysis: Problem Structuring Methods                      | 5            | 20             |
| L2946              | Levelling Up: A Guide to the New Regional and Industrial Policies | 5            | 20             |
| L2947              | Networked Institutions, Infrastructure and Technology             | 5            | 20             |

Any level 5 module offered by the Department of Government and Public Policy may also be chosen. Up to a maximum of 40 credits at level 5 from other programmes offered by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences may be approved the Programme Leader and the Department(s) offering the module(s).

Not all optional modules on this list will be available in each academic year.

**Students for the degree of MSc only:**

| <b>Module Code</b> | <b>Module Title</b> | <b>Level</b> | <b>Credits</b> |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------|
| L2933              | Dissertation        | 5            | 60             |

| Or    |                        |   |    |
|-------|------------------------|---|----|
| L2974 | Placement Dissertation | 5 | 60 |

### Progress

7. See [General Academic Regulations - Postgraduate Taught Degree Programme Level](#).
8. Progress may be dependent on satisfactory performance against prescribed criteria outlined in the Programme Handbook.
9. The final award will be based on performance in the examinations, the coursework and the dissertation.

### Award

10. **Degree of MSc:** In order to qualify for the award of the degree of MSc in Political Research, a candidate must have performed to the satisfaction of the Board of Examiners and must have accumulated no fewer than 180 credits, of which 60 credits must have been awarded in respect of the dissertation L2933 or Placement Dissertation L2974.
11. **Postgraduate Diploma:** In order to qualify for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Political Research, a candidate must have accumulated no fewer than 120 credits from the taught modules of the programme curriculum.
12. **Postgraduate Certificate:** In order to qualify for the award of the Postgraduate Certificate in Political Research, a candidate must have accumulated no fewer than 60 credits from the programme curriculum.