

Title of Programme: MA International Relations
MA International Relations (with Advanced Research)
MA International Relations (Sandwich)

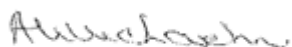
Programme Code: HUIRM

Programme Specification

This programme specification is relevant to students entering:
01 September 2023

Associate Dean of School (Academic Quality Assurance):
Alison McLauchlin

Signature



A programme specification is a collection of key information about a programme of study (or course). It identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the programme, lists the modules that make up each stage (or year) of the programme, and the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff. It also describes the structure of the programme, its progression requirements and any programme-specific regulations. This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right programme of study, to current students on the programme, and to staff teaching and administering the programme.

Summary of amendments to the programme

Date	Section	Amendment

If you have any queries regarding the changes please email AQO@herts.ac.uk

Programme Specification MA International Relations

This programme specification (PS) is designed for prospective students, enrolled students, academic staff and potential employers. It provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the teaching, learning and assessment methods, learning outcomes and content for each module can be found in Definitive Module Documents (DMDs).

Section 1

Awarding Institution/Body	University of Hertfordshire
Teaching Institution	University of Hertfordshire
University/partner campuses	de Havilland
Programme accredited by	Not applicable
Final Award (Qualification)	MA
All Final Award titles	MA International Relations
(Qualification and Subject)	MA International Relations (Sandwich) MA International Relations with Advanced Research
FHEQ level of award	7

A. Programme Rationale

The programme combines theoretical discussions with practical examples to foster a broad understanding of the forces that shape global politics in the 21st Century. There will be a focus on traditional issues, like war, peace and security, as well as more contemporary debates in the discipline, such as the global economy, international ethics, energy scarcity and ecological changes.

The programme aims to provide and develop the knowledge, skills and tools required to critically analyse and tackle global society's most pressing issues. Innovative teaching approaches, including simulations and panel-style debates, help establish a thorough grasp of the theoretical approaches and empirical methods used to study, understand and analyse International Relations. Research is at the forefront of our programme's thinking and teaching. The modules are designed and led by active researchers, who are able to provide cutting-edge insights into current debates, developments and perspectives within the discipline. Students will also complete an individual, extended research dissertation that will be supervised by one, or more, of the department's dedicated research staff.

Alongside, in-depth theoretical and conceptual knowledge, the programme will encourage students' professional development. The programme focuses on developing and enhancing transferable, soft and interpersonal skills that increase employability and are attractive to a range of employers. The research focus of the programme, paired with its analytical rigour means that it provides a pathway for careers in research, in academia or the private sector, policy development, in NGOs or government, or vocational positions in the media, marketing or businesses.

The programme consists of a number of different pathways which sets it apart from the competition and fits with the individual needs and/or professional aims of students. The standard route MA is offered full-time (one year) or part-time (two years) and is designed with flexibility in mind. The standard MA combines in-class activities with online learning provisions to ensure that studies can be balanced with other commitments, including work and family life. Alternatively, students may have a stronger eye on employability and wish to take a Sandwich option (two years full-time), which combines a year of university study with a year-long work placement in a field or industry of the student's choice. Finally, students may wish to strengthen the academic/research dimension of their studies through the 'with Advanced Research' route (two years full-time), where students complete an extended, year-long research project in addition to the first year of taught modules.

B. Educational Aims of the Programme

The programme has been devised in accordance with the University's graduate attributes of programmes of study as set out in [UPR TL03](#).

Additionally this programme aims to:

- Critically engage and evaluate current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline.
- Develop the students' understanding of the complex institutions and processes that determine and shape international relations.
- Develop a critical awareness of contemporary issues and debates, and understand how these are informed and shaped by the field of study and political actions.
- Encourage students to use their theoretical knowledge to critique existing policies and inform new policy prescriptions.
- Enhance the independent research skills of students through an individual, extended piece of academic research.
- Become a multi-skilled communicator by developing the written and oral skills required to operate effectively within an academic and professional environment.
- Enhance students' employability, through the development of transferable, soft and interpersonal skills.

