



Kingston University London

INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT

MSc

quality **innovation** diversity **opportunity** reputation

About the course

COURSE OVERVIEW

This MSc in International Conflict will provide you with a substantial grounding in the theory and history of international conflict and of intra- and interstate disputes in the contemporary international system. It explores the multidisciplinary theoretical roots of international conflict, drawing on contributions from subjects such as international relations, politics, economics, sociology and history. This course also enables you to examine and analyse the various issues and dynamics that shape and influence conflict in the modern world, as well as explore the practical tools available to manage and resolve conflict.

WHAT YOU STUDY

The course is split into three stages. In the first stage you will look at the theory and history behind international conflict at all levels of interaction, from the interpersonal to the international. You will also have the chance to examine the way in which conflict manifests itself in the contemporary international system; exploring the nature of civil wars and interstate conflict in the modern world, as well as issues such as terrorism and insurgency.

In the second stage you will look at case studies about conflict, conflict management and resolution in areas such as the Balkans, the Middle East, Northern Ireland and the Eastern Mediterranean. You will also learn about and analyse the various instruments and techniques that are available to prevent and resolve conflict, such as peacekeeping, mediation and arbitration.

In stage three you will build on what you have learnt and apply your skills in a piece of original research of 10,000 words.

CAREERS

The knowledge and skills acquired on this course are valuable in a range of career settings, such as:

- the diplomatic service;
- non-governmental organisations (NGOs);
- journalism;
- teaching;
- the armed forces; and
- public and private sector management.

SPECIAL FEATURES

- This MSc enables you to gain an understanding of international conflict and of intra- and interstate disputes in the contemporary international system, drawing on international relations, politics, economics, sociology and history.
- Kingston University is established as one of the leading centres of expertise on conflict, conflict dynamics, and of the processes of conflict management and resolution.
- The MSc is taught by highly acclaimed academics and experts drawn from within the University and further afield.
- The case studies taught in this course, backed up by theoretical and historical foundations, bridge the gap between traditional international relations courses by specialising in conflict management and resolution.
- You can study this course on a part-time basis, enabling you to fit in your studies with other commitments.

Course content

MODULES

The course comprises five core modules and three option modules. You will also write a dissertation, which will count for one third of the total course credits.

Please note that this list of modules is indicative and is not meant as definitive.

Core modules

Conflict Theory and Analysis

How can we explain conflict? This module provides a comprehensive introduction to the competing theories that have been put forward to explain conflict, both at a societal and the international level. Drawing on politics, international relations, sociology, economics and anthropology, this module explores the complexities of how conflict emerges.

Managing and Resolving International Conflict

This module examines the wide range of tools and mechanisms that can be utilised to prevent conflict and bring about peace in war-torn societies. Topics covered include early warning, peacekeeping, humanitarian intervention, mediation, negotiation, arbitration, reconciliation and post-conflict reconstruction.

Case Studies in International Conflict

Drawing on the extensive expertise of the staff in this area, this module provides an opportunity to examine and analyse a range of contemporary international conflicts in the Middle East, Africa, South East Europe, Latin America and the Eastern Mediterranean.

Contemporary Issues in Conflict and Security

This module provides a chance to examine a range of issues shaping and affecting peace and conflict in the contemporary international system. In addition to analysing issues such as terrorism, refugees and weapons proliferation, you will also explore the role of religion, gender and ethnicity in conflict.

Research Methods

This module will help you to acquire a range of research skills and then to plan your own research project.

Dissertation

In your dissertation, you will apply the skills learnt in the research methods module in a piece of original research, studying a subject (either applied or theoretical) in considerable depth. You may then use this research to pursue your career objectives.

Option modules

Theories of International Relations

What is 'International Relations'? This module examines the historical development of the discipline and explores the contending theories that have been put forward to explain the way in which elements and actors within the international system interact with one another. In addition to examining the traditional theories of International Relations, you will also be introduced to the variety of alternative approaches that have emerged in recent decades.

Globalisation and the International Economy

This module examines the phenomenon of globalisation and assesses the impact it has on economic interactions between states and non-state actors in the contemporary international system. Issues examined include the functions of international financial organisations, the role of transnational corporations and the spread of corruption and international crime.

