



**UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON**



**SCHOOL OF
ADVANCED STUDY
UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON**

Postgraduate study in

Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies 2019–2020

The World Class: studied anywhere,
valued everywhere.

london.ac.uk/refugee-migration



Join the World Class

1 **A mark of excellence**

Gain a University of London degree from anywhere in the world and increase your potential career development.

2 **Quality of learning**

This MA is the first ever postgraduate course on refugees to be offered by distance learning. It is designed and run by the University of London's Refugee Law Initiative, the leading academic centre in the UK dedicated exclusively to International Refugee Law.

3 **Worldwide relevance**

The programme is designed to be of worldwide relevance, and will help you to further your career development. You will benefit from the up-to-date knowledge of specialist academics and those working in the field who teach on the MA.

4 **Access a wealth of online resources**

Study online and access course content through a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). For each module there are online tasks to complete and you can discuss your work with fellow students and tutors.

5 **Flexible learning**

With no travel, relocation or accommodation costs, studying a University programme at a distance is much more affordable than coming to London to study on campus. What's more, you can continue working full time.



Your prestigious University of London qualification

About your qualification

When you graduate with a degree, diploma or certificate from the University of London you will receive two important documents – your Final Diploma (the parchment you receive on graduation) and a Diploma Supplement.

The Final Diploma

- Indicates that you were registered with the University of London and awarded a University of London degree, diploma or certificate.
- Gives the name of the University of London member institution that developed the syllabus and provided assessment.
- Features the University of London crest and the Vice-Chancellor's signature.

The Diploma Supplement

- Describes the nature, level and content of programme you successfully completed.
- Includes the transcript of courses taken, marks achieved and overall classification.
- States the role of the School of Advanced Study and the method of study.

Contents

Key dates

Application deadline

1 September 2019

1 February 2020

Registration deadline

1 October 2019

1 March 2020

Programme starts

mid-October 2019

mid-March 2020

Examinations take place

February and July

**A global reach
with over
50,000 students
spanning 180
countries**

MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies

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Outstanding distance learning opportunities



Professor David James Cantor
Director of the University of
London's Refugee Law Initiative

This is a unique degree programme – the only MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies that is delivered by distance learning. It is now also the largest programme on forced migration in the world. We want to make this programme globally accessible to students in order to attract people from a wide range of regional and professional backgrounds, including many working directly in the field as they study.

In 2019 the programme was awarded the prestigious Roger Mills prize for its innovative approach to online learning and teaching.

The programme has been developed by the world's leading centre for the study of international refugee law, the Refugee Law Initiative (RLI) of the School of Advanced Study, University of London, which combines intellectual and practice-based expertise.

During your studies, you will interact online with academics from the RLI, as well as receive guidance from your subject tutors for each module.

Our teaching at the RLI is grounded in an interdisciplinary approach that combines the perspectives of law, policy and social sciences. This MA programme is designed to emphasise that approach.

Through a mixture of core and elective modules, we will introduce you to different social science disciplines and deepen your understanding of refugee law, policy and studies by examining them from different perspectives across a wide range of contexts.

I look forward to welcoming you to this challenging and exciting programme.

Read a Q&A with Professor David James Cantor in our online magazine, London Connection: bit.ly/david-cantor-QA

Watch a video with Dr David James Cantor and Programme Director Dr Sarah Singer: youtube.com/watch?v=16eKHxzJPDs

The School of Advanced Study

The MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies has its foundations in the teaching and research of a leading centre in refugee law, the Refugee Law Initiative (RLI).

The RLI is a national academic centre in the UK dedicated exclusively to International Refugee Law. It is part of the University of London's School of Advanced Study.

You will get access to cutting-edge research being undertaken by RLI staff and other academic experts, joining our community in an online environment of networking, connectivity and dialogue.

The lead academics for the programme are Professor David James Cantor, Director of the RLI and a recognised specialist in the field, and Dr Sarah Singer, Programme Director and Senior Lecturer in Refugee Law at the RLI.

Why study Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies?



Is the programme for you?

We developed this degree in response to demand. The RLI identified the need for a postgraduate programme on the basis of interest from its global networks and from professionals in the field of international refugee law and protection. This subject area is attracting substantial and growing interest around the world, for several reasons:

- Forced migration is an important global phenomenon with a long history, which, unfortunately, shows no signs of abating in the near future. On the contrary, flows of refugees are increasing.