C. Intended Learning Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills and other attributes in the following areas. The programme outcomes are referenced the Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies (2014), and relate to the typical student. Additionally, the SEEC Credit Level Descriptors for Further and Higher Education (2021) have been used as a guiding framework for curriculum design.

Knowledge and Understanding:	Teaching/learning methods & strategies	Assessment
A1- Display an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the discipline informed by current scholarship and research, including a critical awareness of current issues and developments in the subject.	Acquisition of A1-A5 is through a combination of lectures, practical, seminars and online directed activities. Learners will also have supervisors who will hold individual and group tutorials throughout the course. Throughout, the learner is encouraged to undertake independent study both to supplement and consolidate what is being taught/learnt and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject.	A1-A6 knowledge and understanding is tested through a range of written and oral assessments, including: essays, assessed presentations or simulations, examinations, briefing and policy papers, opinion pieces, and a dissertation.
A2- Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of processes, institutions, bodies and practices of International Relations.	A2 - The Security and Governance Research Seminar Series is designed to equip students with advanced understandings of contemporary cutting-edge research.	A5 – the completion of a dissertation.
A3- Be able to use a range of techniques and research methods applicable to advanced scholarship in the subject.	A5 - will be achieved through one-to-one supervision, and dedicated research methods modules.	A6-A7 – the completion of work placement assessment module.
A4- Demonstrate a deep and systematic understanding of advanced debates in International Relations and their interrelationship with other relevant disciplines.	A6 – will be achieved through completion of the work placement	

<p>A5- Be able to complete a dissertation in the subject, which includes a critical review of existing literature, and advanced independent research.</p> <p>A6- Evidence a thorough understanding of how international relations operate in practice.</p> <p>A7- Practically apply theoretical knowledge in a professional working environment.</p>	<p>module and/or practical assignments and tasks in content modules.</p> <p>A7 - will be achieved through completion of the work placement module.</p>	
<p>Intellectual skills:</p>	<p>Teaching/learning methods & strategies</p>	<p>Assessment</p>
<p>B1- Apply theory to practice at postgraduate level, whilst incorporating a critical ethical dimension to their research practice.</p> <p>B2- Develop an effective dissemination strategy for a variety of audiences.</p> <p>B3- Critically analyse emergent trends and issues in advanced International Relations.</p> <p>B4- Design and conduct advanced research projects based on primary data and sources.</p>	<p>Intellectual skills are developed throughout the programme by the methods and strategies outlined in section A, above (B1-B4).</p> <p>Throughout, the learner is encouraged to develop intellectual skills further by independent study</p>	<p>Intellectual skills B1-B3 are assessed through a range of written and practical assessments including: essays, exams, reports, critical reviews, blog posts, and assessed presentations, podcasts and simulations. In-class presentations and group research activities will be used as formative assessments, with feedback given in class.</p> <p>Intellectual skill B4 is assessed through a dissertation.</p>
<p>Practical skills:</p>	<p>Teaching/learning methods & strategies</p>	<p>Assessment</p>
<p>C1- Produce and disseminate research outputs for a professional environment.</p> <p>C2- Gather and analyse primary and secondary data.</p> <p>C3- Develop policy-oriented recommendations.</p> <p>C4- Deploy a range of practice-based research methodologies within their field of practice.</p> <p>C5- The ability to work with professionalism.</p> <p>C6- Demonstrate effective presentation skills at a research conference and answer audience questions with confidence and professionalism</p>	<p>Practical skills are developed throughout the programme.</p> <p>Acquisition of C1-C3 is through a combination of lectures and seminars. Throughout, the learner is encouraged to undertake independent study both to supplement and consolidate what is being taught/learnt and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject.</p> <p>C3 Practical skills are developed within the programme in a variety of modules, through applying research to the creation of academic and policy outputs.</p> <p>C4 is developed through a dedicated dissertation module,</p>	<p>Practical skills C1-C4 are assessed through the International Relations Dissertation.</p> <p>C1 is assessed through a range of assignments on the modules, including briefing papers, policy papers, opinion pieces, and assessed presentations. Class-based activities will further develop these skills and will be used as formative assessment with feedback given in class.</p> <p>C3 is assessed through the use of practical assignments, such as: assessed presentations and</p>

