

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Name, title and level of final qualification(s)	BA Global Politics and Language (French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Spanish) <i>Final exit awards:</i> - BA Global Politics and French / German / Italian / Japanese / Spanish OR - BA Global Politics with French / German / Italian / Japanese / Korean / Spanish (Level 6)
Name and title of any interim exit qualification(s)	Dip HE Global Politics and Language Cert HE Global Politics and Language
Is the programme offered with a Foundation Year	Yes
Awarding Body	University of London
Teaching Institution(s)	Birkbeck, University of London
Home school/other teaching departments	School of Social Sciences (home); School of Creative Arts, Culture and Communication
Location of delivery	Central London
Language of delivery and assessment	English and Relevant Language
Mode of study, length of study and normal start month	Full-time (3 years); Part-time (4 years) Full-time with FY (4 years); Part-time with FY (6 years) September
Professional, statutory or regulatory body	N/A
QAA subject benchmark group(s) Higher Education Credit Framework for England	Politics Languages, Cultures and Society
UCAS code	L293, L29F (with FY)
Birkbeck Course Code	UUBAGLPN_C (full-time, 3 years) UBAGLPNG_C (part-time, 4 years) UUBFGLPN_C (full-time with FY, 4 years) UBFGLPNG_C (part-time with FY, 6 years)
HECoS Code	100489 International Politics 100329 Modern Languages Languages and area studies, inc: 100322 French studies 100324 German studies 100327 Italian studies 101143 Brazilian studies 100765 Iberian studies 101168 Japanese studies 101212 Korean studies
Start date of programme	October 2014
Date of programme approval	Summer 2013
Date of last programme amendment approval	May 2024
Valid for academic entry year	2024-25
Date of last revision to document	22/05/24

Admissions requirements

BA Global Politics and Language: If you have recently taken A-level qualifications you will require CCC-ABB at A-Level (or UCAS tariff points 96 - 128). If you fail to achieve these grades you can still be considered for entry if you demonstrate the required level of intellectual commitment and potential. Birkbeck welcomes applicants without traditional entry qualifications as we base decisions on our own assessment of qualifications, knowledge and previous work experience. We may waive formal entry requirements or consider alternative qualifications based on judgement of your academic potential.

BA Global Politics and Language with Foundation Year: This programme is designed for people who can demonstrate the ability and motivation to complete the BA Global Politics and Language but who do not currently meet the entry criteria for direct entrance onto the degree. You may be invited for interview to discuss your interests and future plans, and to assess your needs and aptitudes. If you have already obtained Level 3 qualifications, the expectation is that you will have qualifications equivalent to 48 UCAS tariff points. Given that you will be enrolled on degree programmes, you will be offered a place only if there is significant evidence to suggest that you have the ability to complete the full degree.

The UCAS tariff score is applicable to you if you have recently studied a qualification that has a UCAS tariff equivalence. UCAS provides a [tariff calculator](#) for you to work out what your qualification is worth within the UCAS tariff.

Course aims

BA Global Politics and Language: The BA Degree in Global Politics and Language will take you through a structured program designed to immerse you in the latest research in contemporary global politics and international relations alongside rigorous study in modern languages, and to train you as a skilled analyst of global political trends and data.

Global politics and international relations concerns the relations between states, and between global institutions and inter-state political movements. This programme gives you a truly global view of contemporary and historical developments. You will learn about the history of the state and the international system, the contemporary international political and economic system, the major theories of global politics and international relations, and the relationship between war and global social relations. In line with the interdisciplinary nature of the Department of Politics, the programme draws on a wide range of resources from political theory and philosophy, political science, and the traditions of political and historical sociology. In addition to the modules you take, you will be warmly invited to the vibrant, publicly facing programme of events organised by the department and its associated research centres. These provide further opportunities to meet others from across our diverse community, to hear from scholars, politicians and practitioners from the world of politics and policy.