- It is a fascinating and complex subject area that generates interesting humanitarian, legal, political, philosophical and sociological questions.
- There is a wide range of professional organisations working in this area, with varied opportunities for employment.

Employment routes

The MA programme is intended to give you a solid basis from which to start or advance your career in refugee protection, be it as an academic or practitioner.

It enables you to combine your studies with your ongoing professional and domestic commitments. The programme is designed for those who wish to pursue careers in a range of professional contexts in the refugee, human rights or humanitarian fields.

Potential employers include international agencies, such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Organisation on Migration (IOM), governmental bodies and non-governmental organisations.

Dr Sarah Deardorff Miller

Module Convenor and tutor for elective module 'Securing Refugee Protection in Practice'



Sarah Deardorff Miller received her doctorate in international relations at Oxford University in 2014, where she focused on the role of UNHCR in protracted refugee situations. Her research interests include the politics of forced migration, protracted refugee situations, international humanitarian organisations and global governance. She has worked with various non-governmental organisations in Africa and Asia, and has worked and published with think tanks and research institutions in the USA and Europe.

In 2015 she was a Franklin Fellow at the US Department of State. She is also teaching with the American University's School of International Service, and continues to consult, research and write on refugee/internally displaced persons (IDP)-related issues.

Programme structure

Structure

The MA consists of six modules (two core, four elective) plus a dissertation.

Core modules

Protecting Human Rights, Refugees and Displaced Persons in International Law

An Introduction to Refugee and Forced Migration Studies

Elective modules

Four elective modules chosen from:

Asylum Law in Europe: Towards Regional Harmonisation of International Protection

Asylum and Refugees in Africa and Latin America: Regional Models for Refugee Protection in the Global South

Internal Displacement in Law and Policy: War and Beyond

Gender, Sexual Identity and Age in the Refugee Context

Securing Refugee Protection in Practice

Advanced International Refugee Law

Statelessness, Nationality and the Protection of Stateless Persons

Displacement, Healthcare and Humanitarian Action

Dissertation

Overview

The MA offers a challenging multidisciplinary education with a lot of flexibility in terms of what you study, and when and how you study it. It is designed to be studied part time over a two-year period, but the registration period is five years, so you can pause your studies if you wish.

Time commitment

You will need to spend around 15–20 hours per week studying the programme. Most of the study resources that we provide are online, and you will be expected to log in to the programme's VLE frequently to participate in online discussions, submit assignments and network with tutors and your fellow students.

You will have access to a vast range of academic journals, books and primary source materials, so a lot of your time will be spent sifting through these resources, identifying the most relevant or interesting readings, and studying them in detail.



Assessment

Core modules are assessed through a combination of online activities ('E-tivities') and a final examination. Elective modules are assessed by E-tivities and a piece of written coursework.

The E-tivities are carefully designed to build your skills and knowledge and help you prepare for each examination or final piece of coursework.

You also research and write a 15,000-word dissertation on a topic that you choose (subject to agreement with your research supervisor).

Distance and flexible learning: how it works

The Student Portal and the VLE

As soon as you register, we send you a University of London username and password which enables you to log in to the Student Portal. All of the online resources you need to study the programme are made available via the Portal.

The VLE is the programme's intranet, an online space where you can:

- interact with tutors and fellow students through discussion forums
- download subject guides, readings and study skills resources for your modules
- upload your work and receive academic feedback.

Study materials

We provide you with a range of study resources and support:

- hard copies of the core textbooks
- online study resources including a subject guide for each module; scanned readings from a range of textbooks, journals and monographs; plus access to a fully searchable Online Library with a huge stock of journals and primary source materials.

Academic support

You will interact regularly with RLI academics.

- For each module, a tutor provides advice on readings and guides the online discussions.
- Tutors provide academic advice and guidance for each module that you study. Other programme queries can be directed to the Academic Support Officer. Alternatively, the Programme Director will be able to answer queries and provide support throughout your studies.
- You receive feedback on E-tivities, coursework and your examinations for each module.
- You are allocated a research supervisor to guide your dissertation work.

Connect with us online



Like us on Facebook:
facebook.com/SASRLI



Follow us on Twitter:
twitter.com/RLI_News

Sarah Muasya

Graduate, based in Kenya



'I am glad that I chose to study my MA at the University of London. I value the ideas and diverse experiences shared with students from all over the world. Great guidance by the tutors, increased student engagement and an effective administration of the Programme provided a conducive learning environment while giving me a sense of belonging. I now look forward to growing my career thanks to this MA and thanks to a world class University.'

