



Programme Specification (PG)

Awarding body / institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Name of final award and title:	MSc Public Policy
Name of interim award(s):	PGCert, PGDip
Duration of study / period of registration:	1 year full-time; 2 years part-time
Queen Mary programme code(s):	
QAA Benchmark Group:	
FHEQ Level of Award:	Level 7
Programme accredited by:	
Date Programme Specification approved:	
Responsible School / Institute:	School of Politics and International Relations

Schools / Institutes which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

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Collaborative institution(s) / organisation(s) involved in delivering the programme:

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Programme outline

Public Policy is the study of how problems are addressed within political institutions. Through studying public policy, students will gain theoretical and practical insights into policy formation and implementation. Students will take taught courses which allow them to explore the development, implementation and evaluation of a wide range of policies. By the end of the programme, they will have a strong grasp of the theoretical tools and empirical evidence necessary for an in-depth understanding of the policy making process.

Aims of the programme

- 1) To enable students to critically engage with the problems and possibilities of policy-making
- 2) To enable students to apply concepts and theoretical arguments to concrete cases of public policy
- 3) To provide students with the opportunity to contribute to the formulation and development of ideas leading to a substantial piece of individual research
- 4) To equip students with a range of specific and transferable skills

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What will you be expected to achieve?

On successful completion of the programme, students will be able to:

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Academic Content:

A 1	Students will demonstrate the ability to critically analyse and explain processes of international public policy-making
A 2	Students will demonstrate the ability to apply conceptual and theoretical arguments to a range of empirical case studies
A 3	Students will be able to assess and explain the successes and failures of international public policy

Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B 1	Deal with the complex processes of international public policy-making in a creative and systematic manner, and make informed and substantiated judgements
B 2	Combine conceptual, theoretical and empirical materials in the analysis of international public policy
B 3	Construct and carry out a research proposal in international public policy broadly defined

Attributes:

C 1	Think critically and systematically about completing arguments, ideas and interpretations
C 2	Communicate arguments and research findings clearly and systematically in written form and in participatory
C 3	Develop participations, presentation and group working skills

How will you learn?

The programme will be delivered through a combination of lectures, seminars and individual research supervision

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How will you be assessed?

Assessment will be by essays, presentations and a dissertation.

How is the programme structured?

Please specify the structure of the programme diets for all variants of the programme (e.g. full-time, part-time - if applicable). The description should be sufficiently detailed to fully define the structure of the diet.

Full-time students enrolling on this programme will take one compulsory module in Semester A:

- POLM092 Theories and Concepts in Public Policy (30 credits)

They will choose one elective module (30 credits each) from:

- POLM054 War and International Security
- POLM050 International Public Policy: Concepts and Practice
- POLM059 Approaches to Political Economy
- POLM093 Public Management and Governance

They will take one compulsory module (30 credits) in Semester B:

- POLM025 Evaluation and Delivery in Public Policy

They will choose one elective module (30 credits each) from:

- POLM026 Globalisation and the International Political Economy of Development
- POLM040 Themes and Cases in US Foreign Policy
- POLM095 International Migration Policy
- POLM103 Governing the European Union in times of Crisis
- POLM106 Confronting Violence: Anticolonial Feminist and Queer Approaches
- POLM099 International Organisations
- POLM056 Life, Death and Money

They will also take the Dissertation module POLM017 (60 credits) in Semester C.

The part-time programme structure will be as follows:

Year 1 Sem 1 - POLM092 Theories and Concepts in Public Policy

Year 1 Sem 2 - POLM025 Evaluation and Delivery in Public Policy

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Year 2 Sem 1 - One elective module from the above

Year 2 Sem 2 - One elective module from the above

Year 2 Sem 3 - POLM017 Dissertation

Academic Year of Study

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Dissertation	POLM017	60	7	Core	1	Semester 3
Theories and Concepts in Public Policy	POLM092	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Evaluation and Delivery of Public Policy	POLM025	30	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
International Migration Policy	POLM095	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Governing the European Union in times of Crisis	POLM103	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Globalisation and the IPE of Development	POLM026	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Themes and Cases in US Foreign Policy	POLM040	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
International Public Policy	POLM050	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Approaches to Political Economy	POLM059	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
War and International Security	POLM054	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1
Life Death and Money: Welfare State	POLM056	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 2
Confronting Violence: Anticolonial Feminist and Queer Approaches	POLM106	30	7	Elective	1	Semester 1

What are the entry requirements?

Upper second class honours or equivalent in a cognate subject. IELTS 7.0 with 6.5 in the writing component

How will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced? How do we listen to and act on your feedback?

The programme is monitored through the Student Voice Committee (SVC), with student representatives, chaired by the Academic Student Experience Lead, and the Education Committee (EC) chaired by the Director of Education (DoE). Issues arising from student evaluations are fed into the Education Committee. External examiners oversee assessment and marking procedures; this is handled by the Chair of Exams. The programme is evaluated through the Programme Review process.

The Student Voice Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between schools/institutes and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the school/institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the school/institute. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. Student Voice Committee meets regularly throughout the year.

Each school/institute operates an Education Committee, or equivalent, which advises the School/Institute Director of Education on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at school level including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership and consideration of student surveys.

All schools/institutes operate Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. Programme Review is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery. Students' views are considered via the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) and module experience surveys.

What academic support is available?

Students take part in a School wide induction programme. They will have a designated personal tutor as well as a designated dissertation supervisor, both of whom will meet with the students on a regular basis. The School has a Senior Tutor for MA students who will also be available to see students.

Students are also kept informed about support and help available either within the school, such as dedicated personal adviser weeks, or support workshops organised by Advice and Counselling at QM or the Language and Learning Unit, via the postgraduate administrator and school office.

Programme-specific rules and facts

How inclusive is the programme for all students, including those with disabilities?

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of needs
- Special arrangements in examinations
- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one 'study skills' tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)

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- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)
- Mentoring support for students with mental health issues and conditions on the autistic spectrum

Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

The programme is primarily aimed at providing advanced skills training and knowledge preparing students for jobs aimed at individual and collaborative knowledge creation in academic institutions, financial institutions, think tanks, NGOs, and civil service among others. However, both the subject specific knowledge and transferable skills prepare students for a wide range of employment opportunities, including careers in the civil service, journalism, social work, local, national and international

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification:

Burcu Biltekin

Person responsible for management of programme:

Chris Phillips

Date Programme Specification produced / amended by
School / Institute Education Committee:

10 Jan 2025

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught
Programmes Board: