



UNIVERSITY  
OF LONDON

INTERNATIONAL  
PROGRAMMES

## Programme Regulations 2017–18

### Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies

MA

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



## Contents

Important information regarding the Programme Regulations .....	2
1 Structure of the programme .....	4
2 Registration .....	4
3 Recognition of prior learning and credit transfer .....	8
4 Assessment for the programme .....	9
5 Number of attempts permitted at assessment .....	11
6 Assessment offences and penalties.....	14
7 Progression within the programme.....	14
8 Schemes of award.....	15
<b>Appendix A – Structure of the programme .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Appendix B – Assessment criteria .....</b>	<b>19</b>

## Important information regarding the Programme Regulations

### About this document

Last revised 13 July 2016

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.

The Programme Regulations are designed and developed by the School of Advanced Study which is responsible for the academic direction of the programme. The Programme Regulations, which may refer to the [Programme handbook](#) and the VLE, provide the detailed rules and guidance for your programme of study. Further information about how to use the Programme Regulations and Programme Handbook can be found in the [Student guide](#).

In addition to Programme Regulations you will have to keep to the [General Regulations](#). These regulations apply to all students registered for a programme of study with the International Academy 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. Programme Regulations should be read in conjunction with the General Regulations.

If you have a query about any of the programme information provided please contact us. You should use the *ask a question* tab in the student portal <https://my.londoninternational.ac.uk>.

### Terminology

Throughout the Regulations, 'we' 'us' and 'our' mean the University of London; 'you' and 'your' mean the student, or where applicable, all students. A [Glossary](#) provides an explanation of the general terms used by University. Additionally, the following terminology, which is specific to the Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies programme, is used in these regulations:

**Core module:** a compulsory module that must be taken.

**Elective module:** a module that is chosen from a number of options.

**Dissertation module:** a compulsory module that forms the programme's dissertation component.

**Terms:** Term 1 runs from October to March. Term 2 runs from March to October. The core and elective modules run in either one term or the other and students can start in either term. (The dissertation study periods run from February to March and from July to October).

## **Changes made to the Programme Regulations in 2017-18**

The Programme Regulations are reviewed annually and revised if necessary. In addition to some revisions for clarification and reorganisation of information, the following changes have been made to these regulations:

### **Registration deadline for dissertation modules (regulation 2.12)**

The Term 2 registration deadline for dissertation modules RPM400 and RPM500 has been changed from 15 April to 15 May. The Term 1 deadline for these modules remains unchanged.

### **RPM500 Research dissertation (2.23)**

The regulations and fee schedule have been amended to clarify that a fee is payable if a student is permitted to defer submission of RPM500 Research dissertation on a second occasion.

### **Progression from core modules to elective modules (7.1)**

The regulations have been amended to allow a student to register for an elective module provided that they have registered for both core modules in a previous term(s). This change has been made to ease progression, but it is strongly recommended that all students attempt the assessments for both core modules before starting work on any elective module.

## 1 Structure of the programme

### The degree

#### 1.1

The MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies consists of:

- two compulsory core modules (each worth 30 credits)
- four elective modules (each worth 15 credits)
- two compulsory dissertation modules (together worth 60 credits).

### Exit awards

See [section 8](#) for exit award criteria.

#### 1.2

The Board of Examiners has discretion to grant a Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies as an exit award to a student who does not successfully complete the MA degree but who does meet the criteria of the PGCert or PGDip.

## 2 Registration

### Effective date of registration

See the [Glossary](#) for the definition of Effective date of registration.

#### 2.1

Your effective date of registration for the programme will be either:

- 1 October if you first registered at the October registration closing date, or
- 1 March if you first registered at the March registration closing date.

### Period of registration

#### 2.2

The minimum and maximum periods of registration are counted from your effective date of registration.

#### 2.3

The minimum period of registration to complete the MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies is two years. The maximum period of registration allowed to complete the MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies is five years.

