



**UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON**

Programme Regulations 2018–2019

Muslim Minorities in a Global Context

MA

Important document – please read
This document contains important
information that governs your
registration, assessment and
programme of study

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Important information regarding the Programme Regulations

Last revised 25 July 2018

As a student registered with the University of London you are governed by the current General Regulations and Programme Regulations associated with your programme of study.

These Programme Regulations are designed and developed by SOAS University of London which is responsible for the academic direction of the programme. The regulations take account of any associated arrangements at SOAS University of London.

In addition to Programme Regulations you will have to abide by the [General Regulations](#). These regulations apply to all students registered for a programme of study with the University of London and provide the rules governing registration and assessment on all programmes; they also indicate what you may expect on completion of your programme of study and how you may pursue a complaint, should that be necessary.

The relevant General Regulations and the Programme Regulations relating to your registration with us are for the current year and not in the year in which you initially registered.

On all matters where the regulations are to be interpreted, or are silent, our decision will be final.

Further information about your programme of study is outlined in the Programme Specification which is available on the relevant Courses page of the website. The Programme Specification gives a broad overview of the structure and content of the programme as well as the learning outcomes students will achieve as they progress.

Throughout the Regulations, 'we' 'us' and 'our' mean the University of London; 'you' and 'your' mean the student, or where applicable, all students.

Terminology

The following language is specific to the Muslim Minorities in a Global Context programme:

Module: Individual units of the programme are called modules. Each unit is a self-contained, formally structured learning experience with a coherent and explicit set of learning outcomes and assessment criteria

Elective modules: Pathway specific optional modules that are studied in succession after the core module(s).

Dissertation development stage: A learning stage that follows each module which develops the skills needed to write and submit a final dissertation.

Module convenor: Programme team member who ensures that design and delivery of high quality learning opportunities are available for students on the module.

Associate tutor: Programme team member who delivers small group teaching, or may be used for their specialist expertise to lead online seminars.

Changes to MA Muslim Minorities in a Global Context Regulations 2018-2019

The following module are now available as an elective module for all students registered on the MA in Muslim Minorities in a Global Context:

GDM175 Global Media

GDM355 Human and Critical Security

1 Structure of the programmes

[Appendix A](#) gives the full programme structure.

Award

1.1

The following named awards are offered under the Global Corporations and Policy programme:

- MA in Muslim Minorities in a Global Context
- Postgraduate Diploma in Muslim Minorities in a Global Context - Exit award only
- Postgraduate Certificate in Muslim Minorities in a Global Context- Exit award only

Award structure

1.2

The MA in Muslim Minorities in a Global Context consists of four modules and a dissertation as follows:

- One compulsory core module
- Three elective modules chosen from a list
- A dissertation.

Exit awards

1.3

If you are registered on the MA and are unable to complete your studies you may be eligible for an exit award. A Postgraduate Certificate or a Postgraduate Diploma in Muslim Minorities in a Global Context may be awarded for the successful completion of either two modules and two dissertation development stages or four modules and four dissertation development stages respectively.

2 Registration

Effective date of registration

2.1

Your effective date of registration will be **1 April** if you register in March/April, or **1 October** if you register in September/October, of the year in which you initially register.

2.2

If your effective date of registration is:

- **1 April**, you may take your first examinations in August of the same year;
- **1 October**, you may take your first examinations in February of the following year.

Period of registration

See the [Programme Specification](#) for the minimum and maximum periods of registration applicable to this programme.

3 Recognition of prior learning

To be read in conjunction with the [General Regulations](#), Section 3.

Recognition of prior learning

3.1

Within this programme there is no provision for recognition or accreditation of prior learning.

Blended learning

3.2

Blended Learning study enables you to combine distance learning study with a period of full-time study at SOAS. If you are registered on the MA degree and have been allowed to proceed to the elective modules, you may study up to **two** elective modules at SOAS on an equivalent part-time basis in place of online learning modules. There will be restrictions on the availability of elective modules available for Blended Learning study.

3.3

If you are registered on an on-campus Postgraduate Degree programme offered through the Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy, you may be eligible to study an individual module offered under these regulations. The credit obtained will be transferred to your programme of study. This will be at the discretion of the programme director.

4 Module selection

[Appendix A](#) provides details of the programme structures and module titles.

4.1

Modules are normally run in two sessions during the year, each comprising 16 weeks of study. You may normally only register for one module per study session.

4.2

In exceptional circumstances only and having shown sufficient progression in the programme, you may apply to the Programme Director to study two modules in one session.

4.3

You may apply to change your assigned module in consultation with the Programme Director up to two weeks before the start date for that module. If you have already begun studying the module your application will not be considered.