Achieving Human Rights in the Contemporary World

This is a practice-based module that explores the operational challenges of achieving human rights in the contemporary world. Working with academics and practitioners, you will work through a set of individual case studies in which the defence or advocacy of human rights has come to court or been prevalent in media and campaigning.

Understanding Human Rights in the Contemporary World

This module will enable you to understand some of the major issues and debates about human rights. The first part of the module engages in the history and evolution of human rights discourse. In the second part of the module, you will look at some of the key institutions, mechanisms and actors that promote and protect human rights in the contemporary world.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

In addition to the formal taught elements of the course, the programme also includes a visiting speaker series. Past speakers have included politicians, diplomats and journalists, as well as officials from international organisations and leading non-governmental organisations.

Students at Kingston University can also take full advantage of the wide range of events that take place in central London. For instance, the Faculty is an academic member of Chatham House, the leading forum for debate on foreign affairs in Britain. This provides students with an opportunity to hear world leaders and leading experts discuss pressing global issues.



Teaching staff

Dr Orna Almog is a Senior Lecturer in International Studies. Her specialist subjects include international conflicts in the 20th–21st century; Israeli politics and the Arab–Israeli conflict;

and war and peace in the Middle East.

Professor Brian Brivati is Professor of Contemporary History. His research interests include genocide and mass murder and the history of human rights in the 20th century.

Dr John Davis is a Reader in Modern European History and Director of Graduate Studies. His specialist subjects include British and German history and Anglo–German relations.

Dr Paul Dixon is a Senior Lecturer in Politics and International Studies. His specialist subjects include comparative conflict and military intervention; globalisation and politics; interpreting conflict; nationalism; political analysis; and Northern Ireland.

Professor Ilaria Favretto is Professor of Contemporary European History. Her research interests include the British and the Italian Left after 1945; national identity formation and the creation of a European identity; and protest and dissent in 20th century Europe.

Dr Andy Higginbottom is a Lecturer in Latin American Politics. His specialist subjects include human rights and the effect of international corporations on Central and South America.

Dr Marko Attila Hoare is a Senior Research Fellow in European Studies. His specialist subjects include Bosnia, mass murder and genocide.

Dr Atsuko Ichijo is a Research Fellow in European Studies. Her research interests include historical sociology and

nationalism and ethnicity.

Dr James Ker-Lindsay is Senior Research Fellow and Course Director. His research interests include the politics and international relations of Greece, Turkey and Cyprus; peace and security in South East Europe; and the role of the EU and the UN in the management of international conflict. In addition to his academic work, he also has a practical background in conflict resolution.

Dr Edward Mogire is a Research Fellow in International Studies. His research interests include Sub-Saharan Africa, refugee issues and small arms proliferation.

International Conflict

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

One or more of the following:

- a second class degree or above, or equivalent, in an area appropriate to the content of the degree;
- relevant non-certificated learning;
- an appropriate combination of certificated and non-certificated learning;
- consideration is also given to non-standard entrants and all applicants are normally interviewed by the Course Director or a senior member of the teaching team;
- international students are required to have an IELTS score of 6.5 or an equivalent qualification.

ATTENDANCE / DELIVERY

Timetables are subject to change from year to year. Details of semester one attendance will be available in August.

DURATION

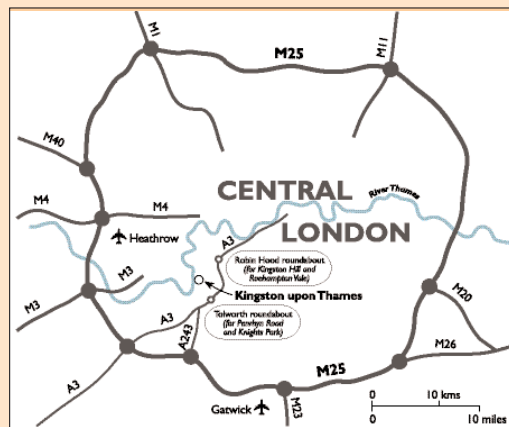
One year full-time or two years part-time.

ASSESSMENT

There is a variety of assessment methods for the course, including seminar presentations, essays and a dissertation.

Location

Located beside the Thames, Kingston University is within the London travel-pass zone. Easily accessible from surrounding areas such as Surrey and Middlesex, its local stations (Kingston; Surbiton) are also only 25 minutes from Waterloo.



For further information please contact:

Please contact the Faculty's Admissions Office for an application form or with any further queries.

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