UNIVERSITY OF YORK

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

This document applies to students who commence the programme(s) in:	September 2017
Awarding institution	**Teaching institution**
University of York	University of York
Department(s)	**Board of Studies**
Politics	Politics
Award(s) and programme title(s)	**Level of qualification**
MA in Post-war Recovery Studies	Level 7 (Masters)

Award(s) available *only* as interim awards (i.e. not available for direct entry)
PG Diploma in Post-war Recovery Studies
PG Certificate in Post-war Recovery Studies

Admissions criteria
- Language requirements: IELTS 6.5 (with a minimum of 6.0 in each component); PTE: 61, with no less than 55 in each component; CAE and CPE (from January 2015): 176, with no less than 169 in each component; CAE (before January 2015): 65, with 'Good' in writing; CPE (before January 2015): C; TOEFL: 87, with a minimum of 21 in each component; Trinity ISE: level 3, with Merit in all requirements.   - BA degree or foreign equivalent in the upper second class or higher. Applications from students with lower qualifications will be considered, particularly when the student has high marks in relevant modules and/or appropriate professional experience.

Length and status of the programme(s) and mode(s) of study

Programme	Length (years) and status (full-time/part-time)	Start dates/months (if applicable – for programmes that have multiple intakes or start dates that differ from the usual academic year)	Mode		
			Face-to-face, campus-based	**Distance learning**	**Other**
MA in Postwar Recovery Studies	1 year full-time 2 years part-time	Not applicable: does not differ from usual academic year.	✓		

Language of study	English

Programme accreditation by Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies (if applicable)

Not applicable

Educational aims of the programme(s)

For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:

The overall aim of the programme is to provide multi-disciplinary post-graduate level professional training in the theory and practice of post-war recovery and related fields including peace-building, humanitarian practice, and development project management. The programme seeks to provide an in-depth understanding of the nature of modern conflict and the challenges involved in the political, social, economic, and physical reconstruction of war-torn communities. It explicitly aims to bridge the gap between theory and practice by equipping graduates with the theoretical framework to critique existing practice and using evidence from practice in order to advance theoretical conceptions. The programme thus gives you not just an academic understanding of conflict and post-war development, but also a clearer appreciation of the difficulties confronted by practitioners and policy makers.

Additionally for the Diploma (if applicable):

Through the field trip, students will gain the practical skills of conducting research in conflict-affected environments and valuable field exposure. It enables students to gain first hand, ground-level, understandings of, and approaches to, recovery in the aftermath of war. The field trip enables students to contextualize the classroom-based learning, and to develop the methodological, logistical and ethical skills and sensibilities required for any work in conflict-affected settings.

Additionally for the Masters:

Masters students will additionally develop the research skills, academic ability, and capacity for independent research required to write a 13,000 word dissertation on a topic of relevance to post-war recovery to successfully prepare them for further academic study or professional practice. As part of the dissertation module, students will undertake a work placement which provides students with a further opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills gleaned from the programme in an organization working in a post-war setting – predominantly NGOs, but also with other types of national or international organisations.

Intended learning outcomes for the programme – and how the programme enables students to achieve and demonstrate the intended learning outcomes	
This programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:	*The following teaching, learning and assessment methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme learning outcomes:*
A: Knowledge and understanding	
Students will have knowledge and understanding of: *For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:* 1. Theories and paradigms of conflict causation, conflict dynamics, conflict analysis, international intervention, and other responses to conflict. 2. Current theoretical and practitioner debates and dilemmas informing humanitarian practice and humanitarian organisations.	Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7: Lectures, seminars, student group work, role-play exercises, individual and group presentations, independent study, direct feedback on presentations and assignments. In addition, guest lectures by practitioners are included, and students gain practical knowledge of researching and working in post-war contexts during a two-week group field study visit and during the six-to-eight week individual work placements.
3. Theories, paradigms and practitioner experience of peace-building, peace processes, and the political, economic, social and psychological dimensions of post-war recovery. 4. Multifaceted challenges involved in planning, managing, and evaluating development programmes. *Additionally for the Diploma:* 5. Research methods appropriate to studying conflict-affected environments. 6. Complex challenges involved in engaging in safe, ethical research in conflict-affected environments. *Additionally for the Masters:* 7. Difficulties involved in working in the field, particularly with relief and/or development organisations.	Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes) Essays (Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 5). Research proposal (Outcomes 3, 5, and 6). Field Study Report: (Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6). Project Proposal for a post-war recovery project based on field findings from the field study visit (Outcomes 3, 4, 5 and 6). Presentation of work placement experience (Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7). Dissertation (Outcomes 1 - 8)