5 Assessment for the programme

Assessment methods

You should refer to the VLE for submission deadlines.

5.1

Each module for the MA in Muslim Minorities in a Global Context, excluding the Dissertation module, will be assessed by the completion of six e-tivities. E-tivity 6 will be assessed by the completion of a 4,500-5,000-word essay submitted through Turnitin to a fixed deadline following a 16 week study session.

5.2

The **Dissertation** module will be assessed by submission of a 1500-word dissertation proposal and the submission of a written dissertation, of approximately 15,000 words. You are required to complete the four dissertation development stages and submit both elements of assessment to complete the dissertation module.

5.3

The overall mark for the dissertation module will be based on the combined marks for the dissertation and the research proposal, weighted at 85% and 15% respectively.

5.4

In order to pass any module, including the dissertation module, you must achieve an overall mark of at least 50%.

Submission of e-tivities and the dissertation

5.5

Your completed e-tivities and dissertation must be submitted via the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) no later than the submission dates given on the module timetables.

5.6

Any submission made after the published deadline will be penalised: Marks will be deducted at a rate of 1one mark per day to a maximum of 5 marks for e-tivities submitted up to 5 days after the deadline. E-tivities will not be accepted if submitted later than beyond 5 days after the deadline.

5.7

With each submission you must accept the No Plagiarism declaration via the online submission procedure to confirm that the completed e-tivity is all your own work (except where the terms of the e-tivity require reference to the work of collaboration with others) and that there has been no plagiarism.

5.8

Extensions to deadline dates will not be granted.

Where you have provided evidence of mitigating circumstances, penalties for late submission of e-tivities (submitted up to 5 days after the deadline, where possible) may be waived, subject to approval by the Programme Director.

5.9

If an assignment exceeds the word limit by the amounts specified below, we will implement the following deductions.

For **e-tivities 2, 3 and 5** for all modules, the following deductions will apply:

Excess length	Mark Deduction
Up to and including 30%	1 mark
More than 30%	The work may be submitted and will be accepted. It will not be marked and will be assigned a mark of 0

For **e-tivity 4** and **e-tivity 6** for all modules, the **dissertation proposal** and the final dissertation, the following schedule of deductions will apply:

Excess Length	Mark Deduction (deductions for dissertation given in parentheses)
Up to and including 10%	1 mark (5%)
More than 10% up to and including 20%	2 marks (10%)
More than 20% up to and including 30%	3 marks (15%)
More than 30%	The work may be submitted and will be accepted. It will not be marked and will be assigned a mark of zero (0)

The word count does not include footnotes (provided they contain a reference and are not part of the assessment), endnotes, bibliography and figures. Tables which contain text will be included in the total word count, tables which contain numerical data will not.

5.10

It is your responsibility to retain a copy of your e-tivity in the event of any electronic difficulties in its submission to, or return from, us.

5.11

We will provide you with feedback on all of your e-tivities across all of your modules

5.12

If you are submitting a dissertation you must submit an electronic copy of the completed dissertation via the VLE, to arrive not later than the relevant submission deadline.

You are strongly advised to work with your appointed supervisor in the preparation of your dissertation. Full details of the responsibility of the supervisor, including the responsibility to review draft chapters, will be provided as part of your learning materials following registration on the dissertation module.

6 Number of attempts permitted at an examination

6.1

The maximum number of attempts permitted at e-tivity 4 and e-tivity 6 for each module is **two**.

6.2

For all other e-tivities, a third attempt may be permitted at the discretion of the Programme Director, and subject to mitigating circumstances.

6.3

You will not be permitted to resit any element of assessment which you have passed.

6.4

If you fail a module with a mark between 45-49%, you may be awarded a condoned fail and have credit awarded in the same way as for passed courses providing the mean average mark for your

modules is 55% or above. Compensation may be applied if you are entering to complete the award and is granted at the discretion of the exam board.

6.5

You may be granted a condoned fail for **one** module only.

6.6

If you resit e-tivity 6 for any module, your mark will be capped at 50%.

6.7

If you resit e-tivity 4 for any module, your mark will be capped at 7.5.

6.8

If you submit a **dissertation** that is otherwise adequate but requires minor amendment, the Examiners may require you to make any amendments specified by them and to re-submit the dissertation within a period of **four** weeks, unless otherwise specified by them. This is still counted as your first attempt. If the dissertation is failed completely, you will be required to submit a new dissertation proposal within a period of **four** weeks. Submission of the final dissertation will be required within a period determined by us, normally within six months of the submission of the new dissertation proposal.

6.9

If you make a second attempt at the dissertation module, your mark will be capped at 50%.

7 Progression within the programme

See [section 4](#) for method of assessment.