	<p>independent research and writing, and one-to-one supervision.</p> <p>C5 is developed through in-class tasks and/or the completion of the work placement module.</p> <p>C6 is developed through in-class tasks on 7HUM1119 'Advanced Political Research Methods'</p>	<p>simulations, and written policy-briefs.</p> <p>C5 is assessed through assignments and/or completion of the work placement assessment module.</p> <p>C6 is assessed through a student dissertation presentation, at a student conference, as part of 7HUM1125 'Extended International Relations Dissertation'.</p>
Transferable skills:	Teaching/learning methods & strategies	Assessment
<p>D1- Use initiative and take responsibility.</p> <p>D2- Solve problems in creative and innovative ways.</p> <p>D3- Make decisions in challenging situations.</p> <p>D4- Demonstrate strategic thinking.</p> <p>D5- Further develop organisational and presentational skills.</p> <p>D6- Continue to learn independently and to develop professionally.</p> <p>D7- Communicate effectively, with colleagues and wider audience in a variety of media.</p> <p>D8- Work effectively as part of a team.</p>	<p>Transferable skills are developed throughout the programme.</p> <p>D1- D8 are developed across all modules in the written work, presentations and seminars.</p> <p>D1 and D7 are developed with students learning to manage themselves and their time to meet assignment submission deadlines.</p> <p>D8 is developed in seminars.</p> <p>D8 is further developed through the one-year work placement (Sandwich Route).</p> <p>Throughout, the learner is encouraged to develop transferable skills by maintaining a record of evidence and completing a personal development plan.</p>	<p>Transferable skills D1-D8 are assessed through a range of assignments built into the curriculum, such as: oral presentations, assessed simulations, essays, briefing and policy papers, examinations, and a dissertation.</p>

D. Programme Structures, Features, Levels, Modules, and Credits

The programme of study leading to the award MA International Relations is offered in full-time (1 year) and part-time (normally 2 year) modes. The programme of study leading to the awards of MA International Relations (Sandwich) and MA International Relations (with Advanced Research) is offered in full-time (2 year) mode.

Intake is normally semester A (September). A semester B (January) intake is also available on the full time MA International Relations and full time MA International Relations (with Advanced Research) programmes.

Professional and Statutory Regulatory Bodies

N/A

Work-Based Learning, including Sandwich Programmes

A sandwich award requires the successful completion of at least **30** weeks full-time equivalent placement activity from a maximum of two separate approved placements, neither of which will be normally less than **12** weeks in duration, in order for the award to be made. This is in addition to the period of academic study

required.

Programme Structure

The programme structure and progression information below (Table 1a and 1b) is provided for the award. Any interim awards are identified in Table 1b. The Programme Learning Outcomes detailed above are developed and assessed through the constituent modules. Table 2 identifies where each learning outcome is assessed.

Table 1a Outline Programme Structure

MA International Relations

Mode of study Full Time (1 year/12 months)

Entry point Semester A

Students study 180 credits of the following modules:

Compulsory Modules Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Debates and Dilemmas in International Relations	7HUM1122	30	0	100	0	A
Governing the International, the Global, and the Planetary	7HUM2004	15	0	100	0	A
Designing Research in Global Politics	7HUM2005	15	0	100	0	A
Conflict, Peace and Security	7SHE2000	15	0	70	30	B
International Relations Dissertation	7HUM1123	60	0	100	0	ABC

Students need to choose three of the following 15-credit modules:

Optional Modules Module Titles	Module Code	Credit Points	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Energy and Environmental Politics	7HUM1124	15	0	100	0	B
International Political Economy: Contemporary Dynamics and Approaches	7HUM1128	15	0	100	0	B
Justice in International Relations	7HUM1129	15	0	100	0	B
Geopolitics: Development and Diplomacy	7HUM2016	15	0	100	0	B
Conspiracy and Truth in International Politics	7SHE2001	15	0	100	0	B

The award of an MA International Relations degree requires 180 credit points passed at level 7, including the International Relations Dissertation.