## **Registering for modules**

Each core and elective module runs for a 16 week term that begins in either October (Term 1) or March (Term 2). Refer to [Appendix A](#) to see which modules run in each term.

To register for a module, you must select it and pay for it by the deadline date. When you register for a module you are committing to studying the module in the next term that the module runs so you should only register for modules that you are ready to study. For example, if you register for the core modules RPM010 and RPM020 at the start of the academic year, you will be expected to study them both that year in consecutive terms. If you register for RPM400 and RPM500 together, it is expected that you will continue onto RPM500 as soon as you have completed RPM400.

More information is available in the 'Study Session Planner' section of the [Programme handbook](#) and in the [fee schedule](#) on the International Programmes website.

### **2.4**

When you first register for the programme you must register for at least one core module.

### **2.5**

If you register for a core, elective or dissertation module, you must study it when you are eligible to take it in the first term that it runs.

## **Maximum and minimum number of modules you can study in a term**

### **2.6**

You can register for up to one core module or up to two elective modules in any Term, excluding dissertation and failed modules:

- The dissertation modules can be studied alongside core and elective modules, and do not count towards the maximum number of core and elective modules that can be studied in any one term.
- Failed modules, where the final assessment is being retaken, do not count towards the maximum number of core and elective modules that can be studied in any one term.

### **2.7**

There is no upper or lower limit to the number of elective modules you can choose from Term 1 (October) or Term 2 (March) during your registration for the MA degree.

## **Registering for core and elective modules**

### **2.8**

If your effective date of registration is 1 October, your first module will be RPM010 Protecting human rights, refugees and displaced persons in international law, which will start in October and finish in February of the following year.

If your effective date of registration is 1 March, your first module will be RPM020 An introduction to refugee and forced migration studies, which will start in March and finish in July of the same year.

### **2.9**

The deadline date to register for core and elective modules that run in Term 1 is 1 October. The deadline date to register for core and elective modules that run in Term 2 is 1 March.

## **Registering for the dissertation modules**

There are two dissertation modules both of which run in both terms: RPM400 Dissertation research proposal, and RPM500 Research dissertation.

RPM400 Dissertation research proposal includes dissertation study sessions 1 and 2: the research methods course (5%) and submission of the research proposal (10%). RPM500 Research dissertation includes dissertation study periods 3 and 4: research, writing up and submission of the dissertation (85%).

### **2.10**

You can register for RPM400 Dissertation research proposal at any point during your registration.

### **2.11**

You can register for RPM500 Research dissertation at the same time as, or after, registering for RPM400 Dissertation research proposal.

### **2.12**

The deadline for registering for dissertation modules is later than the deadline for core and elective modules in Term 1 and Term 2. To register for the dissertation modules at these later deadlines, log a request on the [Student Portal](#).

The registration deadline for dissertation modules RPM400 and RPM500 in Term 1 is 15 January.

The registration deadline for dissertation modules RPM400 and RPM500 in Term 2 is 15 May.

### **2.13**

If you register for RPM500 Research dissertation by the 15 January deadline, you will submit your dissertation in October of that calendar year.

If you register for RPM500 Research dissertation by the 15 May deadline, you will submit your dissertation in March the following calendar year.

### **2.14**

When you register for RPM400 Dissertation research proposal, you must study the research methods course in consecutive terms and must submit the research proposal by the first available deadline.

## **Delaying or deferring your studies**

**Delay** is when you have registered for a module, but then decide to start it in a later term than the first one available.

**Defer** is when you have registered and started work on a module, but want to stop participating in that term and start again afresh in a later term.

## **Delaying your studies**

### **2.15**

To delay a module, you must notify us through the [Student Portal](#) before the term starts or as soon as possible once it has started, and not after you have started work on the module.

**2.16**

You can delay a module once and commence it for a second time without seeking permission.

**2.17**

You will need to seek permission from the Programme Director if you wish to commence a module for a third time. You will be required to pay a new module fee.

**Deferring your studies**

**2.18**

To defer a module, you must notify us through the [Student Portal](#) no later than 28 days prior to the final assessment deadline/examination date for the module. You can defer a module regardless of whether you have completed the examination entry process or not.

**2.19**

You can defer a module and start it for a second time by telling us through the [Student Portal](#). You do not need our permission to defer a module on a first occasion and when you restart the module you will not have to pay an additional fee.

**2.20**

If you wish to defer a module on a second occasion with a view to starting it for a third time you must first request and obtain permission from the Programme Director. If permission is given, for core and elective modules you must pay a new module fee by the deadline date when you restart the module.

**2.21**

If you stop studying a module and do not tell us, or tell us less than 28 days before the final assessment deadline/examination date, you will not usually be considered for a deferral.

**2.22**

If you defer a core or elective module and restart it in a later term you must start the module from the beginning. Previously submitted E-tivities will be discarded and their marks will not carry forward. When you restart the module your attempts at the assessments will be treated as first attempts.

**2.23**

If you defer RPM400 Dissertation research proposal and restart it in a later term you must start the module from the beginning. Any attempts at the Research methods and methodology course will be discarded and any marks for it will not carry forward. When you restart the module your attempts at the assessments will be treated as first attempts.

**2.24**

If you defer RPM500 Research dissertation you must submit the dissertation in the next study session.

**2.25**

Continuity of dissertation supervision cannot be guaranteed if you defer submission of the RPM500 Research dissertation on a second occasion.

If, having already deferred submission of the RPM500 Research dissertation on one occasion, it is agreed that you can defer submission on a further occasion you must pay the Dissertation second-deferral fee.

### **Replacing an elective module**

#### **2.26**

We will consider a request to replace an elective module with another if you contact us through the student portal. It will be our decision whether or not to approve a request.

#### **2.27**

We will not normally approve a request to replace a module with another if you have already started work on the module.

#### **2.28**

If you fail an elective module on the second attempt, you will be permitted to replace the module with another elective module. We will only allow you to replace a module under these circumstances on one occasion.

#### **2.29**

We will only approve requests to replace elective modules for up to a maximum of:

- one module for which you have not yet started work on the module, and
- one module where you have failed a module on the second attempt.

## **3 Recognition of prior learning and credit transfer**

See the [Glossary](#) for definitions of accreditation of prior learning (APL) and credit transfer.

### **3.1**

We will not recognise prior learning or approve credit transfer for this programme.

## 4 Assessment for the programme

### Summary assessment table

#### 4.1

See [Appendix A](#) for the module titles and the months that the modules run.

MA structure	2 compulsory core modules		4 elective modules from		2 compulsory linked dissertation modules	
Module	RPM010, RPM020.		RPM210, RPM220, RPM230, RPM240, RPM250, RPM260, RPM270, RPM280.		RPM400.	RPM500.
Element of assessment	E-tivity	Examination	E-tivity	Coursework	Dissertation proposal	Dissertation thesis
Element weighting	30%	70%	30%	70%	15%	85%
Item of assessment	Five E-tivities: E-tivity 1 is worth 0%, E-tivity 2 is worth 2%, E-tivity 3 is worth 5%, E-tivity 4 is worth 15%, E-tivity 5 is worth 8%.	One three-hour written examination item, worth 70%.	Three E-tivities: E-tivity 1 is worth 0%, E-tivity 2 is worth 20%, E-tivity 3 is worth 10%.	One item of coursework worth 70%.	One Research methods and methodology course worth 5% and one Research proposal worth 10%.	One dissertation thesis worth 85%.

### Taking assessments

See [section 5](#) for what happens if you do not attend a written examination or submit a piece of coursework.

#### 4.2

When you register for a module you must take the assessments for the module at the first available opportunity. The only exception is the examination element of the core modules which must either be taken at the end of the term that you take the module, or at the end of the subsequent Term.