Sarah is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya and an Associate Programme Officer-Legal at the Kakuma refugee camp, working with the Refugee Consortium of Kenya.

Module outlines

Protecting Human Rights, Refugees and Displaced Persons in International Law

This core module provides you – whether you have a legal background or not – with a firm understanding of the fundamentals of international law in relation to the protection of refugees and human rights. The module provides a basic grounding in the key international law concepts and approach required to work in the refugee field. These are further developed in relation to their application in human rights law and, most importantly, in international refugee law. The use of problem-solving scenarios alongside conceptual questions provides you with an appreciation of how the law is applied in practice.

An Introduction to Refugee and Forced Migration Studies

This core module provides you – regardless of your previous academic background – with a sound interdisciplinary understanding of the field of forced migration studies and its fundamental debates. Through the use of case studies; it provides you with a strong sense of the empirical dimensions and characteristics of refugee and other forced migration flows and policy responses at the international level. This module draws

on concepts and debates from the disciplines of anthropology, sociology, international relations, politics and history as methods for framing the empirical phenomenon of forced migration from the perspectives of the social sciences and humanities. The majority of the sessions examine the relevant thematic topic in relation to case studies on a range of refugee movements or populations drawn from around the world, while also allowing you to draw on your own knowledge of specific refugee contexts.

Dissertation

The dissertation is a key part of the MA programme and builds your independent research skills through two components. The first is the completion of a non-assessed 'Researching Refugees' taught component on qualitative research methods. The second is your undertaking a process of planning and writing a dissertation thesis on a topic of your choice that is related to the overall theme of the MA programme, i.e. refugee protection and forced migration.

The 'Researching Refugees' taught component provides you with a strong grounding in qualitative research methods as applied to the refugee context. The topics that are covered over the two-year period

include: ethnographic research; interviews and focus groups; data analysis; historical sources, archives and oral histories; research ethics in the context of refugees; fieldwork challenges in refugee contexts; and practical research design in refugee/forced migration contexts.

The dissertation thesis component requires you to build upon your knowledge of research methodology acquired through the taught component in order to undertake independent research on a topic of your choice in the refugee/forced migration field. Once your topic is approved, the MA programme staff will endeavour to provide a specialist in the topic to supervise your dissertation research.

Advanced International Refugee Law

This module explores cutting-edge debates within the field of international refugee law. It aims to deepen your knowledge of the big cross-cutting issues while avoiding undue focus on specific regions. The module seeks to impart a solid critical understanding of a number of topics, including: the historical development of international refugee law and the institutions mandated to safeguard it; procedural standards and their application to the refugee status

determination process, including accelerated procedures; mass influx and temporary protection; detention and encampment of asylum-seekers; whether 'war refugees' are really refugees and the role of international humanitarian law; interception at sea, Haitian interdictions and the Pacific solution; and climate change refugees.

Asylum and Refugees in Africa and Latin America: Regional Models for Refugee Protection in the Global South

This module explores the pertinent regional frameworks and approaches for responding to refugee movements in Africa and Latin America. The module draws attention to the strong similarities between the African and Latin American contexts in terms both of the nature of refugee problems and the regional responses adopted, and seeks to impart a solid critical understanding of a number of topics, including: the proud history of regional and constitutional forms of asylum in the post-colonial era in the continents of Latin America and Africa; the broad dynamics of refugee movements in the two continents; the Organization of African Unity/African Union system for the protection of refugees; the 1984 Cartagena Declaration on Refugees as the basis for regional protection in the Latin American context; and the role of human rights

institutions in addressing displacement in Africa and the Americas.

Asylum Law in Europe: Towards Regional Harmonisation of International Protection

This module explores the pertinent legal frameworks for the protection of refugees and other externally-displaced persons in the European context. The module seeks to impart a solid critical understanding of a number of topics, including: asylum trends within Europe and displacement on its borders; the process of attempting to develop a harmonised asylum system within the European Union (EU) and the external implications; the asylum-related rules created by the EU; the role of pertinent EU institutions, particularly the Court of Justice of the EU (CJEU), the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) and Frontex; and how the Council of Europe human rights system approaches the question of asylum, and the inter-relationship with the EU system.

