

Course record information

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| Name and level of final award | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master of Arts - International Relations • Master of Arts - Int. Rels. and Democratic Politics • Master of Arts - International Relations and Security <p>The award is Bologna FQ-EHEA second cycle degree or diploma compatible</p> |
| Name and level of intermediate awards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postgraduate Diploma (Pg Dip) - International Relations • Postgraduate Diploma (Pg Dip) - International Relations and Democratic Politics • Postgraduate Diploma (Pg Dip) - International Relations and Security • Postgraduate Certificate (Pg Cert) - International Relations • Postgraduate Certificate (Pg Cert) - International Relations and Democratic Politics • Postgraduate Credits - International Relations and Security |
| Awarding body/institution | University of Westminster |
| Teaching institution | University of Westminster |
| Status of awarding body/institution | Recognised Body |
| Location of delivery | Primary: Central London |
| Language of delivery and assessment | English |
| QAA subject benchmarking group(s) | N/A |
| Professional statutory or regulatory body | N/A |
| Westminster course title, mode of attendance and standard length | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MA International Relations FT, Full-time, September start - 1 year standard length • MA International Relations PT, Part-time day, September start - 2 years standard length • MA International Relations and Democratic Politics FT, Full-time, September start - 1 year standard length • MA International Relations and Democratic Politics PT, Part-time day, September start - 2 years standard length • MA International Relations and Security FT, Full-time, September start - 1 year standard length • MA International Relations and Security PT, Part-time day, September start - 2 years standard length |
| Valid for cohorts | From 2023/4 |

Additional Course Information

Course Modules

MA International Relations, MA International Relations & Democratic Politics, MA International Relations & Security

Core modules are compulsory. They define a particular course of study and provide you with its theoretical and intellectual foundations. In each of our Masters courses, they place questions of international order and politics at the centre of analysis; ensure that you are able to acquire appropriate knowledge and understanding and are able to understand and use relevant concepts, approaches and methods and how these relate to other areas of academic enquiry.

One core module is common to all three Masters degrees: *7PIRS007W Dissertation and Research Methods* module.

In this module you will work independently, under the supervision of a tutor, to apply the knowledge, understanding and skills gained from other modules to design a research strategy and methodology that includes the development, adaptation, and testing of a hypothesis or research question contextualised in existing research, and which leads to you executing and writing up a relatively advanced piece of research.

One limitation is imposed: On all three of our Masters degrees, you may submit your dissertation only when you have taken all other modules in your course of study.

Option modules allow you to choose from a list of related modules that reflect your particular interests.

Admissions requirements

There are standard minimum entry requirements for all postgraduate courses. Students are advised to check the standard requirements for the most up-to-date information. For most courses a decision will be made on the basis of your application form alone. However, for some courses the selection process may include an interview to demonstrate your strengths in addition to any formal entry requirements. More information can be found here: <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/how-to-apply>.

Aims of the course

Master's courses at the University provide curriculums supported by high quality research, scholarship, staff development and a distinctive research culture that promotes breadth and depth of intellectual enquiry and debate. In all our courses we seek to create a rich learning environment that is receptive to the needs and views of Masters students, encourages them to achieve their full potential, and promotes a scholarly commitment to open and critical enquiry in the fields of international relations, democratic politics and security studies.

Each Master's course has its own distinct aims:

The Masters of Arts in International Relations aims:

1. To enable students to acquire knowledge and understanding of international relations and to make use of the concepts, approaches and methods of International Relations theory to critically analyse the contested nature of global, regional and national politics.
2. To examine at the Masters level events, processes, ideas and institutions of international relations and evaluate the significance of topics including state sovereignty, state failures and foreign interventions; the changing patterns of insecurity, violence and conflict; the role of religion in politics with focus on Islam and transformations in the Middle East; the emergence of non-Western powers of China and India; shifts within the European Union and its role as an international actor; controversies in United States foreign policies; politics of international governance and development.