#### 4.3

You must retain a copy of all of your submissions to us in the event of any electronic difficulties in their submission to us or return from us.

### Participation-based E-tivity

#### 4.4

If you cannot participate in a particular discussion forum due to mitigating or other exceptional circumstances, you should contact the Programme Director by email. If accepted, you will be

recorded as 'participating' for that discussion session. This may be done no more than twice per module for core modules, and once per module for elective modules and RPM400 Dissertation research proposal.

### **Submission of E-tivities, coursework and the dissertation**

Note that the deadline dates and times are UK times and that it is your responsibility to adjust to UK time if you are in another time-zone.

#### **4.5**

E-tivities, coursework and dissertation items must be submitted through the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) by the submission dates given in the module timetable on the VLE.

### **Penalties for missing a deadline or exceeding a word limit**

Instructions, word limits and deadlines for submitting coursework, e-tivity and dissertation items are given in the [Programme Handbook](#). You will lose marks if you do not keep to these rules.

#### **Penalty for missing a deadline**

#### **4.6**

You must keep to the deadlines stated in the Programme Handbook. If you are late in submitting an item of coursework, e-tivity or dissertation we will reduce the mark you receive, which is used for progression and classification.

#### **Penalty for exceeding the word limit**

#### **4.7**

You must keep to the word limits stated in the assessment rubric which is provided on the VLE. If you exceed the word limit for an item of coursework, e-tivity or dissertation we will reduce the mark you receive, which is used for progression and classification.

### **Dates for written examinations**

#### **4.8**

The seen written examination for each core module is held in February and July of each year.

See [General Regulations](#) for rules about taking written examinations

#### **4.9**

The questions for the seen written examinations for each core module will be available on the VLE two weeks before the date of the examination.

### **Materials and aids allowed in the examination room**

See the Admission Notice which is sent to you in advance of the examination for further detail on what you may take into the examinations room.

#### **4.10**

You are allowed to take a maximum of two sides of A4 paper notes into the examination room for each examination. The notes may be handwritten, typed or a combination of both. No attachments to the paper are allowed. No other written materials are permitted within the examination room.

## **The dissertation**

### **4.11**

The dissertation component of the programme consists of two linked modules: RPM400 Dissertation research proposal and RPM500 Research dissertation.

### **4.12**

You are expected to work with your appointed supervisor in the preparation of your dissertation. Full details of the responsibility of the supervisor will be supplied to you following registration on RPM500 Research dissertation.

## **Mitigating circumstances**

Mitigating Circumstances are any serious circumstances beyond a student's control which may have adversely affected their academic performance. For more information about mitigating circumstances, see [section 10](#) of the General Regulations and the [examinations section](#) of our website. See also [section 5](#) of these programme regulations for what happens if you do not take an assessment.

### **4.13**

You must bring any mitigating circumstances to our attention as soon as you become aware that your performance may be adversely affected by serious circumstances beyond your control, and not longer than three weeks after an examination and not after the deadline date for coursework, dissertations and e-tivities.

---

## **5 Number of attempts permitted at assessment**

### **Maximum number of attempts**

'Final assessment' refers to either the seen written examination (70%) of the core modules, or the final coursework item (70%) of the elective modules, or the RPM500 Research dissertation component of the dissertation (85%). E-tivities are referred to by name.

#### **5.1**

The maximum number of attempts permitted at the final assessment of core modules, elective modules and RPM500 Dissertation is two.

#### **5.2**

The maximum number of attempts permitted for each E-tivity and RPM400 Research Proposal is one. The exceptions to this are where you have deferred a module or have to restart a core module because the examination was not attempted in two consecutive terms.

### **If you do not attend an examination**

If you believe there are circumstances beyond your control that prevent you from keeping to these regulations you should contact us immediately.

#### **5.3**

If you have not deferred a core module and you are unable to attend the first available examination session you should take the examination in the next available examination session and this will be treated as a first attempt.

