Masters in Peace and Conflict Studies

Programme Requirements

**Peace and Conflict Studies - MLitt**

IR5151 (30 credits) and IR5701 (30 credits) and
60 credits from Module List: IR5004 - IR5095, IR5403 - IR5449, IR5721 - IR5749, LC5022 and IR5099 (60 credits)

**Further requirements**
Choose 180 credits in academic year

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

**Compulsory modules:**

**IR5151 Issues in Peace and Conflict**

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This is a core module for the Masters programme in Peace and Conflict Studies (PCS). It is explicitly designed to be taken alongside its allied core module, IR 5701 Peace and Conflict Theory. Like that module it is concerned with examining the fundamental nature of war and peace but it focuses on a comparative assessment of real world examples from the past and contemporary scene. In particular, it concentrates on evaluating practical approaches commonly undertaken to try to end conflict by various actors ranging from the benign ('can't we just sit down and talk about this?') to the risky ('should we bomb to end wars?') or even horrific ('why not kill them all?'). In short, it aims to encourage reflection on 'what works' in peace building.

**Programme module type:** Compulsory for Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Programme. Optional for International Relations MRes Programme

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:** Weekly contact: 1 lecture and 1 seminar.

**Assessment pattern:** Coursework = 100%

**Module coordinator:** Dr R Brett
Since the end of the Cold War, the predominant forms through which conflict is waged have transformed, precipitating profound changes both in the nature of international and intra-State conflict and in those national and international efforts to resolve and transform conflict.

Understanding the nature of conflict and collective responses to it provides vital insights into the changing nature of the international system and into the emergence and development of those new (non-State) actors that have begun increasingly to influence and redefine it.

This module will analyse how and why the principal theoretical frameworks and practices employed to comprehend conflict, violence and peace building have evolved over the last decades, situating this analysis within a series of key case studies.

Programme module type: Compulsory for the Peace and Conflict Studies Postgraduate Programme. Optional for International Relations MRes Programme

Learning and teaching methods and delivery: Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.

Assessment pattern: 3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%

Module coordinator: Dr J McMullin

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.


Learning and teaching methods and delivery: Weekly contact: Individual Supervision

Assessment pattern: Coursework (Dissertation) = 100%

Module coordinator: TBC
Compulsory for MPhil:

**IR5601 Research Methods in International Relations**

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<td>Planned timetable:</td>
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This is a required module for all MRes, PhD and MPhil students in the School of International Relations. It is designed to assist students in understanding the purpose and approaches of international relations scholarship, and to assist them in developing and carrying out their research. As such, it addresses a range of topics, from the history and philosophy of the social sciences to specific research methods.

**Programme module type:** Compulsory for the completion of the MRes, PhD and MPhil Programmes in the School of International Relations.

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:** Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.

**Assessment pattern:** Coursework = 100%

**Module coordinator:** Prof T Lang

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**Optional modules:**

**IR5007 Terrorism and Liberal Democracy**

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<tr>
<td>Planned timetable:</td>
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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

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<td>Planned timetable:</td>
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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

### IR5036 Critical Security Studies

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<tr>
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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.

**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
### IR5039 Political Economy of Conflict

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**Planned timetable:** 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Tue

This module provides a political economy perspective on conflict in a developing economy, introducing concepts and theoretical approaches of political economy and their application to situations involving conflict and violence. Economic arguments for a ‘resource curse’ and the explanatory binary of ‘greed versus grievance’ are interrogated and challenged for the absence of political, hence political economic, contextualisation and analysis. The complex network of commodities and goods traded between developed and developing economies are explored through a series of case studies and the increased securitisation of development in the twenty-first century is examined.

**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:** 3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%

**Module coordinator:** Dr W B Vlcek

### IR5040 Emergent Great Powers

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**Planned timetable:** 10.00 am - 12.00 noon Mon

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 face as they define their emergent roles in the twenty-first century.

**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 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 that 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.


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

The 100th anniversary of the First World War gives us a chance to reflect on how that conflict affected the domestic circumstances and the international system of both the contemporary period and since. International scholars often claim the world system fundamentally changed in 1914. This module will explore how that claim has been dealt with by international historians and by students of international order. It will therefore give an opportunity for students to reflect on the links between the history and political implications of a particular event as well as to look at how theorists of international order have built the Great War into their analyses. Students will be encouraged to examine both the War's contemporary (1914 - 1939) impact on international relations as well as the more recent debate on order and international society led by IR scholars from the 1990s and up till now, but also by international historians, looking in particular at the lasting impact of the war on issue areas like the Middle East, European Union and Great Power rivalry.