MA International Relations

Mode of study Part Time (2 years/24 months)

Entry point Semester A only

Students study 60 credits in Year 1 and 120 credits in Year 2:

Compulsory Modules Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Year 1						
Debates and Dilemmas in International Relations	7HUM1122	30	0	100	0	A
Year 2						
Governing the International, the Global, and the Planetary	7HUM2004	15	0	100	0	A
Designing Research in Global Politics	7HUM2005	15	0	100	0	A
Conflict, Peace and Security	7SHE2000	15	0	70	30	B
International Relations Dissertation	7HUM1123	60	0	100	0	ABC

Students need to choose two of the following 15-credit modules in Year 1 and one 15-credit module in Year 2:

Optional Modules Module Titles	Module Code	Credit Points	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Year 1						
Energy and Environmental Politics	7HUM1124	15	0	100	0	B
International Political Economy: Contemporary Dynamics and Approaches	7HUM1128	15	0	100	0	B
Justice in International Relations	7HUM1129	15	0	100	0	B
Geopolitics: Development and Diplomacy	7HUM2016	15	0	100	0	B
Conspiracy and Truth in International Politics	7SHE2001	15	0	100	0	B

The award of an MA International Relations degree requires 180 credit points passed at level 7, including the International Relations Dissertation.

MA International Relations

Mode of study Full Time (12 months)

Entry point Semester B

Students study 180 credits of the following modules:

Compulsory Modules Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Designing Research in Global Politics	7HUM2005	15	0	100	0	B
Conflict, Peace and Security	7SHE2000	15	0	70	30	A
Debates and Dilemmas in International Relations	7HUM1122	30	0	100	0	A
Governing the International, the Global, and the Planetary	7HUM2004	15	0	100	0	A

International Relations Dissertation	7HUM1123	60	0	100	0	BCA
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Students need to choose three of the following 15-credit modules:

Optional Modules Module Titles	Module Code	Credit Points	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Energy and Environmental Politics	7HUM1124	15	0	100	0	B
International Political Economy: Contemporary Dynamics and Approaches	7HUM1128	15	0	100	0	B
Justice in International Relations	7HUM1129	15	0	100	0	B
Geopolitics: Development and Diplomacy	7HUM2016	15	0	100	0	B
Conspiracy and Truth in International Politics	7SHE2001	15	0	100	0	B

The award of an MA International Relations degree requires 180 credit points passed at level 7, including the International Relations Dissertation.

MA International Relations (Sandwich)

Mode of study Full Time (2 years/24 months)

Entry point Semester A only

Students study 120 credits in Year 1 and 120 credits in Year 2. In order to enrol onto the Work Placement module, students need to have passed 60 credits in Semester A. Students who have not passed 60 credits in Semester A are able to transfer to the International Relations pathway or the International Relations (with Advanced Research) pathway.

Compulsory Modules Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Year 1						
Debates and Dilemmas in International Relations	7HUM1122	30	0	100	0	A
Governing the International, the Global, and the Planetary	7HUM2004	15	0	100	0	A
Designing Research in Global Politics	7HUM2005	15	0	100	0	A
Conflict, Peace and Security	7SHE2000	15	0	70	30	B
Year 2						
Work Placement	7SHE2011	60	0	0	P/F	AB
Work Placement Assessment	7HUM1131	0	0	P/F	0	C
International Relations Dissertation	7HUM1123	60	0	100	0	ABC

Students need to choose three of the following 15-credit modules in Year 1:

Optional Modules Module Titles	Module Code	Credit Points	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Year 1						
Energy and Environmental Politics	7HUM1124	15	0	100	0	B
International Political Economy: Contemporary Dynamics and Approaches	7HUM1128	15	0	100	0	B
Justice in International Relations	7HUM1129	15	0	100	0	B
Geopolitics: Development and Diplomacy	7HUM2016	15	0	100	0	B
Conspiracy and Truth in International Politics	7SHE2001	15	0	100	0	B

The award of an MA International Relations (Sandwich) normally requires 180 credit points passed at Level 7, with the successful completion of the module Work Placement Assessment.