#### **5.4**

If you do not take the examination in either the first or second examination session, your registration for that module will be cancelled and previous E-tivity marks will be discarded. To restart the module, you must pay a new module fee. You may only restart a module on one occasion.

#### **If you do not submit coursework**

If you believe there are circumstances beyond your control that prevent you from keeping to these regulations and require an extension to the deadline we will consider your circumstances if you write to the Programme Director immediately with evidence. See also the regulations for mitigating circumstances.

#### **5.5**

If you have not deferred an elective module and you do not submit the coursework you will receive a mark of zero for the coursework element and it will count as an attempt. You will be required to submit the coursework within 28 days of the results release date, by a new deadline specified by the Programme Director. Submission at the second deadline will count as your second and final attempt.

#### **5.6**

If the Programme Director grants an extension to the coursework deadline date a new deadline date will be specified. If you meet this deadline it will be counted as a first attempt. If you do not meet this extended deadline and we do not recognise mitigating circumstances you will receive a mark of zero for the coursework and it will count as an attempt.

#### **If you fail a module at the first attempt**

#### **5.7**

If you obtain an overall mark of 49% or less for a core or elective module at the first attempt this will be classified as a fail and you will be required to make one further attempt at the final assessment.

#### **5.8**

If you fail an elective module at the first attempt you must submit or resubmit the coursework element within 28 days of the results release date.

#### **Making a second attempt at an examination**

#### **5.9**

If you need to retake an examination you will need to make another examination entry and pay the examination resit fee by the examination entry deadline.

If you fail a core module at the first attempt you must make a second attempt at the examination at the first available opportunity. If you failed the module in February the next opportunity to re-sit the examination will be in July and vice versa.

#### **If you pass at a second attempt your mark will be capped**

#### **5.10**

If you make a second attempt at the final assessment of a core or elective module the overall mark given for the module will be capped at 50%.

If you make a second attempt at RPM500 Research dissertation the combined overall mark given for the dissertation component (modules RPM400 and RPM500) will be capped at 50%.

### If you fail at a second attempt

#### 5.11

If you do not take the resit examination for a core module, or do not achieve an overall mark of 50% for the module on your second attempt, your registration for the programme will cease unless otherwise recommended by the Board of Examiners.

#### 5.12

See the regulations on replacing an elective module in [section 2](#) of these regulations.

If you do not submit the final coursework for an elective module or do not achieve an overall mark of 50% for the module at your second attempt, you will not be able to take the module again.

### Progression if you have failed a module

#### 5.13

If you fail a module at the first attempt, you are allowed to register for further modules but only under the following conditions:

- For core modules: you can register for further modules but must resit the examination at the next available examination session. However, you should be aware that your registration may cease if you fail a core module at the second attempt.
- For elective modules: you can register for further modules but must submit the coursework within 28 days of receiving the result.

### Dissertation modules

The dissertation element of the programme consists of two linked modules, RPM400 Research dissertation proposal and RPM500 Research dissertation.

If you believe there are mitigating circumstances that prevent you from keeping to the deadline and require an extension to the deadline we will consider your circumstances if you write to us immediately with evidence.

### RPM400 Dissertation research proposal

#### 5.14

You must submit the research proposal for RPM400 Research dissertation proposal by the first available deadline, given in the study planner on the VLE.

#### 5.15

If you do not submit the research proposal for RPM400 by the deadline without prior agreement of an extension, you must submit it by the next deadline in the following term. Late submission will be noted on your record and may be taken into consideration by the Board of Examiners at the final award.

### **5.16**

If you do not submit the research proposal for RPM400 by the second deadline without prior agreement for an extension, you will receive a mark of 0 (zero) for it, but must still submit it to progress onto RPM500 Research dissertation.

### **RPM500 Research dissertation**

### **5.17**

If you fail the dissertation with a mark of 49% or less for the dissertation component (the combined marks for modules RPM400 and RPM500), you will be required to resubmit the dissertation (RPM500) within a set period, normally within six months. If passed at the second attempt, your result for the combined modules will be capped at 50%.