Learning and teaching methods and delivery: Weekly contact: 1 x 1-hour lectur and 2 x 2-hour seminar.

Assessment pattern: Coursework = 100%

Module coordinator: Prof A Williams
**IR5055 Agency and Strategy in Non-Western Political Thought**

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**Planned timetable:** 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Thu

Eastern political strategies and thought, while often resting on different assumptions to their Western counterparts, have in a context of globalization spread into very different contexts than those from which they originated. Sun Tzu is included in the canon of realist thought and often informs contemporary corporate strategy; Gandhi’s satyagraha has provided impetus to nonviolent movements across the globe; Thich Quang Duc’s self-immolation in Vietnam (1963) has been imitated in a number of contexts since. Jihad has become a global phenomenon. These are strategies with origins in ancient Eastern thought that have been put to use in contemporary political struggles. The question of agency is important in so far as non-Western societies have for the last several hundred years been in a structurally weak position vis a vis the expansion of Western power across the globe. Non-western philosophies have informed strategies of resistance or independence but may, in very different ways, become significant as India and China become global players. There has been a lively debate within International Relations theory about the potential importance of alternative modes of thought, more indigenous to these cultures, in the evolution of the future strategies of these emerging powers. The purpose of this module is to explore a range of ‘classic’ and secondary texts that express different elements of non-Western thought, both ancient and contemporary, to understand the underlying assumptions about the body, political community and the world, the objectives and workings of various strategies, both violent and nonviolent, the relationship between strategic choice and, on the one-hand, the contextual, social and/or political location of the agents, and, on the other hand, the relevance of these strategies for understanding contemporary global politics, ethics and science.

**Programme module type:** Optional for International Political Theory and International Security Studies Postgraduate Taught Programmes

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:** Weekly contact: 2-hour lectures and 2 office hours.

**Assessment pattern:** Coursework = 100%

**Module coordinator:** Prof K M Fierke

**IR5059 Political Order and Violence in the Middle East**

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**Planned timetable:** 11.00 am - 1.00 pm Wed

This module examines the causes and consequences of political order and violence in the Middle East. What constitutes a political order? Why and how are political orders established? What role does violence play in constituting political orders? Why and how does violence ensue with the breakdown of political orders? Drawing on IR, Sociological, and State-formation theories, we will examine different episodes of order and violence in contemporary Middle East politics: from the collapse of the Ottoman Empire to the latest Arab Uprisings, looking at colonial orders, regime-society violence, violent resistance against occupation, and civil wars.

**Programme module type:** Optional for all Postgraduate programmes in the School in International Relations.

**Anti-requisite(s):** IR4601

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:** Weekly contact: 1 lecture and 1 seminar.

**Assessment pattern:** Take-home Written Examination = 40%, Coursework (Essay 50%, Presentation 10%) = 60%

**Module coordinator:** Dr A Saouli
### IR5061 Security and Justice Institutions in World Politics

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<tr>
<td>Planned timetable:</td>
<td>10.00 am - 12.00 noon Tue (except week 1, Tue 4.00 pm - 6.00 pm)</td>
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This module examines the development and efficacy of institutions in the fields of peace, security, and justice. The module has three core objectives. It first provides a brief survey of the range of actors (including states, intergovernmental organizations, and nongovernmental organizations) involved in contemporary global governance. It then seeks to familiarize students with leading theoretical accounts of the origins and impact of international institutions. Particular attention is given to realist, institutionalist, and constructivist approaches, but other views are incorporated as well. Finally, the module turns to a close consideration of a series of contemporary case studies such as the United Nations Security Council, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, nuclear weapons disarmament, International Court of Justice, International Criminal Court, and the human rights regime.

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<th>Programme module type:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</td>
<td>Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar and 2 optional consultation hours</td>
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<td>Assessment pattern:</td>
<td>Coursework = 100%</td>
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<td>Module coordinator:</td>
<td>Dr A Bower</td>
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### IR5062 Transitional Justice and Post-Conflict Reconstruction in Latin America

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The module will present a detailed introduction to the processes of transitional justice and peacebuilding in Latin America since the Third Wave of democratisation during the 1980s. The approach taken in the module will be to analyse transitional justice and, ultimately, to contrast the theory and practice of TJ, peacebuilding and postconflict reconstruction. The module will engage with four detailed empirical case studies: Argentina, Chile, Guatemala and Colombia. The module addresses and evaluates key theoretical frameworks relating to TJ, peacebuilding and postwar reconstruction, and will be relevant to students interested in developing a career in public policy and policymaking in national and international institutions.