The Masters of Arts in International Relations and Democratic Politics aims:

1. To ensure that students acquire knowledge and understanding of democratic processes and institutions, and use the concepts, approaches and methods of democratic theory and analysis to develop a critical understanding of their contested nature and application both in the domestic and international realm.
2. To examine at the Master's level the changing nature and dynamics of democratic politics, and to facilitate the development of analytical skills that enable students to understand different democratic initiatives and practice within a wider historical and theoretical framework.
3. To examine discourses of democracy promotion and facilitate an advanced understanding of complex processes of international policy making.

The Masters of Arts in International Relations and Security aims:

1. To ensure that students acquire knowledge and understanding of international relations and security, and use the concepts and approaches of theories of international security to critically analyse and interpret dominant security issues.
2. To examine at the Masters level events, ideas and approaches key to the understanding of the international security agenda, and to evaluate their application, implications and future trajectory within a broader theoretical and historical framework.

Employment and further study opportunities

Today's organisations need graduates with both good degrees and skills relevant to the workplace, i.e. employability skills. The University of Westminster is committed to developing employable graduates by ensuring that:

- Career development skills are embedded in all courses
- Opportunities for part-time work, placements and work-related learning activities are widely available to students
- Staff continue to widen and strengthen the University's links with employers in all sectors, involving them in curriculum design and encouraging their participation in other aspects of the University's career education and guidance provision
- Staff are provided with up-to-date data on labour market trends and employers' requirements, which will inform the service delivered to students.

Knowledge and understanding specific skills

By the end of the course, you would be in a position to critically evaluate at an advanced level the nature and significance of international political practice; theoretical approaches and debates in international relations, security and democratic studies; concepts such as power, agency, the state, democracy, security and the international system; the origins and development of the international political system, including contemporary changes underway; the analysis of processes by which the social, political, economic and cultural dimensions of globalisation relate to international politics; and the

analytical study of the roles played by political actors, political institutions, strategic behaviour, communicative action and persuasion, hypothesis testing and empirical analysis.

Key transferable skills

Many of the skills that you will acquire on the Masters of Arts in International Relations, Masters of Arts in International Relations and Democratic Politics, Masters of Arts in International Relations and Security are specifically transferable to future employment or further research training.

Using Your Masters Degree: Our Graduates' Careers

Recent graduates now have jobs in governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations; the mass media; and a range of international business and cross-cultural organisations. Others are studying for higher degrees at other universities throughout the world.

Here are some examples of the ways in which our Masters courses have provided recent graduates with important knowledge, understanding and specific skills that they have been able to transfer to new professional career challenges.

Joyanto M. from India gained his MA in International Relations and Contemporary Political Theory (now entitled International Relations and Democratic Politics) in July 2010, having begun his studies in January 2007. He returned to India in 2010 to take up a post as research analyst for the Strategic Foresight Group, a strategic think tank in Mumbai that specialises in economics and trade, recession and water security. At the time, he wrote: 'I am excited about the work. I am working on south Asia and Western Europe. Strategic Foresight Group is a prestigious think-tank with a high reputation. It works closely with our government in India as well as with various governments across the globe and the UN. I am also giving lectures on journalism in top colleges across the city here.' In 2011 he moved to the Harkisan Mehta Foundation Institute of Journalism and Mass Communication, also in Mumbai, and was appointed institute director. The Harkisan Mehta Institute has produced some of the top media professionals in India over the last 20 or so years.

Richard S. joined our MA in International Relations in September 2007 and gained a Distinction in October the following year. He is now working in the European Parliament's Office for Promotion of Parliamentary Democracy (OPPD). Richard writes: 'A central aspect of my job - and the one I am most involved in - is hosting short term delegations and longer term Democracy Fellows in the Parliament ... [so that] through contact with their European parliamentary equivalents the parliamentarians and officials get to know how the EP deals with particular aspects of parliamentary life. My job mostly involves preparing programmes for these visits.'

'The different ways in which to view international events, which were taught in the MA - the 'neo-colonial' perspective; the understanding of foreign policy as the result of various inputs, including bureaucratic politics and presidential preferences (both very recognizable from my current position); the poststructuralist re-readings; etc. - were most valuable. These general approaches can be re-applied to new issue areas... Even though my MA in IR is not necessary in my position, it was certainly necessary for me to get the position in the first place. It functions as a signal of my interest in the general subject area and my basic analytical ability. As part of this signalling, the name of the faculty, 'Centre for the Study of Democracy', was probably also of central importance.