Sandwich Year

The placement year comprises an agreed period of a minimum of 30 weeks (including employers' and statutory holidays) of work based learning at an organisation or company which has agreed to those terms and conditions regarded as essential by the University of Hertfordshire. Students will be supervised according to university regulations. The learning experience will be assessed in the module 'Work Placement Assessment', to enable students to demonstrate both their knowledge of the industry, their skills development and their professional attributes.

Placements are advertised through the Career and Placements Office. Students may also source their own placement, but it must be subsequently approved by the School in terms of health and safety, equality legislation and supervisory guidelines before a student can take it up. For students with visa restrictions, the placement will need to take place in the UK.

All students on the on the pathway leading to the award MA International Relations (Sandwich) are eligible to proceed to a placement year provided they have achieved 60 credits by the end of Semester A and a further 60 credits by the end of Semester B, and they have completed the appropriate placement documentation. Success in the placement will be recognised in the title of the award but does not carry additional credit towards the Honours programme.

All students are eligible for a work placement regardless of GPA, but the work placement cannot be guaranteed.

MA International Relations (with Advanced Research)

Mode of study Full Time (2 years/24 months)

Entry point Semester A

Students study 120 credits in Year 1 and 120 credits in Year 2:

Compulsory Modules Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Year 1						
Debates and Dilemmas in International Relations	7HUM1122	30	0	100	0	A
Governing the International, the Global, and the Planetary	7HUM2004	15	0	100	0	A

Designing Research in Global Politics	7HUM2005	15	0	100	0	A
Conflict, Peace and Security	7SHE2000	15	0	70	30	B
Year 2						
Advanced Political Research Methods	7HUM1119	30	0	P/F	0	A
International Relations in Practice	7HUM2006	30	0	P/F	P/F	B
Extended International Relations Dissertation	7HUM1125	60	0	100	0	ABC

Students need to choose three of the following 15-credit modules in Year 1:

Optional Modules Module Titles	Module Code	Credit Points	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Year 1						
Energy and Environmental Politics	7HUM1124	15	0	100	0	B
International Political Economy: Contemporary Dynamics and Approaches	7HUM1128	15	0	100	0	B
Justice in International Relations	7HUM1129	15	0	100	0	B
Geopolitics: Development and Diplomacy	7HUM2016	15	0	100	0	B
Conspiracy and Truth in International Politics	7SHE2001	15	0	100	0	B

The award of an MA International Relations (with Advanced Research) requires 240 credit points passed at Level 7, with the successful completion of the modules Advanced Political Research Methods and International Relations in Practice.

MA International Relations with Advanced Research

Mode of study Full Time (2 years/24 months)

Entry point Semester B

Students study 120 credits in Year 1 and 120 credits in Year 2:

Compulsory Modules Module Title	Module Code	Credit Points	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Year 1						
Designing Research in Global Politics	7HUM2005	15	0	100	0	B
Debates and Dilemmas in International Relations	7HUM1122	30	0	100	0	A
Governing the International, the Global, and the Planetary	7HUM2004	15	0	100	0	A
Conflict, Peace and Security	7SHE2000	15	0	70	30	A
Year 2						
International Relations in Practice	7HUM2006	30	0	P/F	P/F	B

Advanced Political Research Methods	7HUM1119	30	0	P/F	0	A
Extended International Relations Dissertation	7HUM1125	60	0	100	0	BCA

Students need to choose three of the following 15-credit modules in Year 1:

Optional Modules Module Titles	Module Code	Credit Points	% Examination	% Coursework	% Practical	Semesters
Year 1						
Energy and Environmental Politics	7HUM1124	15	0	100	0	B
International Political Economy: Contemporary Dynamics and Approaches	7HUM1128	15	0	100	0	B
Justice in International Relations	7HUM1129	15	0	100	0	B
Geopolitics: Development and Diplomacy	7HUM2016	15	0	100	0	B
Conspiracy and Truth in International Politics	7SHE2001	15	0	100	0	B

The award of an MA International Relations (with Advanced Research) normally requires 240 credit points passed at Level 7, with the successful completion of the modules Advanced Political Research Methods and International Relations in Practice.