Our teaching springs from our world-class research. We are a leading politics department with scholars whose research spans global political economy, international relations, the politics of migration, population change and nationalism, as well as a regional focus on the politics of Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, the United States and beyond.

The BA Global Politics and Language offers temporal and geographical breadth in a carefully structured programme combining politics, ideas, history and language study. It gives you the opportunity to develop analytical skills and critical approaches that will enable you to assess qualitative and quantitative evidence, policies, events and institutions. Your career prospects will be enhanced by developing the ability to formulate and communicate your own ideas effectively in English and your chosen language of study.

Language - aims and distinctive features:

The aims of the Language component of the programmes are:

- to allow students to reach a reasonable to high level of competence in a modern foreign language (French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, or Spanish).
- to study the associated culture(s) of the language.
- to acquire advanced knowledge of a range of comparative cultural topics.

The distinctive nature of the languages component of the programmes lies in the flexibility of our languages offering, which extends to the full range of languages taught at Birkbeck (currently French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean and Spanish) and allows entry at a variety of levels of language competence.

- For the European languages included in this programme, language entry levels are at one of five levels, as defined in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR): Level A1 (Beginners); Level A2 (GCSE or equivalent); Level B1 (AS/A level or equivalent); Level B2 (A level + or equivalent); Level C1 (Proficiency).
- For Japanese there are four basic entry levels, all pegged to the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT): Beginners, Upper Beginner, Intermediate, Upper Intermediate.
- For Korean, there are three levels, pegged towards the Test of Proficiency in Korean (TOPIK): Beginners for Korean 1, Post-beginners for Korean 2 (entry with just under TOPIK 1), and Pre-intermediate for Korean 3 (entry with post-TOPIK 1 but under TOPIK 2).
- After three years (full-time), students who start at approximately A-level standard language competence will attain a level which conforms to the 'typical' exit level equivalent to CEFR Level C1/C2, as defined in the QAA benchmark statement for 'Languages, Cultures and Societies', or JLPT Level N2.
- Those full-time or part-time students who start at CEFR A1 or JLPT N5 (Language 1) or fulltime students who start with CEFR A2 or JLPT N5 (Language 2) will exit with either CEFR B2 or JLPT N4-N3 (Language 3) or CEFR C1 or JLPT N3-N2 (Language 4).
- For Korean, students will start from beginners and exit after three years with close to TOPIK 2 (entry to Korean 1, exit with Korean 3).
- PLEASE NOTE: All Language modules are taken over three terms (10+10+4 weeks, 2.5 hours per week)
- Students complete 180-210 (normally 210) credits on the Global Politics side of the programme and 150-180 (normally 150) credits on the Language side of the programme.
- If a student achieves the exit level of CEFR C2 (European Language 5) or JLPT Level N3 or above (Japanese 4/5) in their language, and has 150 credits on the Language side of the programme, the eventual award title is:
 - BA Global Politics and French
 - BA Global Politics and German
 - BA Global Politics and Italian
 - BA Global Politics and Japanese
 - OR
 - BA Global Politics and Spanish
- If a student completes at least 150 credits on the Language side but does not achieve CEFR C2 (European Language 5) or JLPT Level N3 or above (Japanese 4/5), the

degree awarded is BA Global Politics with Language (either French / German / Italian / Japanese / Korean / Spanish).

- If a student completes fewer than 150 (but at least 90) credits on the Language side, this constitutes a 'Minor' pathway, and the award title becomes, e.g., Global Politics with French, etc. Please note for the award of a language minor degree with 90 credits of language, ie Global Politics with Language (either French / German / Italian / Japanese / Korean / Spanish), students must achieve a language level of at least 3.
- For Korean, **only the 'with Korean' award title is currently available**, because we currently do not offer levels beyond Korean 3 for an exit level Korean proficiency.