Mona E-K from Egypt gained her MSc in Politics from Cairo University in 2006. She won the University President's Scholarship to study for her masters in International Relations and Contemporary Political Theory (International Relations and Democratic Politics) at Westminster. She graduated in July 2008 with a Merit. After graduation she obtained an internship at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London working on the Gulf. She recently completed her PhD on Representation in Egyptian public spaces at Kings College at the University of London.

What will you be expected to achieve?

Course learning outcomes

Learning outcomes are statements on what successful students have achieved as the result of learning.

These are threshold statements of achievement the learning outcomes broadly fall into four categories:

The overall knowledge and understanding you will gain from your course (KU)

Graduate attributes are characteristics that you will have developed during the duration of your course (GA)

Professional and personal practice learning outcomes are specific skills that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course (PPP)

Key transferable skills that you will be expected to have gained on successful completion of the course. (KTS)

Upon successful completion of the programme, students will have acquired the requisite knowledge and understanding to:

- KTS1 Work independently, demonstrating initiative, self-organization and time management. (KTS)
- KTS2 Construct reasoned argument, synthesize relevant information and exercise critical judgement at an advanced level. (KTS)
- KTS3 Undertake sustained research in the areas of international relations, democratic politics, security and related areas. (KTS)
- KTS4 Manage and deliver well-structured, coherently argued, timely and clearly-presented oral and written reports and presentations at an advanced level. (KTS)
- KTS5 Collaborate with others to achieve common goals. (KTS)
- KTS6 Reflect on your own learning and seek and make use of constructive feedback. (KTS)
- KTS7 Manage your own further learning self-critically. (KTS)
- SS1 Use acquired knowledge and understanding to initiate your own or your employer's research projects in international relations, politics or related fields. (SS)
- SS2 Work independently and self-critically on research tasks in a well-organized manner and within time and informational constraints. (SS)
- SS3 Develop with confidence and competence a research strategy, working hypothesis, and methodology in international relations and politics more generally and practice research, hypothesis adaptation, and data collection. (SS)
- SS4 Work effectively in a group, either as a director or a member, able to negotiate differences of opinion, collaborate in specific tasks, and manage deadlines. (SS)
- SS5 Communicate effectively and fluently in speech and writing on a variety of topics in international politics at an advanced level. (SS)

How will you learn?

Learning methods

One of the characteristics of our Masters is their focus on theoretical and conceptual issues with reference to a wide range of debates in international relations, democratic theory, security studies and cognate disciplines. The courses thus emphasise the importance of theoretically and conceptually-based research methodologies that relate to empirical and normative analysis. To this end, the core modules aim to give you the theoretical and methodological tools you will need to pursue independent research on more specific topics. Within the classroom, the theoretically-based approaches developed by the module leaders as part of the teaching process provide students with ongoing examples of how critical analysis may be developed and applied.

In particular, *7PIRS017W International Relations: Theoretical Perspectives*, *7PIRS027W Theories of International Security* and *7PIRS005W Democratic Politics: Key Debates and Issues* seek to give you a critical introduction to a range of major theoretical approaches and models relevant to their cognate field of study. The weekly discussions in these modules are almost exclusively oriented to clarifying, critiquing and applying the key theoretical and methodological perspectives of the cognate fields. The remaining core modules – *7PIRS001W Beyond International Relations*, *7PIRS025W The Politics of Global Complexity*, *7PIRS002W Contemporary Controversies in International Security* and the taught group sessions in *7PIRS007W, Dissertation and Research Methods* - offer you further critical guidance in applying key theoretical and methodological approaches to specific empirical questions. The theoretical and methodological training you will acquire across the core modules, and particularly in the Dissertation and Research Methods module, will give you a sound methodological basis to build on in the optional modules and the writing of your dissertation.

Training in the use and development of more specific research skills and methods aimed to help you write your assignments and dissertation is provided by the *Dissertation and Research Methods module 7PIRS007W*, which forms an integral component of DPIR's Masters programme. At the beginning of your course of studies, you will be given the Dissertation and Research Methods module programme, which will include a specific timetable of taught sessions in your first and second semester. As with other modules, all students are required to attend.