Displacement, Healthcare and Humanitarian Action

This module explores the impact of forced migration on the health of its victims and considers healthcare provision and other humanitarian action in emergency situations. The module focuses principally on the provision of healthcare and other

humanitarian services to refugees, considering both camp and non-camp scenarios, before turning to briefly consider the relevance of these understandings in the context of forced internal displacement. The module seeks to impart a solid critical understanding of a number of topics, including: the impact of forced migration on physical and psychological health and well-being; malnutrition, disease and other health issues in refugee populations; healthcare provision for refugees in camp and non-camp scenarios; planning for housing, food, water and sanitation for refugees in camp scenarios and complex emergencies; psychological health of refugees and service provision; the relationship between health, healthcare provision and human rights; and the role of international actors engaged in healthcare provision.

Gender, Sexual Identity and Age in the Refugee Context

This module explores forced migration and refugee protection from the standpoint of certain categories of forced migrants whose situation demands special protection. The module focuses on issues of gender and sexual identity in the refugee context before moving on to consider how age is also a factor relevant to understanding – and protecting –

Module outlines

refugees and other forced migrants. The module seeks to impart a solid critical understanding of a number of topics, including: feminist, gender and critical theory and their application to the refugee field; jurisprudence and policy pertaining to refugee women – case studies of female genital mutilation and domestic violence as grounds for refugee status; jurisprudence and policy pertaining to sexual identity; jurisprudence and policy pertaining to child refugees; and jurisprudence and policy pertaining to disability and refugees.

Internal Displacement in Law and Policy: War and Beyond

This module explores the concept of the internally displaced person (IDP) – which has emerged in the past 20 years – and how this has been framed by law and policy. The module focuses on IDPs in conflict contexts before moving on to consider other forms of internal displacement. The module seeks to impart a solid critical understanding of a number of topics, including: an introduction to international humanitarian law (IHL); the rules relating to forcible displacement, transfer and deportation in IHL and human rights law; international criminal law and the criminalisation of forced displacement; domestic law and policy on IDPs – the

case of Colombia; the law relating to transitional justice and internal displacement; and persons displaced by disasters and environmental change.

Securing Refugee Protection in Practice

This module explores the context within which the protection of refugees and other displaced persons takes place. It builds on the legal and empirical understanding of the roles of key protection actors developed through the core modules, in order to consider how they may best be influenced and to build on your skills in the relevant areas. The module focuses on developing a firm appreciation of the factors that influence how protection actors – such as States and UNHCR – behave and the practical strategies through which such behaviour may be influenced. The module seeks to impart a solid critical understanding of a number of topics, including: key theories of norm adherence and normative change in the field of human rights and refugee protection; critical insight into lobbying, media, campaigning and monitoring work in the refugee field; different strategies for managing project cycles, drafting legal and policy interventions and carrying out fundraising.

Statelessness, Nationality and the Protection of Stateless Persons

This module explores the international law relating to statelessness and stateless persons and its development over the past 60 years. The module seeks to impart a solid critical understanding of a number of topics, including: the concept and implications of nationality in international law; the empirical roots and scope of the problem of statelessness across the world; the definition of ‘stateless person’ contained in the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, and its conceptual connections with the refugee concept; the push towards elimination of statelessness in the framework of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness; regional approaches to statelessness; the role of human rights standards in relation to statelessness; the expanding mandate of UNHCR in respect of stateless persons; and national laws and policies relating to statelessness.

Entrance requirements

Academic

An undergraduate degree (e.g. bachelor) which is considered at least comparable to a UK upper second class honours degree, in a social science-related subject, from an institution acceptable to the University.

If you do not meet the entrance requirements you may still apply. Each application will be considered on an individual basis by the Programme Director.

English language

You need a high standard of English to study this programme. You will meet our language requirement if you have achieved the following within the past three years: IELTS (International English Language Testing System) – overall score of at least 7.0 with at least 6 in reading and writing.

Tests from other providers will be considered on an individual basis. Even if you have not formally met these requirements the University may still consider other evidence, for example if your current degree was taught in the medium of English.

Minimum computer specification

You must have regular access to a computer (or mobile device) with an internet connection so that you can access your learning materials through the VLE.