BA Global Politics and Language with Foundation Year: For the BA Global Politics and Language with Foundation Year programme, the Foundation Year will prepare you for successful completion of your undergraduate degree. The Foundation Year (one-year FT or two years PT) provides you with the opportunity to explore your interests and build on the study skills you develop in your Foundation Year. On successful completion of the Foundation Year, you will progress onto year one of the PT or FT programmes. The curriculum for the 'with foundation year' programme after the completion of the foundation year modules is the same as the full-time or part-time BA programme. When you successfully complete the BA Global Politics and Language with Foundation Year, you will be awarded the same final degree title as students on the regular full-time or part-time degree routes.

Course structure

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
Full-time – 3 years					
Year 1					
4	SSPO017S4	The Study of Politics	30	Comp	T1
4	SSPO265S4	Transformations in Modern Politics: Democracy, Conflict and Globalisation	30	Comp	T2
4	SSP011854	Introduction to Global Politics	30	Comp	T2
4		Language 1, 2, 3 or 4	30	Core	T1-T3
Year 2					
5	SSPO270S5	International Relations and Foreign Policy	30	Comp	T1
5		Politics option (egGoverning by Numbers)	30	Option	T1
5		Language 2, 3 or 4 OR	30	Core	T1-T3
6		Language 5			
5	Various ARLL012S5/ ARLL011S5	Language-specific survey module OR Themes in the European and Japanese Novel/Themes in European and Japanese Cinema OR Comparative module e.g. ARCL022S5 Reading Transnational Cultures	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3

Year 3					
6	SSPO220S6	Doing Political Research	30	Comp	T1
6	POSO004S6	War and Modern Society	30	Comp	T2
6		Language 3, 4 or 5 OR	30	Core	T1-T3
5		Language 'culture' module if Language 5 taken in Year Two	30	Option	T1 OR T2
6		Language 'culture' module(s)	30 OR 15+15	Option	T1 OR T2
Part-time – 4 years					
Year 1					
4	SSPO017S4	The Study of Politics	30	Comp	T1
4	SSP011854	Introduction to Global Politics	30	Comp	T2
4		Language 1, 2, 3 or 4	30	Core	T1-T3
Year 2					
4	SSPO265S4	Transformations in Modern Politics: Democracy, Conflict and Globalisation	30	Comp	T2
5		Politics option (eg Governing by Numbers) OR	30	Option	T1
5	Various ARLL012S5/ ARLL011S5	Language-specific survey module OR Themes in the European and Japanese Novel/Themes in European and Japanese Cinema OR Language Comparative module e.g. ARCL022S5 Reading Transnational Cultures	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
5		Language 2, 3 or 4 OR	30	Core	T1-T3
6		Language 5	30	Core	T1-T3
Year 3 (Students must take 30 credits at Level 6)					
5	SSPO270S5	International Relations and Foreign Policy	30	Comp	T1
5		Politics option (if not taken in year 2) OR	30	Option	T2 or 3
5	Various ARLL012S5/ ARLL011S5	Language-specific survey module OR Themes in the European and Japanese Novel/Themes in European and Japanese Cinema OR Language Comparative module e.g. ARCL022S5 Reading Transnational Cultures	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
6		Language 3, 4 (taken at Level 6 if final stage in pathway) OR	30	Core	T1-T3
6		Language 5 OR	30	Core	T1-T3
5/6		Language 'culture' module(s) (if Language 5 taken in Year Two)	30 or 2x15	Option	T1 OR T2

