School of International Relations

Head of School
Professor W B Walker

Degree Programmes

Graduate Diploma: *Defence Studies (distance-learning course)
International Political Thought
International Security Studies
Middle East & Central Asia Security Studies

M.Litt.: *Defence Studies
International Political Thought
International Security Studies
Middle East & Central Asia Security Studies

M.Phil.: International Political Thought
International Security Studies
Middle East & Central Asia Security Studies

M.Res.: International Relations

* No longer available to new students.

Programme Requirements

Defence Studies:
The mode of study is directed distance learning supported by tutorial attendance at study days. It is a part-time M.Litt. or Graduate Diploma.

Graduate Diploma: 120 credits from the selection of modules on offer under the (Def) coding
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for Graduate Diploma plus IR5099

International Political Thought
Graduate Diploma: IR5401, IR5402, and a further 60 credits from, IR5403, IR5404, IR5405, IR5406 or other modules at the discretion of the Head of School of International Relations
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for Graduate Diploma plus IR5099
M.Phil.: 120 credits as for Graduate Diploma, IR5601, plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words.

International Relations
M.Res.: SS5101 – SS5104, IR5001, IR5401, IR5601, IR5602, plus a dissertation (IR5699)

International Security Studies
Graduate Diploma: All students will take IR5001 and IR5007 in Semester 1. In Semester 2 they will take two of IR5011, IR5012, IR5015, IR5023, IR5026, IR5027, IF5502, IR5510 (NB Other modules may become available nearer the time).
M.Litt.: 120 credits as for Graduate Diploma plus IR5099
M.Phil.: 120 credits as for Graduate Diploma, IR5601, plus a thesis of not more than 40,000 words.
Middle East and Central Asia Security Studies

Graduate Diploma  
All students take IR5501 and one optional module in Semester 1 and 2 optional modules in semester 2, chosen from IR5502, IR5510, IR5011, IR5518, IR5520 and IR5522

M. Litt  
120 credits for Graduate diploma plus IR5099

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

Modules

IR5001 Analysis of International Relations
Credits: 30.0  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%

IR5007 Terrorism and Liberal Democracy
Credits: 30.0  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%

IR5011 The Political Role of Islam in the Contemporary Arab World
Credits: 30.0  Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for Central & East European Studies, International Security Studies and Middle East & Central Asia Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
Description: This module examines the causes of the resurgence of political Islam in the Arab world and its influence on intrastate, interstate regional politics as well as on the conduct of international relations. It will begin with the nature of Islamism as a political ideology and its evolution as well as specific influence on the resurgence of Islamic movements across North Africa and the Middle East. Then it will focus on the dynamics of the relationship between Islamic movements and government as well as society within the context of political modernisation in the region and its consequences within the framework of regional as well as international politics. It concludes by looking at broader issues relating to the compatibility of Islam and democracy, the West’s perception of Islam as a threat and its consequences for foreign policy towards the region, as well as regime stability in the Arab world.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%
IR5012 Revolution and Change: Post-Communist Central and Eastern Europe

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for International Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module examines the changes brought about by the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the disintegration of the Soviet Union including: the nature of the 1989 revolutions; the impact of the collapse of communism on the international system; regional co-operation; Russia’s place in Europe; nationalism and ethnic conflict; the wars in Yugoslavia; Western approaches to Eastern Europe; domestic political-economic transformation and its international context; and changes to the European security institutional architecture.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5023 Rethinking Approaches to Conflict in the International System

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for International Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: 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. Similarly, 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 module then turns to a critical survey of the various approaches that have emerged from addressing conflict, 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 module examines how our understanding, and attempts to manage, conflict may reify the institutions and hegemonic practices which have it initially. Much of the discussion of the different areas of the module will revolve around topical case studies.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5026 Ethics and the Use of Force

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for International Security Studies and International Political Theory Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module will examine various ethical issues surrounding the use of military force at the global level. It will argue that ethics can both enable and restrain the use of force. It will introduce students to religious, philosophical, legal and ideological strains of thought.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One 2 Hour seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%
IR5027 Armed Conflict and Human Rights

Credits: 30.0  Semester: 2
Prerequisites: IR5001/IR5007
Programme(s): Optional module for International Security Studies and International Political Theory Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