To get the most from your studies, your computer should have at least the following minimum specification:

- a web browser (the latest version of Firefox, Chrome or Internet Explorer). This must accept cookies and have JavaScript enabled
- screen resolution of 1024 x 768 or greater
- sufficient bandwidth to download documents of at least 2MB
- a word processor that reads Microsoft Word format (.doc)
- Adobe, or another PDF reader.

Dr Naohiko Omata

Module Convenor and tutor for module 'Dissertation Research Proposal'



Dr Naohiko Omata is Senior Research Officer of the Humanitarian Innovation Project at the Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford. He received his PhD in Development Studies from SOAS, University of London. He also holds a BA in Law from the University of Tokyo, and an MA in Forced Migration and Humanitarian Aid from the Fletcher School at Tufts University. From September 2009 to January 2012, Naohiko was Senior Teaching Fellow in Development Studies at SOAS. Previously, he worked as a practitioner and consultant for UNDP, UNHCR and international and local NGOs in sub-Saharan African countries. He has published widely on refugee livelihoods, repatriation, and rights, based on extensive research in East and West Africa.

How to apply and register

Getting started

You must apply online at:
london.ac.uk/refugee-migration

Please read the 'Guidance Notes for Applications' before you complete your application.

Stage 1

Submit your online application.

Stage 2

Submit your documentary evidence. This can be done online when submitting your application or at a later stage. Please see: **bit.ly/doc_evidence**

Please do not send original documents (scanned copies are acceptable).

Stage 3

We will notify you whether or not you have been accepted.*

Please note: applications will only be considered when we have received all the necessary documentation, including the references, where applicable.



Stage 4

Complete the online registration. We explain how to do this in the Offer Letter.

Stage 5

Start your studies. You will be given access to the VLE and your study materials once you have registered.

Useful information for applicants

Submit your application even if it is incomplete (for example, if you are waiting to sit an examination or to receive examination results). Do not delay – we can formally advise you on what requirements/grades you will need to obtain in order to meet our entrance criteria.

If you are unsure about whether or not you meet our entrance requirements, we might be able to advise you on this before you submit your application. However, due to our increase in workload we are unable to provide this advice between 1 September and 30 October each year. To contact us, please see: **sid.london.ac.uk**

Fees and further information

Fees payable to the University

The fees below refer to the 2019–2020 academic year only and are effective from October 2019 to September 2020. Fees are subject to annual revision and typically may be increased by up to five per cent per annum. The full list of annual fees for the programmes will be published on the Student Fees web page once confirmed.

Please visit: london.ac.uk/fees

Fees may be paid in one of two ways:

Option 1

A single payment covering all module fees for the MA degree:

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Total MA degree | £8,400 |
|-----------------|--------|

Option 2

Pay the fee for modules you are taking in your first year. Then, in subsequent years, you pay the fees for any new module you take.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Core module (per module) | £1,690 |
| Dissertation Part 1 | £845 |
| Elective module (per module) | £845 |
| Dissertation Part 2 | £845 |

Please note: for both options you will have an additional fee to pay to your local examination centre (this fee will vary).

A limited number of scholarships are available which seek to support outstanding students who might not otherwise be able to gain access to this MA. For more information please see: bit.ly/funding-RPM

Other costs

All student fees shown are net of any local VAT, Goods and Services Tax (GST) or any other sales tax payable by the student in their country of residence. Where the University is required to add VAT, GST or any other sales tax at the local statutory rate, this will be added to the fees shown during the payment process. For students resident in the UK, our fees are exempt from VAT.

The information contained in this leaflet was correct at the date of publication but may be subject to change. The University does not intend by publication or distribution of this leaflet to create any contractual or other legal relation with applicants, registered students, their advisers or any other persons. For the most up-to-date information please visit our website.

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Denisa Ludasova

Graduate, based in Iraq



'While working in the countries affected by displacement, my studies have helped me make sense of the developments around me. I enjoyed the great number of interesting readings recommended in the modules and valued the immense wealth of resources made available through the Online Library. Although I worked during the four semesters, it was feasible to combine full-time employment with my studies. I appreciated the flexibility and the great support I received from the tutors and the Academic Support Officer in the course of my studies. Finally, it was extremely enriching to read the viewpoints of my peers, often protection professionals located all around the world, during our weekly discussions.'

Denise is the Finance Officer at Welthungerhilfe in Iraq.

For further information on the range of programmes we offer, please visit our website or contact us at:

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