Table 1b Final and interim awards available
The programme provides the following final and interim awards:

Final Award	Award Title	Minimum requirements	Available at end of (normally):	Programme Learning Outcomes developed (see above)
Masters	International Relations with Advanced Research	240 credit points including at least 210 credits at level 7	6 Semesters	All programme learning outcomes, excluding A7 (see Table 2)
Masters	International Relations	180 credit points including at least 150 credits at level 7	3 Semesters	All programme learning outcomes, excluding A7 and C6 (see Table 2)
Masters	International Relations (Sandwich)	240 credit points including at least 150 credits at level 7	6 Semesters	All programme learning outcomes, excluding C6 (see Table 2)

Interim Award	Award Title	Minimum requirements	Available at end of Level	Programme Learning Outcomes developed (see above)
Postgraduate Certificate	International Relations	60 credit points, including at least 45 credits at level 7	1-2 Semesters	A subset of the programme learning outcomes (see table 2) depending on the student's individual module choices
Postgraduate Diploma	International Relations	120 credit points, including at least 90 credits at level 7	2-3 Semesters	All programme learning outcomes other than A5, A7, B4, C2, C4 and C6 (see Table 2)

Masters and Diploma awards can be made "with Distinction" or "with Commendation" where criteria as described in [UPR AS14](#), Section D and the students' handbook are met.

Programme-specific assessment regulations

The programme is compliant with the University's academic regulations (in particular, [UPR AS11](#), [UPR AS12/UPR AS13](#) and [UPR AS14](#)) with the exception of those listed below, which have been specifically approved by the University:

None.

Further points of clarification and interpretation relevant to this specific programme are given below:

- In order to enrol onto the Work Placement module, students need to have passed 60 credits in Semester A. Students who have not passed 60 credits in Semester A are able to transfer to the International Relations pathway or the International Relations (with Advanced Research) pathway.
- To qualify for the award of MA International Relations (Sandwich), students must successfully complete the module Work Placement Assessment, as well as the Work Placement. Students who do not successfully complete these modules will be eligible for the award MA International Relations on successful completion of 180 credits, including International Relations Dissertation.
- To qualify for the award of MA International Relations (with Advanced Research), students must successfully complete the 30 credit Level 7 module 'International Relations in Practice', and the 30 credit module 'Advanced Political Research Methods'. No final compensatory credit can be awarded for these modules. Students who do not successfully complete one or more of these modules will be eligible for the award MA International Relations on successful completion of a minimum of 180 credits, including the International Relations Dissertation.
- The award calculation for the award of MA International Relations (with Advanced Research) will be based on an average of the best 150 of 180 grade-bearing credits on the programme. The remaining 60 credits gained from 'International Relations in Practice' and 'Advanced Political Research Methods' are excluded from this calculation as these modules are graded on a pass/fail basis.

E. Management of Programme & Support for student learning

Management

The programme is managed and administered through:

- The Programme Leader, who is responsible for advising students on the programme as a whole and chairing the programme committee
- Student representatives on programme committees
- Module Leaders
- A designated administrative team to deal with day-to-day administration associated with the modules within the programme
- A Dean of School who has overall responsibility for all programmes in the School
- An Associate Dean of School (Academic Quality Assurance) who has overall responsibility for academic quality, assurance and enhancement with and on behalf of the Dean of School
- An Associate Dean of School (Learning and Teaching) who has overall responsibility for learning and teaching with and on behalf of the Dean of School
- An Associate Dean of School (Student Experience) who has overall responsibility for induction and student experience with and on behalf of the Dean of School
- A Programme Leader to help students understand the programme structure, and provide confidential academic and pastoral support
- A Head of Politics and International Relations who is responsible for all the modules on the programme