Teaching methods

The Department's teaching and learning approach is one whereby staff and students take seriously their individual and group development in terms of life-long learning. Our teaching and learning approach encourages students and staff to see themselves as part of a learning community and encourages staff to develop not only their research, but also the ways in which they communicate and share their knowledge with colleagues and students. Our underlying aim is to enhance the learning experience for students and staff and to maximise learning opportunities for students.

In line with Faculty policy, the Department is committed to:

1. Encouraging and developing student-centred, independent and active learning, so that students are encouraged progressively to think, act and learn for themselves and to reflect upon their learning.
2. Equipping its graduates with the knowledge, understanding and professional skills to enable them to make an effective contribution to society and to build meaningful lives and careers for themselves.
3. Continuous and rigorous improvement in the quality of the teaching delivered by its staff and the learning opportunities provided for its students.
4. A culture of professionalism and continuing professional development of its staff and all their activities.
5. Valuing teaching and learning as its core business and developing mechanisms and structures that recognise and reward excellence in teaching.
6. Providing programmes which meet the needs of students in London and the wider community, and to operating a teaching, learning and assessment strategy which maximizes participation, retention and completion.
7. Underpinning and informing teaching excellence by staff research, apprising students of the latest relevant research, and involving students in staff research where possible.
8. Sharing knowledge, life experience and expertise as part of the curriculum, maximising the wide range of experiences present in our diverse and international student body.
9. Continuous monitoring and evaluation of its teaching activities to ensure the quality of its provision.
10. Through the Faculty, to producing clear and measurable teaching and learning targets annually, which actuate our teaching and learning principles.

Assessment methods

The overall approach to assessment reinforces the philosophy, syllabuses and teaching strategy of the Masters Programme. In designing our assessment strategy, we purposely rejected traditional exams as not offering the best means by which we could assess higher order analytical, diagnostic, comprehension, imaginative, and critical skills; and because they might discriminate against students unfamiliar with the British higher education system. In lieu, we have designed sensitive methods of continual assessment that better meet course aims and objectives.

Continual assessment methods include delivering written project work, marked oral and written presentations, book reviews, essays, and the dissertation.

Course Structure

This section shows the core and option modules available as part of the course and their credit value. Full-time Postgraduate students study 180 credits per year. Additional free text information on the choices may also be included, for example where students must choose one of two modules.. Course structures can be subject to change each academic year following feedback from a variety of sources.

MA International Relations

Level 7

Options

4 Option Modules (20 credits each) selected from the list below. Students choose two option modules per semester. No restrictions apply.

For Part time students, 2 Option Modules taken each year (20 credits each, one per semester)

| Module Code | Module Title | Status | PT Year (where applicable) | UK credit | ECTS |
|-------------|--|--------|----------------------------|-----------|------|
| 7PIRS001W | Beyond International Relations | Core | 1 | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS017W | International Relations: Theoretical Perspectives | Core | 1 | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS007W | Dissertation and Research Methods | Core | 2 | 60 | 30 |
| 7PIRS003W | Controversies in United States Foreign Policies and Processes | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7CRIM007W | Critical Criminology | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS030W | Democratic Innovations: Participatory Spaces around the World | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS005W | Democratic Politics: Key Debates and Issues | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| | Development Policy and Practice | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7DIPP001W | Diplomacy and Foreign Policy: Theory and Practice | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7DIPP003W | Diplomacy in Action: Evolution, Adaptation, Innovation | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS031W | Gender, Sexuality and International Relations | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS010W | Global Change: Toward a New Non-Western Order? | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7CRIM001W | Global Criminology | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7CRIM003W | Global Policing and Transnational Security | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| | Global Political Economy of Development | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS011W | Global Politics of Energy and Climate Change | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS012W | Governance of the European Union | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS021W | Governance, Policy Practice and Sustainable Development | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS018W | Islam and Politics in the Middle East | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| | Just Development Futures: Ideas, Concepts and Debates | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS023W | Regional Dimensions of Energy Security | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7SOCL001W | Sociology of Religion | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7CRIM005W | State Crimes and Radicalisation in the 'War on Terror' | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS024W | The European Union as an International Actor | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS025W | The Politics of Global Complexity: Rethinking Governance, Power and Agency | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS026W | The State, Politics and Violence | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |

MA International Relations and Democratic Politics

Level 7

Options

4 Option Modules (20 credits each) selected from the list below. Students choose two option modules per semester. No restrictions apply.