8. A specific chosen theme and case study of post-war recovery which will be the subject of a 13,000 word dissertation.	

B: (i) Skills – discipline related	
Students will be able to: *For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:* 1. Independently source and critique specialist literature in post-war recovery studies and related fields. 2. Confidently design, manage, evaluate, monitor, and execute context-specific development projects.	Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes): Lectures, seminars, assignments, verbal and written student feedback (Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 4). Field study visit, individual field placement, lectures on research methods in post-war environments (Outcomes 2, 3, 4, and 5).
Additionally for the Diploma: 3. Independently design and conduct post-graduate level academic research projects on critical topics in conflict and post-war societies. 4. Confidently apply field-specific skills to work safely and ethically with and within post-war societies. *Additionally for the Masters:* 5. Work and research safely and effectively in complex and unpredictable environments 6. Verbally present a reflective understanding of the difficulties involved when working in the field of post-war recovery and development 7. Produce an extended piece of original, in-depth research on a particular theme in post-war recovery studies, demonstrating	Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes) Essays (Outcome 1). Research proposal (Outcome 1 and 3). Field study report (Outcomes 1, 2, and 4). Project proposal assignment (Outcomes 1 and 2). Work placement presentation (Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6). Dissertation (Outcomes 1, 3, 4, 5, and 7).

advanced comprehension of the subject and research skills	

B: (ii) Skills - transferable	
Students will be able to: *For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:* 1. Communicate complex issues and arguments effectively in written form. 2. Communicate complex issues and arguments effectively verbally. 3. Work confidently in groups, including in a leading role. 4. Work independently to manage time, workloads, and to meet deadlines. 5. Think creatively, independently, and self-critically to achieve difficult goals. *Additionally for the Diploma:* 6. Work confidently in groups in difficult and unpredictable field environments, including in a leading role. *Additionally for the Masters:* 7. Work independently and confidently in a professional setting 8. Independently produce an extended piece of analytical writing	Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes): Essay writing, seminar presentations and discussion, and work placement presentations, with verbal and written feedback on these components to help students develop and improve their skills (Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7). Feedback and guidance during the field study visit (Outcome 2, 3, 5, and 6).
	Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes) Essays and reports (Outcome 1, 4, 5, and 6). Seminar presentations and work placement presentation (Outcome 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7).

C: Experience and other attributes	
Students will be able to: *For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:* 1. Demonstrate a greater inter-cultural awareness and sensitivity	Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes): Field study visit and work placement (Outcome 1, 2, and 3).

Additionally for the Diploma:
 	
    2. Gain experience of researching in challenging field environments.
 	
Additionally for the Masters:
 	
    3. Gain experience of working and researching in challenging field environments.
	Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)
	
	Field study report, work placement presentation, and dissertation (Outcome 1, 2, and 3).

Relevant Quality Assurance Agency benchmark statement(s) and other relevant external reference points (e.g. National Occupational Standards, or the requirements of Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies)

University award regulations

To be eligible for an award of the University of York a student must undertake an approved programme of study, obtain a specified number of credits (at a specified level(s)), and meet any other requirements of the award as specified in the award requirements and programme regulations, and other University regulations (e.g. payment of fees). Credit will be awarded upon passing a module's assessment(s) but some credit may be awarded where failure has been compensated by achievement in other modules. The University's award and assessment regulations specify the University's marking scheme, and rules governing progression (including rules for compensation), reassessment and award requirements. The award and assessment regulations apply to all programmes: any exceptions that relate to this programme are approved by University Teaching Committee and are recorded at the end of this document.

Departmental policies on assessment and feedback

Detailed information on assessment (including grade descriptors, marking procedures, word counts etc.) is available in the student handbooks and on the VLE.

Information on formative and summative feedback to students on their work is available in the student handbooks and through the VLE.

Diagrammatic representation of the programme structure, showing the distribution and credit value of core and option modules

If the programme includes part-time routes please provide a representation of the part-time programme structure, showing the distribution and credit value of core and option modules

Masters

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term	Summer vacation
Understanding conflict & responses to conflict (C,20)	Theory and practice of post-war recovery (C,20),	Dissertation (including a work placement) (C,60)	Dissertation cont'd (C,60)
Research in conflict-affected environments (C,20),	Programme Planning and Management (C, 20)		
Field trip (C,20)	Option module from list (see module table below) (C,20)		

Part-time structure:*

	Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term	Summer vacation
Year 1	Understanding conflict & responses to conflict (C,20)	Theory and practice of post-war recovery (C, 20)		
	Research in conflict-affected environments (C,20)			
	Field trip (C,20) – to take place			

		during Weeks 9 & 10			
Year 2			Programme Planning and Management (C, 20)	Dissertation (including a work placement) (C,60)	Dissertation cont. (C,60)
			Option – (C, 20)		

* Students may be able to agree an alternative part-time structure in discussion with the programme director should circumstances necessitate it.