- The programme committee which has a membership which includes all of the above plus an Information Manager and student representatives

Support

At university level, students are supported by:

- An induction week at the beginning of each new academic session
- Overseas Orientation
- You will have a Personal Tutor who will be an important point of contact, able to help you gain a good understanding of the School and programme you are studying.
- A substantial Student Centre that provides advice on issues such as finance, University regulations, legal matters, accommodation, international student support, etc
- Office of Dean of Students, Student Wellbeing (incorporating Counselling, Mental Health and Disability Support), Chaplaincy, and Day Nursery
- Canvas, a versatile on-line interactive intranet and learning environment
- Guided student-centred learning on StudyNet module sites
- Access to extensive digital and print collections of information resources
- Attractive modern study environments in three Learning Resources Centres
- Academic Skills Centres
- Medical Centre
- University Disability Advisors
- Careers and Employment
- Hertfordshire Students' Union
- Dedicated programme site
- An Equality Office

At School level, students are further supported by:

- A Programme Leader to help students understand the programme structure and provide confidential academic and pastoral support
- The Head of Politics and International Relations
- Scheduled weekly Student Drop-In hours for all academic staff for student support and guidance
- A designated administrative team to deal with day-to-day administration associated with the modules within the Programme
- Module Leaders who are responsible for individual modules
- Student Representatives on the Programme Committee
- A School Community Organiser (SCO)
- An induction session at the beginning of each new academic session
- An Academic Skills Tutor
- A Student Support team

F. Other sources of information

In addition to this Programme Specification, the University publishes guidance to registered students on the programme and its constituent modules:

- A Programme (or Student) Handbook;
- A Definitive Module Document (DMD) for each constituent module.

The [Ask Herts](#) website provides information on a wide range of resources and services available at the University of Hertfordshire including academic support, accommodation, fees, funding, visas, wellbeing services and student societies.

As a condition of registration, all students of the University of Hertfordshire are required to comply with the University's rules, regulations and procedures. These are published in a series of documents called 'University Policies and Regulations' (UPRs). The University requires that all students consult these documents which are available on-line, on the UPR web site, at: <http://www.herts.ac.uk/secreg/upr/>. In particular, [UPR SA07](#) 'Regulations and Advice for Students' Particular Attention - Index' provides information on the UPRs that contain the academic regulations of particular relevance for undergraduate and taught postgraduate students.

In accordance with section 4(5) of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017 (HERA), the UK Office for Students (OfS) has registered the University of Hertfordshire in the register of English higher education providers. The Register can be viewed at: <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/the-ofs-register/>.

G. Entry requirements

The normal entry requirements for the programme are:

Graduates with an honours degree, Second-Class Upper Division, in a Humanities, Social Science, Business or Law subject (Human Geography will be considered). Graduates with an honours degree, Second-Class Lower Division, in a Humanities, Social Science, Business or Law subject (Human Geography will be considered), may be considered on an individual basis.

We request that applicants submit a short (800-1000 words) personal statement (detailing their academic background and personal interests in the subject) with their application.

International students should have an English Language assessment of an overall average IELTS 6.5, with no individual component lower than IELTS 6.0, or equivalent as determined by the School of Humanities.

For current entry tariff point requirements, please refer to the relevant page for the Course on the University website or on the online prospectus.

The programme is subject to the University's Principles, Policies and Regulations for the Admission of Students to Undergraduate and Taught Postgraduate Programmes (in [UPR SA03](#)), along with associated procedures. These will take account of University policy and guidelines for assessing accredited prior certificated learning (APCL) and accredited prior experiential learning (APEL).