For Part time students, 2 Option Modules taken each year (20 credits each, one per semester)

| Module Code | Module Title | Status | PT Year (where applicable) | UK credit | ECTS |
|-------------|--|--------|----------------------------|-----------|------|
| 7PIRS005W | Democratic Politics: Key Debates and Issues | Core | 1 | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS025W | The Politics of Global Complexity: Rethinking Governance, Power and Agency | Core | 1 | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS007W | Dissertation and Research Methods | Core | 2 | 60 | 30 |
| 7PIRS003W | Controversies in United States Foreign Policies and Processes | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7CRIM007W | Critical Criminology | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS030W | Democratic Innovations: Participatory Spaces around the World | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| | Development Policy and Practice | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7DIPP001W | Diplomacy and Foreign Policy: Theory and Practice | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7DIPP003W | Diplomacy in Action: Evolution, Adaptation, Innovation | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS031W | Gender, Sexuality and International Relations | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS010W | Global Change: Toward a New Non-Western Order? | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7CRIM001W | Global Criminology | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7CRIM003W | Global Policing and Transnational Security | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| | Global Political Economy of Development | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS011W | Global Politics of Energy and Climate Change | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS012W | Governance of the European Union | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS021W | Governance, Policy Practice and Sustainable Development | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS018W | Islam and Politics in the Middle East | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| | Just Development Futures: Ideas, Concepts and Debates | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS023W | Regional Dimensions of Energy Security | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7SOCL001W | Sociology of Religion | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7CRIM005W | State Crimes and Radicalisation in the 'War on Terror' | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS024W | The European Union as an International Actor | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS026W | The State, Politics and Violence | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |

MA International Relations and Security

Level 7

Options

4 Option Modules (20 credits each) selected from the list below. Students choose two option modules per semester. No restrictions apply.

For Part time students, 2 Option Modules taken each year (20 credits each, one per semester)

| Module Code | Module Title | Status | PT Year (where applicable) | UK credit | ECTS |
|-------------|--|--------|----------------------------|-----------|------|
| 7PIRS002W | Contemporary Controversies in International Security: Intervention, Terrorism and Self Defence | Core | 1 | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS027W | Theories of International Security | Core | 1 | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS007W | Dissertation and Research Methods | Core | 2 | 60 | 30 |
| 7PIRS003W | Controversies in United States Foreign Policies and Processes | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7CRIM007W | Critical Criminology | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS030W | Democratic Innovations: Participatory Spaces around the World | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS005W | Democratic Politics: Key Debates and Issues | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| | Development Policy and Practice | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7DIPP001W | Diplomacy and Foreign Policy: Theory and Practice | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7DIPP003W | Diplomacy in Action: Evolution, Adaptation, Innovation | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS031W | Gender, Sexuality and International Relations | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS010W | Global Change: Toward a New Non-Western Order? | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7CRIM001W | Global Criminology | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7CRIM003W | Global Policing and Transnational Security | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| | Global Political Economy of Development | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS011W | Global Politics of Energy and Climate Change | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS012W | Governance of the European Union | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS021W | Governance, Policy Practice and Sustainable Development | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS018W | Islam and Politics in the Middle East | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| | Just Development Futures: Ideas, Concepts and Debates | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS023W | Regional Dimensions of Energy Security | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7SOCL001W | Sociology of Religion | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7CRIM005W | State Crimes and Radicalisation in the 'War on Terror' | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS024W | The European Union as an International Actor | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |

| Module Code | Module Title | Status | PT Year (where applicable) | UK credit | ECTS |
|-------------|--|--------|----------------------------|-----------|------|
| 7PIRS025W | The Politics of Global Complexity: Rethinking Governance, Power and Agency | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |
| 7PIRS026W | The State, Politics and Violence | Option | Various | 20 | 10 |

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. In addition, timetabling and limited spaces may mean you cannot register for your first choice of option modules.