Year 4					
6	SSPO220S6	Doing Political Research	30	Comp	1
6	POSO004S6	War and Modern Society	30	Comp	2
6		Language 3, 4 or 5 OR	30	Core	T1-T3
5		Language 'culture' module (if Language pathway completed) or	30	Option	T1 OR T2
6		Language 'culture' module(s)	30 OR 15+15	Option	T1 OR T2
Full-time with Foundation Year - 4 years					
Foundation Year (0)					
3	CASE002S3	Fundamentals of Study	30	Core	T1
3	CASE001S3	Breaking Boundaries of Knowledge	30	Core	T2-3
3	SSSS001S3	Crossing Borders	30	Core	T1
3	SSSS002S3	Contemporary Global Issues: Approaches in Social Science, History and Philosophy OR Level 4 language module	30	Option	T2-3
4					
Year 1					
4	SSPO017S4	The Study of Politics	30	Comp	T1
4	SSPO265S4	Transformations in Modern Politics: Democracy, Conflict and Globalisation	30	Comp	T2
4	SSP011854	Introduction to Global Politics	30	Comp	T2
4		Language 1, 2, 3 or 4	30	Core	T1-T3
Year 2					
5	SSPO270S5	International Relations and Foreign Policy	30	Comp	T1
5		Politics option (eg Governing by Numbers)	30	Option	T1
5		Language 2, 3 or 4 OR	30	Core	T1-T3
6		Language 5			
5	Various ARLL012S5/ ARLL011S5	Language-specific survey module OR Themes in the European and Japanese Novel/Themes in European and Japanese Cinema OR Comparative module e.g. ARCL022S5 Reading Transnational Cultures	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
Year 3					
6	SSPO220S6	Doing Political Research	30	Comp	T1
6	POSO004S6	War and Modern Society	30	Comp	T2
6		Language 3, 4 or 5 OR	30	Core	T1-T3
5		Language 'culture' module if Language 5 taken in Year Two	30	Option	T1 OR T2
6		Language 'culture' module(s)	30 OR 15+15	Option	T1 OR T2

Part-time with Foundation year - 6 years					
Foundation Year 0A					
3	CASE002S3	Fundamentals of Study:	30	Core	T1
3	CASE001S3	Breaking Boundaries of Knowledge	30	Core	T2-3
Foundation Year 0B					
3	SSSS001S3	Crossing Borders	30	Core	T1
3	SSSS002S3	Contemporary Global Issues: Approaches in Social Science, History and Philosophy OR Level 4 Language module	30	Option	T2-3
4					
Year 1					
4	SSPO017S4	The Study of Politics	30	Comp	T1
4	SSP011854	Introduction to Global Politics	30	Comp	T2
4		Language 1, 2, 3 or 4	30	Core	T1-T3
Year 2					
4	SSPO265S4	Transformations in Modern Politics: Democracy, Conflict and Globalisation	30	Comp	T2
5	Various ARLL012S5/ ARLL011S5	Politics option (eg Governing by Numbers) OR	30	Option	T1
5		Language-specific survey module OR Themes in the European and Japanese Novel/Themes in European and Japanese Cinema OR	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
		Language Comparative module e.g. ARCL022S5 Reading Transnational Cultures			
5		Language 2, 3 or 4 OR	30	Core	T1-T3
6		Language 5	30	Core	T1-T3
Year 3 (Students must take 30 credits at Level 6)					
5	SSPO270S5	International Relations and Foreign Policy	30	Comp	T1
5	Various ARLL012S5/ ARLL011S5	Politics option (if not taken in year 2) OR	30	Option	T2 or 3
5		Language-specific survey module OR Themes in the European and Japanese Novel/Themes in European and Japanese Cinema OR	30	Option	T1, T2 or T3
		Language Comparative module e.g. ARCL022S5 Reading Transnational Cultures			
6		Language 3, 4 (taken at Level 6 if final stage in pathway) OR	30	Core	T1-T3
6		Language 5 OR	30	Core	T1-T3
5/6		Language 'culture' module(s) (if Language 5 taken in Year Two)	30 or 2x15	Option	T1 OR T2

Year 4					
6	SSPO220S6	Doing Political Research	30	Comp	1
6	POSO004S6	War and Modern Society	30	Comp	2
6		Language 3, 4 or 5 OR	30	Core	T1-T3
5		Language 'culture' module (if Language pathway completed) or	30	Option	T1 OR T2
6		Language 'culture' module(s)	30 OR 15+ 15	Option	T1 OR T2

Note: the pathways shown in the structure above are indicative for the BA Global Politics AND Language joint awards. Students who choose to follow a minor award in language (BA Global Politics WITH Language) might replace some language culture or survey optional modules with politics, or other modules from the college, at the appropriate level as approved by the course director, provided they pass at least 90 credits of Language core modules and achieve a minimum language level of 3.