7.1

You are required to study the core module, '*Muslim Minorities in a Global Context*' during the first study session following your registration on the programme.

7.2

You will then be expected to complete the three elective modules during the subsequent study sessions. Elective modules may not all be offered at every study session and may be studied in any order.

7.3

You must attempt and pass e-tivity 6 of a module before you progress to your next module. Where this is not the case, progression will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances, at the discretion of the Programme Director and Chair of the Exam Board.

7.4

You must attempt all e-tivities of a module. If you submit e-tivity 6 for a module for which you have an incomplete e-tivity record we may determine that you have not completed the module's assessment requirements and you will receive no mark for e-tivity 6.

7.5

You will be expected to submit your dissertation proposal before attempting your third elective module.

The dissertation module is presented in four development stages, which will follow each of your module sessions, and you must complete each stage to pass the dissertation. The fourth and final stage of the dissertation will include a dedicated writing-up period prior to submission of the dissertation.

7.6

If you wish to apply to suspend your study of a module we may carry forward the mark for any e-tivity already completed for that module. This will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.

8 Schemes of award

MA Muslim Minorities in a Global Context

8.1

Modules are marked according to the following scales:

Mark range	
70+	Distinction
60-69	Merit
50-59	Pass
0-49	Fail

8.2

The maximum marks available for e-tivities 1 to 5 are as follows:

- E-tivity 1: Access and socialisation – 0
- E-tivity 2: Library information retrieval – 5
- E-tivity 3: Literature critique (directed) – 5
- E-tivity 4: Essay proposal – 15
- E-tivity 5: Literature critique (bespoke) – 5

8.3

To calculate the mark for a module, excluding the dissertation, the combined marks for the e-tivities 2, 3, 4 and 5, comprising 30% of the module mark, are added to the mark obtained for e-tivity 6 which is scaled to 70%.

8.4

For the dissertation module, the marks obtained for the dissertation proposal and final written dissertation, appropriately scaled, are combined to produce the overall mark for the module. The final dissertation is marked out of 100 and is scaled to account for 85% of the module grade. The dissertation proposal is marked out of 15 and will account for the remaining 15% of the grade.

8.5

To be awarded the MA in Muslim Minorities in a Global Context, you must have attempted and passed all four modules **and** the dissertation, with a weighted average mark of at least 50%.

8.6

To calculate the final grade, all modules, with the exception of the dissertation module, are weighted equally. The dissertation is double weighted.

8.7

In order to be considered for the award of:

- Merit - you must obtain a mark of 50% or more in each module, a mark of 60% or more for the dissertation **and** a weighted average mark of 60% across all modules.
- Distinction - you must obtain a mark of 60% or more in each module, a mark of 70% or more for the dissertation **and** a weighted average of at least 70% across all modules.

See [Appendix B](#) for information on how to achieve a particular mark.

Exit awards

8.8

At the discretion of the Board of Examiners and only in circumstances where you are unable to fulfil the criteria for the MSc, an exit award may be awarded as follows:

- **Postgraduate Certificate in Muslim Minorities in a Global Context** for successful completion of two modules and two dissertation development stages;
- **Postgraduate Diploma in Muslim Minorities in a Global Context** for successful completion of four modules and four dissertation development stages.

8.9

Both the Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma in Muslim Minorities in a Global Context are provided as exit awards only. There is no provision for progression from the Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma to the MSc.

8.10

If you accept a Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma offered under these regulations we will not permit you to register or re-register for the related MSc at a later date.

Date of Award

8.11

The date of award will correspond to the year that the requirements for the award are satisfied. This will be 1 May if your final assessment was in February or 1 October if your final assessment was in August.

Appendix A – Structure of the programme

New modules, the Programme Director deems relevant and appropriate to develop for the programme, may be introduced throughout the course of year.

A detailed outline of the module syllabus is provided on the [CISD](#) course page.

MA in Muslim Minorities in a Global Context

One compulsory core module:

GDM115 [Muslim Minorities in a Global Context](#)

+

Three subject modules chosen from:

GDM250 [Introduction to Islam](#)

GDM255 [Muslim Minorities and the State: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives](#)

GDM260 [Islamic Law in Global Context](#)

GDM265 [Religions and Development](#)

GDM010 [Art of Negotiation](#)

GDM135 [Global Public Policy](#)

GDM130 [International Security](#)

GDM120 [Strategic Studies](#)

GDM160 [Citizenship & Advocacy](#)

GDM196 [Political Islam in South Asia](#)

GDM190 [Contemporary India: State, Society and Politics](#)

GDM175 [Global Media](#)

GDM355 [Human and Critical Security](#)

+

One compulsory dissertation module:

GDM200 [Dissertation](#)

Appendix B – Assessment criteria

These guidelines reflect the standards of work expected at postgraduate level.