Candidates who exit with a Diploma must pass all **120 credits** of taught modules.
Candidates who exit with a Certificate must pass **60 credits** of taught modules.

Diagrammatic representation of the timing of module assessments and reassessments, and the timing of departmental examination/progression boards

If the programme includes part-time routes please provide a representation of the part-time programme structure, showing the distribution and credit value of core and option modules

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term	Summer vacation	Date of final award board
	Autumn term essay submissions (week 1)	Spring term essay submissions (week 1)	First Monday in September: Submission of dissertation	November
		Progression board: Week 6		Resubmitted marginal fail dissertations November
		Reassessment submission deadline: Week 9		
		Assessed work placement presentation in Week 9 or 10		

Overview of modules

Core module table

Module title	Module code	Credit level[1]	Credit value[2]	Prerequisites	Assessment rules[3]	Timing (term and week) and format of main assessment[4]	Independent Study Module?[5]
Understanding conflict and responses to conflict	POL00002M	7	20	N/A	N/A	Essay: SpT, Week 1	No
Research in conflict-affected environments	POL00016M	7	20	N/A	N/A	Research proposal: SpT, Week 1	No
Field trip	POL00083M	7	20	N/A	N/A	Field trip report: SpT, Week 1	No
Programme Planning and Management	POL00010M	7	20	N/A	N/A	Project proposal: SuT, Week 1	No
Theory and practice of post-war recovery	POL00009M	7	20	N/A	N/A	Essay: SuT, Week 1	No
Dissertation in Post-war Recovery Studies	POL00082M	7	60	N/A	NC	Presentation: Week 9 or 10 Dissertation: SuVac	Yes

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[1] The **credit level** is an indication of the module's relative intellectual demand, complexity and depth of learning and of learner autonomy. Most modules in postgraduate programmes will be at Level 7/Masters. Some modules are permitted to be at Level 6/Honours but must be marked on a pass/fail basis. See University Teaching Committee guidance for the limits on Level 6/Honours credit.

[2] The **credit value** gives the notional workload for the module, where 1 credit corresponds to a notional workload of 10 hours (including contact hours, private study and assessment)

[3] **Special assessment rules** (requiring University Teaching Committee approval)

P/F – the module is marked on a pass/fail basis (NB pass/fail modules cannot be compensated)

NC – the module cannot be compensated

NR – there is no reassessment opportunity for this module. It must be passed at the first attempt

[4] AuT – Autumn Term, SpT – Spring Term, SuT – Summer Term, SuVac – Summer vacation

[5] **Independent Study Modules** (ISMs) are assessed by a dissertation or substantial project report. They cannot be compensated (NC) and are subject to reassessment rules which differ from 'taught modules'. Masters programmes should include an ISM(s) of between 60 and 100 credits. This is usually one module but may be more.

Option modules*

Module title	Module code	Credit level	Credit value	Prerequisites	Assessment rules	Timing and format of main assessment	Independent Study Module?
Africa and International Politics	POL00084M	7	20	n/a		Essay, SuT, week 1	no
Ethics & World Politics	POL00032M	7	20	N/A		Essay, SuT, Week 1	no
Governing for the Environment	POL00067M	7	20	N/A		Essay, SuT, Week 1	no
New Security Challenges	POL00046M	7	20	N/A		Essay, SuT, Week 1	no
Politics of the Poor	POL00088M	7	20	n/a		Essay, SuT, week 1	no

Transfers out of or into the programme

Exceptions to University Award Regulations approved by University Teaching Committee	
Exception	**Date approved**

Quality and Standards
The University has a framework in place to ensure that the standards of its programmes are maintained, and the quality of the learning experience is enhanced. Quality assurance and enhancement processes include: ● The academic oversight of programmes within departments by a Board of Studies, which includes student representation ● The oversight of programmes by external examiners, who ensure that standards at the University of York are comparable with those elsewhere in the sector ● Annual monitoring and periodic review of programmes ● The acquisition of feedback from students by departments. More information can be obtained from the Academic Support Office:

http://www.york.ac.uk/about/departments/support-and-admin/academic-support/

Date on which this programme information was updated:	15 June 2017
Departmental web page:	https://www.york.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/courses/ma-post-war-recovery-studies/

Please note

The information above provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and learning outcomes that a typical students might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the leaning opportunities that are provided.

Detailed information on learning outcomes, content, delivery and assessment of modules can be found in module descriptions.

The University reserves the right to modify this overview in unforeseen circumstances, or where processes of academic development, based on feedback from staff, students, external examiners or professional bodies, requires a change to be made. Students will be notified of any substantive changes at the first available opportunity.