Core: Module must be taken and passed by student

Compulsory: Module must be taken but can be considered for compensated credit (see CAS regulations paragraph 24)

Option: Student can choose to take this module

Indicative list of Language survey/culture options:

Options for **level 5** currently include:

ARLL012S5 Themes in the European and Japanese Novel

ARLL011S5 Themes in European and Japanese Cinema

ARLL007S5 Contemporary Literature in French (Level 5)

TBC Cultural Perspectives on German and Italian 19th and 20th Century History

ARMC145S5 Popular Culture in Japan and East Asia

ARLL005S5 Word and Image: Constructing the Other in the Hispanic World

ARCL022S5 Reading Transnational Cultures

LNLN024S5 Representations of Love, Desire and Sexuality

Options for **level 6** currently include:

ARMC187S6 Manga and Anime

AREL003H6 Sensibility and Sociability in the Eighteenth-Century French Novel

AREL049H6 The French Novel of Disillusionment

ARCL054H6 The Twentieth-Century German Novel

LNLN003H5 The Weimar Republic

ARCL077S5 Sex, survival and la dolce vita: Neorealist to Contemporary Italian Film

ARCL057H6 The Spanish Noir: Crime and Detection in Contemporary Fiction

ARCL034H6 The Auteurist Tradition in Spanish Cinema

LNLN054S6 Space, Culture and Society in Brazil (Level 6)

Indicative Politics options

Level 5			
Code	Title	Credits	Term
SSPO151S5	Governing by Numbers	30	1

POSO029S5	Introduction to International Political Economy	30	2
SSPO013S5	Comparative European Politics	30	TBC
SSPO264S5	Food, Politics and the City	30	T3
Level 6			
Code	Title	Credits	Term
SSPO122S6	Parliamentary Studies	30	2
SSPO149S6	The EU Polity	30	TBC

Note: options lists are indicative only as options running may vary each year.

How you will learn

Your learning and teaching is organised to help you meet the learning outcomes (below) of the course. As a student, we expect you to be an active learner and to take responsibility for your learning, engaging with all of the material and sessions arranged for you.

Each course is divided into modules. You will find information on the virtual learning site (Moodle, see Academic Support below) about each of your modules, what to expect, the work you need to prepare, links to reading lists, information about how and when you will be assessed.

Your learning for this course will be organised around the activities outlined below.

From the outset, you will work with us to design a degree path which is tuned to your interests and goals. You can choose between French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean or Spanish starting at the level of language learning that suits you, whether you are a complete beginner or a native speaker. Teaching on this course combines lectures and seminars, employing a variety of methods such as small group work, student presentations, debates, and guest speakers. You may also encounter field-trips, the use of film, audio-visual facilities and web-based learning tools. Lectures from our nationally top-ranking staff will introduce you to the key concepts, debates, events and institutions in world politics. Seminars will train you in the construction of collaborative knowledge alongside the diverse community of your fellow students. Modules at all levels include the analysis of primary and secondary sources, as well as, in some cases, images and film.

Language classes are normally 2.5 hours long. Activities are varied; the Languages department pioneered the use of learning software for languages, and this has now been extended to Moodle, which allows access to additional targeted language learning materials. Regular homework is given and returned to students, with extensive feedback, usually within a week. All classes are conducted in the target language.