If you would like this information in an alternative format please contact:
dhaq@herts.ac.uk

If you wish to receive a copy of the latest External Examiner's Report for the programme, please email a request to aqo@herts.ac.uk

MA International Relations, MA International Relations (Sandwich), MA International Relations (with Advanced Research)

Table 2: Development of Intended Programme Learning Outcomes in the Constituent Modules

This map identifies where the programme learning outcomes are assessed in the constituent modules. It provides (i) an aid to academic staff in understanding how individual modules contribute to the programme aims (ii) a checklist for quality control purposes and (iii) a means to help students monitor their own learning, personal and professional development as the programme progresses.

		Programme Learning Outcomes (as identified in section 1 and the following page)																									
		Knowledge & Understanding							Intellectual Skills				Practical Skills					Transferable Skills									
Module Title	Module Code	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	B1	B2	B3	B4	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7	D8	
Debates and Dilemmas in International Relations	7HUM1122	X	X	X					X	X	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
International Political Economy: Contemporary Dynamics and Approaches	7HUM1128	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Energy and Environmental Politics	7HUM1124	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Justice in International Relations	7HUM1129	X	X	X					X	X	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
International Relations Dissertation	7HUM1123	X	X	X	X	X			X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Governing the International, the Global, and the Planetary	7HUM2004	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Designing Research in Global Politics	7HUM2005	X		X						X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Geopolitics: Development and Diplomacy	7HUM2016	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Conflict, Peace and Security	7SHE2000	X	X	X					X	X	X			X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Conspiracy and Truth in International Politics	7SHE2001	X	X	X					X	X	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
International Relations in Practice	7HUM2006	X		X		X			X	X	X		X			X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Work Placement	7SHE2011						X	X									X							X			
Work Placement Assessment	7HUM1131						X	X									X							X			
Advanced Political Research Methods	7HUM1119	X		X						X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Extended International Relations Dissertation	7HUM1125	X	X	X	X	X			X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	

KEY TO PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowledge and Understanding

- A1. Display an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the discipline informed by current scholarship and research, including a critical awareness of current issues and developments in the subject.
- A2. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of processes, institutions, bodies and practices of International Relations.
- A3. Be able to use a range of techniques and research methods applicable to advanced scholarship in the subject.
- A4. Demonstrate deep and systematic understanding of advanced debates in International Relations and their interrelationship with other relevant disciplines.
- A5. Be able to complete a dissertation in the subject, which includes a critical review of existing literature, and advanced independent research.
- A6. Demonstrate a thorough understanding of how international relations operate in practice.
- A7. Practically apply theoretical knowledge in a professional working environment

Intellectual Skills

- B1. Apply theory to practice at postgraduate level, whilst incorporating a critical ethical dimension to their research practice.
- B2. Develop an effective dissemination strategy for a variety of audiences.
- B3. Critically analyse emergent trends and issues in advanced International Relations.
- B4. Design and conduct advanced research projects based on primary data and sources.

Practical Skills

- C1. Produce and disseminate research outputs for a professional environment.
- C2. Gather and analyse primary and secondary data.
- C3. Develop policy-oriented recommendations.
- C4. Deploy a range of practice-based research methodologies within their field of practice
- C5. The ability to work with professionalism.
- C6. Demonstrate effective presentation skills at a research conference and answer audience questions with confidence and professionalism

Transferable Skills

- D1. Use initiative and take responsibility.
- D2. Solve problems in creative and innovative ways.
- D3. Make decisions in challenging situations.
- D4. Demonstrate strategic thinking.
- D5. Further develop organisational and presentational skills.
- D6. Continue to learn independently and to develop professionally.
- D7. Communicate effectively, with colleagues and wider audience in a variety of media.
- D8. Work effectively as part of a team.

Section 2

Programme management

Relevant QAA subject benchmarking statements	None
Type of programme	Taught Postgraduate
Date of validation/last periodic review	March 20
Date of production/ last revision of PS	March 2023
Relevant to level/cohort	Level 7 entering September 2023
Administrative School	School of Social Sciences, Humanities, and Education
Language of Delivery	English

Table 4 Course structure

Course details			
Course Code	Course Description	HECOS	UCAS
SHIRM	MA International Relations	100490	N/A
SHIRE	MA International Relations - Extended	100490	N/A