### **5.18**

If you do not submit the dissertation (RPM500) by the deadline and without prior agreement, you will be required to submit it by the next deadline in the following term and if passed, your result for the combined modules will be capped at 50%. This will be counted as your second attempt at RPM500.

---

## **6 Assessment offences and penalties**

### **6.1**

If you draw on your own previous written work, whether submitted as coursework for your current degree, or for a previous degree or qualification, this must be clearly stated to avoid self-plagiarism. If you draw on work from E-tivities or coursework that you have undertaken as part of this programme for your dissertation, then you must have this approved by your dissertation supervisor and this must amount to no more than 3000 words in total.

Please refer to the dissertation section of the [Programme handbook](#) for further details on writing and submitting your dissertation.

Section 8 of the [General Regulations](#) provides information on assessment offences and penalties.

---

## **7 Progression within the programme**

### **7.1**

We strongly recommend that you have attempted the assessments for both core modules before you start work on any elective module.

You must have registered for both core modules in a previous term before registering for any elective modules.

### **7.2**

For more information on the dissertation study sessions please refer to the [Programme handbook](#).

You will study the dissertation modules in four study sessions, two of which include the research methods course 'Researching Refugees' which is a compulsory component of RPM400 Dissertation research proposal.

### **7.3**

You must submit the RPM400 research proposal at the end of the second dissertation study session. You cannot submit your written dissertation unless you have completed your dissertation proposal.

### **7.4**

You can register for RPM500 Research dissertation at any time.

### **7.5**

You can start studying RPM500 Research dissertation after submitting the research proposal in completion of RPM400 Dissertation research proposal and after attempting the final assessments of both core modules.

---

## **8 Schemes of award**

### **Award requirements**

#### **8.1**

To be awarded the MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies, you must achieve a mark of at least 50% in each of the two core modules, four elective modules and the dissertation component.

### **Mark scheme**

See the Assessment section of the [Programme handbook](#) for more information about the assessments.

#### **8.2**

Marks awarded for each element of the assessment of a module and the overall module mark will be rounded to the nearest whole number.

#### **8.3**

The overall mark for each of core module is calculated by weighting the marks achieved for E-tivity 1, E-tivity 2, E-tivity 3, E-tivity 4, E-tivity 5, and the examination in a ratio of 0: 2: 5: 15: 8: 70.

#### **8.4**

The overall mark for each of elective modules is calculated by weighting the marks achieved for E-tivity 1, E-tivity 2, E-tivity 3 and the Coursework in a ratio of 0: 20: 10: 70.

#### **8.5**

The overall mark for the dissertation is calculated by weighting the marks achieved for RPM400 Dissertation research proposal and RPM500 Research dissertation in a ratio of 15:85.

#### **8.6**

To pass a core or elective module, you must achieve an overall mark for the module of at least 50%.

#### **8.7**

To pass the dissertation component, you must achieve

- a mark of at least 50% for RPM500 and

- a combined mark of at least 50% for RPM400 and RPM500 where the modules are weighted in a ratio of 15:85.

### 8.8

The overall module mark for core and elective modules will be capped at 50% if the module was passed at the second attempt. The overall mark for the dissertation component will be capped at 50% if RPM500 was passed at the second attempt.

### 8.9

To calculate the final grade for the award, the marks for the modules are weighted according to their credit values.

### 8.10

The following mark scheme is used for the Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma and MA:

Mark range	Classification
70% – 100%	Distinction
60% – 69%	Merit
50% – 59%	Pass
0% – 49%	Fail

### 8.11

In order to be considered for the award of:

- Merit: you should 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% - 69% across all modules.
- Distinction: you should obtain a mark of 60% or more in each module and obtain a mark of 70% or more in the dissertation and a weighted average of at least 70% across all modules.