How we will assess you

The course will use a variety of assessment methods. Assessment is used to enhance your learning rather than simply to test it. Your degree award will be based on a wide array of assessment—including quizzes, seminar logs, oral presentations, and research essays—across core and option modules. Essays and tests are encountered more often as you progress. These assessments are designed to build your skills cumulatively across the program. To complete the degree, you may design, research, and write a dissertation. Written feedback on essays is provided to you within three weeks of submission, and you have the opportunity to clarify any feedback by contacting your lecturers and seminar leaders.

Assessment methods in Languages include a variety of exercises testing skills in writing, reading, speaking and listening, including (but not limited to) short coursework assignments, in-class written tests, oral and listening comprehension tests; at Level 5 students complete a self-reflexive essay; and at Level 6 they undertake a short project.

Learning outcomes (what you can expect to achieve)

'Learning outcomes' indicate what you should be able to know or do at the end of your course. Providing them helps you to understand what your teachers will expect and also the learning requirements upon which you will be assessed.

On successful completion of a foundation year, you will be able to:

- Articulate at a foundational level key concepts in some of the disciplines offered by the School of Social Science, History and Philosophy.
- Undertake academic reading, writing, research and assessment skills appropriate to the study of those disciplines
- Understand other key learning skills required for university-level study and know of how to access support at Birkbeck to develop these.

On successful completion of the BA programme you will be able to:

- understand and employ the main concepts and theories used in the analysis of global politics, globalisation and international relations;
- critically examine arguments concerning the nature of the 'global' and the 'international' and the relationship between the two;
- understand the major transformations that have taken place in the international political and economic system in the modern period, and evaluate various explanations of these transformations;
- understand and critically assess the relationship between the state and the international system, as well as the role played by war in international politics;
- demonstrate a clear awareness of the importance of the relationship between theory and empirical evidence in the study of politics;
- demonstrate proficiency in the employment of key analytical skills in the study of politics; and
- use the skills developed in the programme for vocational and personal purposes, and potentially in further academic study.

Additionally, on successful completion of the Language component of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:

French, German, Italian, Spanish:

A. Use of the target language

- Demonstrate appropriate use of the French, German, Italian and/or Spanish language. Our courses have been mapped to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) as follows:
 - Stage 1 A1-A2
 - Stage 2 B1
 - Stage 3 B2
 - Stage 4 C1
 - Stage 5 C1/C2

The aims and objectives for each of these stages can be found in each corresponding module proposal.

- Communicate fluently and appropriately, maintaining a high degree of grammatical accuracy, in the target language (TL), with competent or native speakers of the TL, to a level approximately equivalent to CEFR level B2 to C2, depending on starting level.
 - Be able to exploit for a variety of purposes and, as appropriate, to contextualise a broad range of materials in written or spoken TL appropriate to the level attained.
 - Be able to apply effectively and appropriately language skills in a professional context.
- B. Explicit knowledge of language
- Demonstrate a detailed knowledge and effective understanding of the structures, registers and, as appropriate, varieties of TL.
 - Demonstrate a detailed knowledge and effective understanding of the linguistic principles required to analyse TL. (This aim applies to certain modules only.)
- C. Knowledge of related studies
- Demonstrate an ability critically to evaluate through appropriate methodologies one or more aspects of the arts, cultures, histories, institutions or linguistic situation of the societies in which TL is spoken.
 - Demonstrate a broad knowledge and, using appropriate methodologies, a critical understanding of the cultures and societies of countries in which TL is spoken gained through one or more of the creative media of TL.
- D. Intercultural awareness and understanding
- Demonstrate a reasoned awareness and critical understanding of one or more cultures and societies, other than the student's own.

Japanese:

A. Use of the target language

- With a focus especially on advancing students' reception skills, to demonstrate experience at comprehending Japanese at natural speed using audio-visual materials; to use original texts from a variety of sources and subject fields to develop their reading techniques including scanning and skimming for key information, reading extended paragraphs and complex sentences, and in-depth reading; to sustain complex conversations in social, cultural, and business situations using appropriate speech forms and politeness registers; to begin to acquire academic-level verbal communication skills, including participation in discussions, and preparing and delivering presentations; to write substantial reports and short essays based on texts read and discussed in class, using their knowledge of between 800-1,000 kanji characters and of appropriate compositional structure.
- Demonstrate cultural sensitivity in communicative exchanges in Japanese.