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<td>Learning and teaching methods and delivery:</td>
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<td>Assessment pattern:</td>
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<td>Module coordinator:</td>
<td>Dr R Brett</td>
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**IR5063 Spaces of Securitization**

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The module explores the relationship between space and securitization. Taking stock of existing literature, it is plain that many scholars are calling for greater attention to be paid to contextual considerations and practices. Indeed most 'second generation' scholars argue that context is vital for understanding how (de)securitization is constructed, enacted and contested. This module will contribute to these ongoing conversations by highlighting that space remains an understudied aspect of how securitization unfolds in theory and in practice. Introducing the 'spatial' turn into securitization studies is fruitful as it casts new light on everyday dimensions at play when security speech acts are uttered and enacted. This allows us to investigate a number of banal spaces from critical perspectives and begin to discover even more improbable spaces where securitization can occur. By undertaking such a journey they will start to cultivate their own ethnography, voice, views and insights.

**Programme module type:** Optional for Peace and Conflict Studies, International Security Studies and other MLitt programmes within the School of International Relations.

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:**

- **Weekly contact:** 1 lecture (x 11 weeks), 1 tutorials (x 10 weeks) and two office hours (x 12 weeks)

**Assessment pattern:**

- 3-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%

**Module coordinator:** Dr F Donnelly

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**IR5064 The Military in Politics**

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<tr>
<td>Planned timetable:</td>
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Military forces are called upon to defend against armed aggression, both foreign and domestic. Yet militaries can also disobey civilian leaders, allow governments to fall, and even overthrow the political order themselves. The loyalty and effectiveness of security forces are thus vital to government security and stability. This module introduces students to the study of civil-military relations, beginning from the perspective of the armed forces and when they directly intervene in politics, examining the techniques, causes, and means for preventing coups d'état as well as the consequences of coup-proofing for other dimensions of military effectiveness. We then analyze how armed forces impact states, domestic politics, including their behaviour during uprisings and their affect on democratic governance. Finally, we examine different theories of how civilian leaders should manage armed forces and assess the acute challenges that leaders face as they respond to international crises.

**Programme module type:** Optional for International Security Studies and all other programmes in the School of International Relations.

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:**

- **Weekly contact:** 2-hour seminars (x 11 weeks)

**Assessment pattern:**

- Coursework = 100%

**Module coordinator:** Dr K Harkness

**Module teaching staff:** Dr K Harkness, Dr M De Vore
IR5066 The Global Politics of Everyday Life

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**Planned timetable:**
1.00 pm - 3.00 pm Mon

IR has traditionally focused on supposedly 'official' actors, sites and practices. But increasingly IR is exploring 'ordinary' individuals, their 'mundane' practices and quotidian behaviours. Following the recent turn to everyday IR, this module explores how everyday life and global politics are co-constitutive. Drawing on a range of interdisciplinary theoretical perspectives, students will critically interrogate how it is in the everyday that the global is situated and produced. Whether travel, fashion, or popular culture, this module reveals how these everyday objects, structures and practices mutually constitute global power relations that are messy, complex and bolster often problematic logics of militarisation, gender, race, class, and so on. This module will therefore introduce students to (and encourage them to engage in) alternative and creative ways of thinking, and also alternative and creative sites and forms of scholarship, learning and assessment.

**Programme module type:**

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:**
Weekly contact: 2-hour seminars (x 11 weeks)

**Assessment pattern:**
Coursework = 100%

**Module coordinator:**
Dr L Mills

IR5408 Global Constitutionalism

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**Planned timetable:**
One of 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm or 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm Tue

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.

**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

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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

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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

### LC5022 Approaches to International Law

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This module will explore the philosophy of international law. Its focus will be less on the history and more on underlying philosophical issues arising from the nature and practice of international law.

**Programme module type:** Optional for Intellectual History, International Political Theory, Legal and Constitutional Studies Taught Postgraduate Programmes.

**Learning and teaching methods and delivery:** Weekly contact: 2-hour seminars (x 11 weeks)

**Assessment pattern:** Coursework = 100%

**Module coordinator:** Prof N Rengger
Other optional modules are available - see the pdf online called International Relations - optional modules 2017-2018.