## Exit awards

### 8.12

The Board of Examiners may grant the Postgraduate Certificate in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies as an exit award if you achieve a mark of at least 50% in each of the two core modules.

### 8.13

The Board of Examiners may grant the Postgraduate Diploma in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies as an exit award if you achieve a mark of at least 50% in each of the two core modules and in four elective modules.

### 8.14

If we award you the Postgraduate Certificate in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies you may not subsequently be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma or MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies.

### 8.15

If we award you the Postgraduate Diploma in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies you may not subsequently be awarded the MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies.

**Date of award**

**8.16**

The date of award will correspond to the year that the requirements for the award were satisfied.

## Appendix A – Structure of the programme

Module outlines are subject to occasional review, and specifications detailing the full aims and learning objectives for each of the following modules should be referred to separately. They can be found in the [Programme handbook](#). An outline of the module syllabus is provided on the MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies programme page, via the [Structure](#) tab.

Elective modules will run subject to availability and not all elective modules will necessarily be available every year.

### MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies

#### Two compulsory core modules (30 credits each):

This module runs from October to February:

RPM010 Protecting human rights, refugees and displaced persons in international law

This module runs from March to July:

RPM020 An introduction to refugee and forced migration studies

#### Any four elective modules (15 credits each) from a choice of eight options:

These modules run from October to February:

RPM220 Asylum law in Europe: towards regional harmonisation of international protection

RPM230 Asylum and refugees in Africa and Latin America: regional models for refugee protection in the global South

RPM250 Internal displacement in law and policy: war and beyond

RPM270 Gender, sexual identity and age in the refugee context

These modules run from March to July:

RPM210 Securing refugee protection in practice

RPM240 Advanced international refugee law

RPM260 Statelessness, nationality and the protection of stateless persons

RPM280 Displacement, healthcare and humanitarian action

#### Compulsory dissertation modules (60 credits in total)

These modules have study periods that run from February to March and July to October:

RPM400 Dissertation research proposal

RPM500 Research dissertation

## Appendix B – Assessment criteria

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

### Examination, coursework and dissertation – Assessment criteria

The following criteria will be used in determining the marks awarded for the examined and research essay components for each module and for the final written dissertation.

Mark	Criteria
80-100 Distinction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very significant ability to plan, organise and execute independently a research project or coursework assignment.</li> <li>• Very significant ability to evaluate literature and theory critically and make informed judgements.</li> <li>• Very high levels of creativity, originality and independence of thought.</li> <li>• Very significant ability to evaluate critically existing methodologies and suggest new approaches to current research or professional practice.</li> <li>• Very significant ability to analyse data critically.</li> <li>• Outstanding levels of accuracy, technical competence, organisation, expression.</li> </ul>
70-79 Distinction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant ability to plan, organise and execute independently a research project or coursework assignment.</li> <li>• Clear evidence of wide and relevant reading, referencing and an engagement with the conceptual issues.</li> <li>• Capacity to develop a sophisticated and intelligent argument.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Correct referencing.</li> <li>• Significant ability to analyse data critically.</li> <li>• Original thinking and a willingness to take risks.</li> </ul>
60-69 Merit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to plan, organise and execute independently a research project or coursework assignment.</li> <li>• Strong evidence of critical insight and thinking.</li> <li>• A detailed understanding of the major factual and/or theoretical issues and directly engages with the relevant literature on the topic.</li> <li>• Clear evidence of planning and appropriate choice of sources and methodology with correct referencing.</li> <li>• Ability to analyse data critically.</li> <li>• Capacity to develop a focussed and clear argument and articulate clearly and convincingly a sustained train of logical thought.</li> </ul>
50-59 Pass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to plan, organise and execute a research project or coursework assignment.</li> <li>• A reasonable understanding of the major factual and/or theoretical issues involved.</li> <li>• Evidence of some knowledge of the literature with correct referencing.</li> <li>• Ability to analyse data.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shows examples of a clear train of thought or argument.</li> <li>• The text is introduced and concludes appropriately.</li> </ul>
40-49 Fail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A Fail will be awarded in cases in which there is:</i></li> <li>• Limited ability to plan, organise and execute a research project or coursework assignment.</li> <li>• Some awareness and understanding of the literature and of factual or theoretical issues, but with little development.</li> <li>• Limited ability to analyse data.</li> <li>• Incomplete referencing.</li> <li>• Limited ability to present a clear and coherent argument.</li> </ul>
20-39 Fail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A Fail will be awarded in cases in which there is:</i></li> <li>• Very limited ability to plan, organise and execute a research project or coursework assignment.</li> <li>• Fails to develop a coherent argument that relates to the research project or assignment.</li> <li>• Does not engage with the relevant literature or demonstrate a knowledge of the key issues.</li> <li>• Incomplete referencing.</li> <li>• Contains clear conceptual or factual errors or misunderstandings.</li> <li>• Only fragmentary evidence of critical thought or data analysis.</li> </ul>
0-19 Fail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Fail will be awarded in cases which:</li> <li>• No demonstrable ability to plan, organise and execute a research project or coursework assignment.</li> <li>• Little or no knowledge or understanding related to the research project or assignment.</li> <li>• Little or no knowledge of the relevant literature.</li> <li>• Major errors in referencing.</li> <li>• No evidence of critical thought or data analysis.</li> <li>• Incoherent argument.</li> </ul>