Description: This module considers the relationship of human rights to armed conflict in three senses. Firstly it considers the constraints that international humanitarian law and human rights law place upon actors in both internal and international armed conflict. This involves particular consideration of the challenges posed by internal armed conflict and non-state armed groups, where relatively little international law has direct effect. Secondly it considers the scope and effects of human rights violations in a number of contemporary armed conflicts, using recent and current case studies. Finally it considers the responses that have been taken in the wake of armed conflict to punish violations of human rights law and international humanitarian law, through prosecutions in domestic courts, but also through the ad hoc war crimes tribunals. It concludes with a discussion of the early work of the International Criminal Court in ongoing conflict zones such as the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One 2 Hour seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5028 Security and Conflict in Africa

Credits: 30.0  Semester: 2
Prerequisites: IR5001/IR5007
Programme(s): Optional module for International Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.

Description: This module aims to be a systematic study of patterns of conflict in Africa and security concerns. The module will survey the literature on conflict and security as it pertains to the continent in order to gain an understanding of the competing contentions on the causes and resolution of conflict in Africa. The main question the module asks is: why does Africa appear to be so susceptible to conflicts? Although simple in appearance, the question is still the subject of a great deal of conjecture and debate. Thus, the aim of the module is to approximate reasonable and plausible answers to the question of what drives conflict in Africa. We hope to arrive at a better understanding of the complex and intricate dimensions of African wars, primarily through the rigorous study of selected case studies. In addition, we aim to take a look at broader security concerns that impact upon the lives of ordinary Africans.

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: 60.0
Prerequisite: An average grade of at least 14 in course work.
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Defence Studies, International Political Thought, International Security Studies and Middle East & Central Asia 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%
IR5212 Revolution and change: Post-Communist Central and Eastern Europe

Credits: 40.0
Programme(s): Optional module for Central & East European Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module examines the changes brought about by the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the disintegration of the Soviet Union including: the nature of the 1989 revolutions; the impact of the collapse of communism on the international system; regional co-operation; Russia’s place in Europe; nationalism and ethnic conflict; the wars in Yugoslavia; Western approaches to Eastern Europe; domestic political-economic transformation and its international context; and changes to the European security institutional architecture.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One 2 Hour seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5301 The USSR and the Post-Soviet Order (Def)

Credits: 40.0
Availability: to be confirmed - Distance learning taught course
Prerequisite: Faculty entry onto the course
Programme(s): Optional module for Defence Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module explores the last years of the USSR and the emerging post-Soviet political order. In the first part of the module we devote some attention to the established Soviet system, but most of the focus is on the reforms initiated by Mikhail Gorbachev. The second half of the module looks at the collapse of the Soviet Union and the new order that has emerged since 1991. Though most of the focus is on the Russian situation, in particular the problems of democratisation, there will also be some discussion of the impact of change in Central Asia. The course will also analyse the security concerns of the new states and the continued Russian dominance of the region.
Teaching: Open Learning Package - consisting of 21 weeks of study with two study days at St Andrews.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment (2 essays) = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5303 Revolution and change: The International Relations of Post-Communist Central and Eastern Europe (Def)

Credits: 40.0
Availability: to be confirmed - Distance learning taught course
Prerequisite: Faculty entry onto the course
Programme(s): Optional module for Defence Studies Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module examines the core security issues caused by the collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Issues considered include: the paradoxes of Soviet rule in Eastern Europe; the causes and consequences of the 1989 Revolutions; post-Communist regional cooperation; ethnicity, nationalism and regional security; post-Communist Russia’s relations with Europe; the causes of the Yugoslav wars and international responses; political-economic transformation; Western responses to changes throughout the region; and the emerging post-Communist European institutional security architecture.
Teaching: Open Learning Package - consisting of 21 weeks of study with two study days at St Andrews.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment (2 essays) = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%
IR5304 Managing and Resolving Conflict in the International System (Def)

Credits: 40.0

Availability: To be confirmed - Distance Learning Taught Course

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

Description: 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. Similarly, 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 module then turns to a critical survey of the various approaches that have emerged for addressing conflict, 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 module examines how our understanding, and attempts to manage conflict, may reify the institutions and hegemonic practices which have caused it initially. Much of the discussion of the different areas of the module will revolve around topical case studies.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

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

IR5401 Texts in International Political Thought

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for International Political Thought 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*. It concludes with a round table discussion on the concept of international political thought.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminars.