B-D. As above, and:

- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the key moments and concepts in the cultural/social history of modern Japan.

Korean:

A. Use of the target language

- With a focus especially on advancing students' reception skills, to demonstrate experience at comprehending Korean at natural speed using audio-visual materials; to use original texts from a variety of sources and subject fields to develop their reading techniques including scanning and skimming for key information, reading extended paragraphs and complex sentences; to sustain complex conversations in social, cultural, and business situations using appropriate speech forms and politeness registers; to begin to acquire verbal communication skills, including participation in discussions, and preparing and delivering presentations.
- Demonstrate cultural sensitivity in communicative exchanges in Korean.

B-D. As above, and:

- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the modern Korean society and culture.

Careers and further study

You will find Global Politics and Language graduates in the following kinds of roles:

- research positions in universities and other public and private research bodies;
- jobs in central and local government, trades unions, political parties, NGOs and international organisations;
- (political) journalism;
- political/civic activism;
- political consultancy; and
- teaching in secondary education.

Birkbeck's BA Global Politics and Language graduates will complete with a set of valuable attributes, for example:

- The ability to work as part of a team
- High-level oral and written communication skills in English
- Research skills
- Skills in evaluating and assessing types of information
- The ability to present yourself and an argument

Birkbeck offers a range of careers support to its students. You can find out more on [the careers pages of our website](#).

Academic regulations and course management

Birkbeck's academic regulations are contained in its [Common Award Scheme Regulations](#) and Policies published by year of application on the Birkbeck website.

You will have access to a course handbook on Moodle and this will outline how your course is managed, including who to contact if you have any questions about your module or course.

Support for your study

Your learning at Birkbeck is supported by your teaching team and other resources and people in the College there to help you with your study. Birkbeck uses a virtual learning environment called Moodle and each course has a dedicated Moodle page and there are further Moodle sites for each of your modules. This will include your course handbook.

Birkbeck will introduce you to the Library and IT support, how to access materials online, including using Moodle, and provide you with an orientation which includes an online Moodle module to guide you through all of the support available. You will also be allocated a personal tutor and provided with information about learning support offered within your School and by the College.

[Please check our website for more information about student support services](#). This covers the whole of your time as a student with us including learning support and support for your wellbeing.

Quality and standards at Birkbeck

Birkbeck's courses are subject to our quality assurance procedures. This means that new courses must follow our design principles and meet the requirements of our academic regulations. Each new course or module is subject to a course approval process where the proposal is scrutinised by subject specialists, quality professionals and external representatives to ensure that it will offer an excellent student experience and meet the expectation of regulatory and other professional bodies.

You will be invited to participate in an online survey for each module you take. We take these surveys seriously and they are considered by the course team to develop both modules and the overall courses. Please take the time to complete any surveys you are sent as a student.

We conduct an annual process of reviewing our portfolio of courses which analyses student achievement, equality data and includes an action plan for each department to identify ongoing enhancements to our education, including changes made as a result of student feedback.

Our periodic review process is a regular check (usually every four years) on the courses by department with a specialist team including students.

Each course will have an external examiner associated with it who produces an annual report and any recommendations. Students can read the most recent external examiner reports on the course Moodle pages. Our courses are all subject to Birkbeck Baseline Standards for our Moodle module information. This supports the accessibility of our education including expectations of what information is provided online for students.

The information in this programme specification has been approved by the College's Academic Board and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information it contains.

Programme specifications are reviewed periodically. If any changes are made to courses, including core and/or compulsory modules, the relevant department is required to provide a revised programme specification. Students will be notified of any changes via Moodle.

Further information about specifications and an archive of programme specifications for the College's courses is [available online](#).

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