Professional body accreditation or other external references

N/A

Course management

Course Leader: Aidan Hehir

Academic regulations

The current Handbook of Academic Regulations is available at [westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations](https://www.westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations).

Course specific regulations apply to some courses.

Academic Support

Upon arrival, an induction programme will introduce you to the staff responsible for the course, the campus on which you will be studying, the Library and IT facilities, additional support available and to your Campus Registry. You will be provided with the Course Handbook, which provides detailed information about the course. Each course has a course leader or Director of Studies. All students enrolled on a full-time course and part time students registered for more than 60 credits a year have a personal tutor, who provides advice and guidance on academic matters. The University uses a Virtual Learning Environment called Blackboard where students access their course materials, and can communicate and collaborate with staff and other students. Further information on Blackboard can be found at <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/current-students/studies/your-student-journey/when-you-arrive/blackboard>

The Academic Learning Development Centre supports students in developing the skills required for higher education. As well as online resources in Blackboard, students have the opportunity to attend Study Skills workshops and one to one appointments. Further information on the Academic Learning Development Centre can be found at [westminster.ac.uk/academic-learning-development](https://www.westminster.ac.uk/academic-learning-development).

Learning support includes four libraries, each holding a collection of resources related to the subjects taught at that site. Students can search the entire library collection online through the Library Search service to find and reserve printed books, and access electronic resources (databases, e-journals, e-books). Students can choose to study in the libraries, which have areas for silent and group study, desktop computers, laptops for loan, photocopying and printing services. They can also choose from several computer rooms at each campus where desktop computers are available with the general and specialist software that supports the courses taught in their College. Students can also securely connect their own laptops and mobile devices to the University wireless network.

Support Services

The University of Westminster Student and Academic Services department provide advice and guidance on accommodation, financial and legal matters, personal counselling, health and disability issues, careers, specialist advice for international students and the chaplaincy providing multi-faith guidance. Further information on the advice available to students can be found at <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/student-advice>

The University of Westminster Students' Union also provides a range of facilities to support students during their time at the University. Further information on UWSU can be found at <https://www.westminster.ac.uk/students-union>

How do we ensure the quality of our courses and continuous improvement?

The course was initially approved by a University Validation Panel. University Panels normally include internal peers from

the University, academic(s) from another university, a representative from industry and a Student Advisor.

The course is also monitored each year by the College to ensure it is running effectively and that issues which might affect the student experience have been appropriately addressed. Staff will consider evidence about the course, including the evidence of student surveys, student progression and achievement and reports from external examiners, in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the course and make changes where necessary.

A Course revalidation takes place periodically to ensure that the curriculum is up-to-date and that the skills gained on the course continue to be relevant to employers. Students meet with revalidation panels to provide feedback on their experiences. Student feedback from previous years is also part of the evidence used to assess how the course has been running.

How do we act on student feedback?

Student feedback is important to the University and student views are taken seriously. Student feedback is gathered in a variety of ways.

- Through student engagement activities at Course/Module level, students have the opportunity to express their voice in the running of their course. Course representatives are elected to expressly represent the views of their peers. The University and the Students' Union work together to provide a full induction to the role of the course representatives.
- There are also School Representatives appointed jointly by the University and the Students' Union who meet with senior School staff to discuss wider issues affecting student experience across the School. Student representatives are also represented on key College and University committees.;
- All students are invited to complete a questionnaire before the end of each module. The feedback from this will inform the module leader on the effectiveness of the module and highlight areas that could be enhanced.
- Final year Undergraduate students will be asked to complete the National Student Survey which helps to inform the national university league tables.

This programme specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate, if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. This specification is supplemented by the Course Handbook, Module proforma and Module Handbooks provided to students. Copyright in this document belongs to the University of Westminster. All rights are reserved. This document is for personal use only and may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose, either in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the University of Westminster. All copies of this document must incorporate this Copyright Notice – 2022©