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

IR5402 Analysis and Interpretation in International Political Thought

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

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

Description: This module introduces students to the methods and interpretative approaches that can be taken in the study of international political thought. It begins with an exploration of the distinction between explanation and understanding in the humanities and social sciences, as well as an examination of the traditions of interpretation that have been most predominant in IR. The body of the module consists of the analysis of a range of approaches, each examined through the work of a prominent representative of that tradition. It finishes with a Round Table discussion on contemporary developments in the field.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Two hour seminars.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%
IR5403 Political Philosophy and World Order
Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for International Political Thought Postgraduate Taught Programme.
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%

IR5404 Post-Positivism and International Theory
Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for International Political Thought Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module examines the post-positivist debates in IR theory. In particular it examines so-called critical international theory and post-structuralist debates, and the critiques that have been levelled through these debates at traditional positivist approaches. It examines the intellectual coherence, and prospects for, these attempts to move beyond the orthodoxy of the various traditions relating to the core strands of realism, idealism, liberalism, structuralism, and more recently, constructivism. This provides the basis for a review of the criticism that such positivist debates may privilege certain understandings of global politics. The importance of this for contemporary thinking and practices, specifically in relation to territorial sovereignty, representation, diplomacy, rights, and justice in world politics will be considered in order to develop a critical account of contemporary international theory and its contribution to these debates.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminars.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%

IR5405 International Thought in Contemporary Fiction
Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for International Political Thought Postgraduate Taught Programme.
Description: This module examines the international political thought in contemporary fiction, especially the novel. It is introduced by a discussion of the problems posed by the analysis and interpretation of fictional as opposed to conventional texts. The remainder of the module explores three themes: the anxieties of the Cold War, the end of empires, and the changing world order. Each week, a novel will be read both in the context of these themes and of the relevant IR literature. The module concludes with a general discussion about the place of fiction in the wider field of international political thought.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3 Hour Examination = 50%
IR5406 Theories of Friendship and Enmity

Credits: 30.0 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%

IR5501 Core in Middle East & Central Asian Security Studies

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1

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

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. In a seminar setting these themes are then explored through case study examples derived from the Middle East and Central Asia. 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 lecture and one seminar.

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

IR5502 Global & Transnational Islamism

Credits: 30.0 Semester: 2

Programme(s): Optional module for Middle East & 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: 30.0  Semester: 2
Programme(s): Optional module for Middle East & Central Asia 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: 30.0  Semester: 1
Programme(s): Optional module for Middle East & Central Asia 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%

IR5520 International Relations of the Modern Middle East

Credits: 30.0  Semester: 1
Programme(s): Optional module for Middle East & Central Asia 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%
IR5522 Special Topics in Modern Middle East Politics
Credits: 30.0 Semester: Either
Programme(s): Optional module for Middle East & Central Asia Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes.
Description: This module involves individual supervised readings or research on a particular topic of special interest to the student. Requires permission of supervisor.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: One tutorial.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

IR5601 Research methods in International Relations
Credits: 30.0 Semester: 1
Programme(s): Compulsory module for the completion of the PhD and MPhil programmes.
Description: This is a required course for all 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.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminar.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

IR5602 International Relations: Philosophical and Historical Debates
Credits: 15.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Compulsory module for the completion of the MRes 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 Thought
Credits: 15.0 Semester: 1
Programme(s): Optional module for MRes 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 through. 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. It concludes with a round table discussion on the concept of international political thought.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Two hour seminar
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
IR5699 Dissertation for M.Res. Programme/s
Credits: 60.0
Prerequisite: An average grade of at least 14 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%

SS5101 Being a Social Scientist: Skills, Processes and Outcomes
Credits: 15.0 Semester: 1
Programme(s): Compulsory module for the MRes 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: 15.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s): Compulsory module for MRes 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: 15.0 Semester: 2
Programme(s) Compulsory module for MRes in International Relations
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: 15.0  Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for MRes in International Relations

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%