Middle East, Caucasus and Central Asian Security Studies

Programme Requirements:

**Middle East, Caucasus and Central Asian Security Studies - MLitt**

\[(IR5501 \text{ (30 credits) and} \]

30 credits from Module List: IR5029, IR5058, IR5510, IR5527 and

Between 30 and 40 credits from Module List: IR5059, IR5115, IR5415, IR5502, IR5518 - IR5520, IR5522 - IR5523, IR5525 - IR5526, IR5528, MH5111 and

Between 30 and 40 credits from International Relations optional MLitt Modules) or (IR5501 (30 credits) and

60 credits from International Relations optional MLitt Modules and

Between 30 and 40 credits from Russian, Arabic or Persian modules appropriate to the student’s level of proficiency.) and IR5099 (60 credits)

Compulsory modules:

**IR5501 Core in Middle East, Caucasus and Central Asian Security Studies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCOTCAT Credits:</th>
<th>30</th>
<th>SCQF Level 11</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>1</th>
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<tr>
<td>Academic year:</td>
<td>2018/9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Planned timetable:</td>
<td>2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Tue</td>
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This module focuses on major themes in the study of international security and applies them to the study of the Middle East and Central Asia. These addressed may include war and political violence, nationalism and ethnic conflict, arms control and nuclear proliferation, democratisation and theories of globalisation as they impact on the region (e.g. clash of civilisations).

**Learning and teaching methods of delivery:** Weekly contact: 2- to 3-hour seminar.

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

**IR5099 Dissertation for MLitt Programme/s**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SCOTCAT Credits:</th>
<th>60</th>
<th>SCQF Level 11</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Full Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Academic year:</td>
<td>2018/9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Planned timetable:</td>
<td>5.00 pm - 6.00 pm Thu</td>
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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 of delivery:** Weekly contact: Individual Supervision

**Assessment pattern:** Coursework (Dissertation) = 100%

**Re-assessment pattern:** No Re-Assessment Available
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.

Learning and teaching methods of delivery:

**Weekly contact:** 1 lecture and 1 tutorial.

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

Module coordinator: Dr M Fumagalli

This module examines conflict in the modern Middle East looking at the causes, development and consequences of conflict in the region including interstate, civil war, ethnic, religious and terrorism. It examines the historical formation of the nation state system in the Middle East and the development of competing ideologies. The legacies of these processes are explored through case studies including the Arab-Israeli conflict, Lebanon and Iraq. The rise of political Islam in the region is explored in both its violent and non-violent manifestations. The region has been characterised by authoritarian regimes and this legacy and the impact of the 2011 Uprisings is examined including conflicts in Syria, Libya and Yemen. The link between identity and threat is discussed in relation to the Islamic Republic of Iran and its impact on regional security. External intervention in the region is addressed in relation to Iraq post-2003 and debates relating to responses to the 2011 Uprisings.

Learning and teaching methods of delivery:

**Weekly contact:** 1 lecture and 1 seminar per week and 1 tutorial per fortnight.

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

Module coordinator: Dr F McCallum

For Optional modules see: International Relations optional modules 2018-2019