The following criteria will be used in determining the marks awarded for the final written **dissertation**. The same criteria will be used in assessing the standard of work achieved for **e-tivity 4 and e-tivity 6** for all modules and for the **dissertation proposal**. The dissertation and e-tivity 6 are marked out of 100 and the dissertation proposal and e-tivity 4 are marked out of 15 and scaled accordingly.

Distinction 80+ / 15

A mark of 80+ will fulfil the following criteria:

- very significant ability to plan, organise and execute independently a research project or coursework assignment;
- very significant ability to evaluate literature and theory critically and make informed judgements;
- very high levels of creativity, originality and independence of thought;
- very significant ability to evaluate critically existing methodologies and suggest new approaches to current research or professional practice;
- very significant ability to analyse data critically;
- outstanding levels of accuracy, technical competence, organisation, expression.

Distinction 70-79 / 12-14

A mark in the range 70-79 will fulfil the following criteria:

- significant ability to plan, organise and execute independently a research project or coursework assignment;
- clear evidence of wide and relevant reading, referencing and an engagement with the conceptual issues;
- capacity to develop a sophisticated and intelligent argument;
- rigorous use and a sophisticated understanding of relevant source materials, balancing appropriately between factual detail and key theoretical issues. Materials are evaluated directly and their assumptions and arguments challenged and/or appraised;
- correct referencing;
- significant ability to analyse data critically;
- original thinking and a willingness to take risks.

Merit 60-69 / 10-11

A mark in the 60-69 range will fulfil the following criteria:

- ability to plan, organise and execute independently a research project or coursework assignment;
- strong evidence of critical insight and thinking;
- a detailed understanding of the major factual and/or theoretical issues and directly engages with the relevant literature on the topic;
- clear evidence of planning and appropriate choice of sources and methodology with correct referencing;
- ability to analyse data critically;
- capacity to develop a focussed and clear argument and articulate clearly and convincingly a sustained train of logical thought.

Pass 50-59 / 7.5-9

A mark in the range 50-59 will fulfil the following criteria:

- Ability to plan, organise and execute a research project or coursework assignment;
- a reasonable understanding of the major factual and/or theoretical issues involved;
- evidence of some knowledge of the literature with correct referencing;
- ability to analyse data;
- shows examples of a clear train of thought or argument;
- the text is introduced and concludes appropriately.

Fail 40-49 / 6-7.49

A Fail will be awarded in cases in which there is:

- limited ability to plan, organise and execute a research project or coursework assignment;
- some awareness and understanding of the literature and of factual or theoretical issues, but with little development;
- limited ability to analyse data;
- incomplete referencing;
- limited ability to present a clear and coherent argument.

Fail 20-39 / 3-5

A Fail will be awarded in cases in which there is:

- very limited ability to plan, organise and execute a research project or coursework assignment;
- fails to develop a coherent argument that relates to the research project or assignment;
- does not engage with the relevant literature or demonstrate a knowledge of the key issues;
- incomplete referencing;
- contains clear conceptual or factual errors or misunderstandings;
- only fragmentary evidence of critical thought or data analysis.

Fail 0-19 / 0-2

A Fail will be awarded in cases which:

- no demonstrable ability to plan, organise and execute a research project or coursework assignment;
- little or no knowledge or understanding related to the research project or assignment;
- little or no knowledge of the relevant literature;
- major errors in referencing;
- no evidence of critical thought or data analysis;
- incoherent argument.

The following criteria will be used in determining the marks awarded for e-tivities 2, 3 and 5 for each subject module:

5/5

- Thorough critical analysis of a range of arguments from a wide literature (e.g. considers criticisms and defences of positions discussed and provides a clear and convincing position of own view derived from this discussion)
- Concise and well-structured
- Provides original arguments (e.g. makes original connection to wider academic debates, formulates an innovative criticism/defence)
- Very clear expression

4/5

- Broad understanding of topic
- Refers to relevant wider literature
- Engagement with academic debate on topic
- Well written
- Appropriate structure
- Some critical analysis with arguments (is able to consider criticisms and defences of positions discussed)

3/5

- Relevant answer to topic
- Satisfactory understanding and broadly accurate understanding
- Proper referencing
- Clear expression

2/5

- Limited relevance to topic
- Partial/incomplete understanding
- Unclear expression
- Poor referencing

1/5

- Submitted according to instructions
- Shows basic academic skills such as locating relevant articles through appropriate search tools such Library catalogue
- Errors in understanding
- Absence of analysis

0/5

- Failure to submit in accordance with instructions
- Unable to illustrate basic academic skills in any meaningful capacity.
- Absence of understanding