

Variation to the Course Information Document

For Academic Year 2020/21

Name of programme(s) and award type(s): <i>(such as Single Honours History with International Year)</i>	BA (Hons) International Relations (Single Honours) BA (Hons) International Relations (Combined Honours)
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Dear students,

As part of our commitment to continually work to improve our programmes, and in light of our plans to start next academic year with a hybrid delivery model due to the impact of Covid-19, we are confirming in this document the changes to your programme in the Academic Year 2020/21. More general information about what studying at the University will be like in 2020/21 can be found here:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/coronavirus/operations/>

Specific planned changes

How the programme will be taught <i>(include any significant changes to the balance between on campus and digital delivery and what students can expect)</i>	<p>The International Relations programme will be taught by means of a blended learning approach in which the majority of the programme will be delivered online. Students can expect at least two synchronous ('live' or real-time) hours of contact per week per module, including one office hour, and these will for the most part be delivered online.</p> <p>Synchronous teaching will often consist of online tutorials or seminars (in groups of up to fifteen students), but can also consist of live webcasts of lectures. In addition, students can expect asynchronous digital teaching in their modules, such as pre-recorded videos, group activities that centre around an online platform, and a variety of chat formats. All modules will be accompanied by a FAQ page which covers the module objectives and modes of delivery.</p> <p>Where risk assessments allow, all year groups will be offered a substantial level of on-campus teaching (up to three hours per week) in order to provide opportunities for students to interact with each other and with staff. On-campus teaching will be evenly spread across the semester, and will be subject to health and safety requirements.</p>
Changes to placements, field courses or other practical activities <i>(where applicable)</i>	<p>N/A: Does not apply to our modules</p>
Learning resources and any potential additional costs <i>(such as equipment requirements)</i>	<p>All learning resources will be available online. Staff will be diligent in digitising necessary chapters that are not available in e-books. For the most part, electronic journal articles and e-books will be used and be available via the University library. In addition, internet-based material may be used.</p> <p>Given an increasing level of online teaching and assessments for this programme, it would be preferable if students had access to</p>

	computer equipment with a webcam and microphone. It may also be preferable for students to have adequate Wi-Fi connectivity and associated internet speeds. Students who need support in accessing appropriate IT equipment may be eligible to apply for support from the University's hardship fund .
How the programme will be assessed <i>(a general summary of changes to assessment methods)</i>	Assessments have largely been retained as they have historically been, and most assessments will continue to be submitted via the submission links on KLE. Some assessments have been changed, though: at least for the first semester, exams have been substituted with essays or take-home exams, thus requiring no on-campus exam hall assessment. Secondly, assessment burden has been reduced in line with the overall drive to reduce assessment. Thirdly, the assessments will be spread more evenly across the middle and end of the semester, and the exam period, so as to allow sufficient support from tutors.
How students are supported <i>(any alternative arrangements such as communication methods, support networks etc.)</i>	For each module an office hour will be separately scheduled and timetabled. The tutors will be available by email, by web chat and by remote conferencing facilities. In addition, existing support structures (such as Personal Tutor and Student Services) will be accessible.

Updated module lists for 2020/21

Year 1 / Level 4

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Semester	Added/removed/unchanged?
Introduction to International Relations (SH/CH)	PIR-10041	15	1	Unchanged
Securing Global Order (SH/CH)	PIR-10060	15	2	Unchanged
The Changing World (SH)	PIR-10043	15	1	Unchanged
Introduction to Global Political Economy (SH)	PIR-10058	15	2	Unchanged
Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Semester	
The Changing World (CH)	PIR-10043	15	1	Unchanged
Introduction to Global Political Economy (CH)	PIR-10058	15	2	Unchanged
Why Politics Matters	PIR-10038	15	1	Unchanged
Modern Democracies	PIR-10055	15	2	Unchanged
Justice, Authority and Power	PIR-10045	15	2	Unchanged
Debates in American Politics	PIR-10039	15	2	Unchanged

Year 2 / Level 5 (2019/20 entry cohort)

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Semester	Added/removed/unchanged?
Contemporary IR theory	PIR-20076	15	1	Unchanged
International Organisation	PIR-20085	15	2	Unchanged
Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Semester	
African Politics	PIR-20092	15	1	Unchanged

The International Politics of the Middle East	PIR-20094	15	2	New
Foreign Policy	PIR-20090	15	1	Unchanged
International Relations of Eurasia	PIR-20062	15	2	Unchanged
The Practice of Politics	PIR-20065	15	2	Unchanged
Freedom and Equality	PIR-20066	15	2	Unchanged
Environmental Politics and Policy	PIR-20067	15	1	Unchanged
Why Policy Changes	PIR-20068	15	2	Unchanged
US Government and Politics	PIR-20071	15	1	Unchanged
British Government and Politics	PIR-20074	15	1	Unchanged
Russian Politics and Society	PIR-20078	15	1	Unchanged
Power to the People	PIR-20079	15	2	Unchanged

Year 3 / Level 6 (2018/19 entry cohort)

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Semester	Added/removed/unchanged?
Dissertation in Politics and IR – ISP (SH)	PIR-30130	30	1-2	Unchanged
Optional modules	Module Code	Credits	Semester	
The Missing Dimension	PIR-30025	15	1	Unchanged
Understanding Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism	PIR-30114	15	1	Unchanged
Policing International Order	PIR-30118	15	1	Unchanged
The Extreme Right in Western Europe	PIR-30119	15	1	Unchanged
Politics of Development	PIR-30147	15	1	Unchanged
The U.S. Presidency	PIR-30117	15	1	New qua IR option
Dissertation in Politics and IR – ISP (CH)	PIR-30130	30	1-2	Unchanged
Modern Russia	PIR-30142	15	2	Moved from Sem1 to Sem2
Contemporary Democratic Theory	PIR-30150	15	2	Unchanged
Israel/Palestine: Key Debates and Issues	PIR-30151	15	2	Unchanged
Britain and war since 1945: War, Cold War and society	PIR-30152	15	2	Unchanged
The Rise of China	PIR-30162	15	2	Unchanged
Protest and Social Movements	PIR-30128	15	2	New qua IR option

For further information on the content of modules currently offered, including the list of elective modules, please visit: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/modulecatalogue/>

The module selection website can be accessed here: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/modules/>