**E-tivities - Assessment Criteria**

<b>Mark</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
Core modules 5/5 13-15/15  Elective Modules 17-20/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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).</li> <li>• Concise and well-structured.</li> <li>• Provides original arguments (e.g. makes original connection to wider academic debates, formulates an innovative criticism/defence).</li> <li>• Very clear expression.</li> </ul>
Core modules 4/5 10-12/15  Elective Modules 13-16/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broad understanding of topic.</li> <li>• Refers to relevant wider literature.</li> <li>• Engagement with academic debate on topic.</li> <li>• Well written.</li> <li>• Appropriate structure.</li> <li>• Some critical analysis with arguments (is able to consider criticisms and defences of positions discussed).</li> </ul>
Core modules 3/5 7-9/15  Elective Modules 9-12/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevant answer to topic.</li> <li>• Satisfactory understanding and broadly accurate understanding.</li> <li>• Proper referencing.</li> <li>• Clear expression.</li> </ul>
Core modules 2/5 4-6/15  Elective Modules 5-8/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited relevance to topic.</li> <li>• Partial/incomplete understanding.</li> <li>• Unclear expression.</li> <li>• Poor referencing.</li> </ul>
Core modules 1/5 1-3/15  Elective Modules 1-4/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submitted according to instructions.</li> <li>• Shows basic academic skills such as locating relevant articles through appropriate search tools such Library catalogue.</li> <li>• Errors in understanding.</li> <li>• Absence of analysis.</li> </ul>
Core modules 0/5 0/15  Elective Modules 0/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Failure to submit in accordance with instructions.</li> <li>• Unable to illustrate basic academic skills in any meaningful capacity.</li> <li>• Absence of understanding.</li> </ul>

**Participation-based E-tivity – Assessment Criteria**

Mark	Criteria
Core modules 8/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student actively participated in at least 8 of the 12 discussion forums</li> </ul>
Elective modules 10/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student actively participated in at least 4 of the 6 discussion forums</li> </ul>
RPM400 Dissertation research proposal 5/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student actively participated in at least 8 of the 12 discussion forums</li> </ul>
	<p>A student will be granted all of the allocated marks for the E-tivity if they actively participate in the required number of discussion forums. If they fail to actively participate in the required number of discussion forums they will receive a grade of 0 (zero).</p> <p>‘Active participation’ means:</p> <p>Posting thoughtful, considered contributions that display engagement with the study materials (instruments, cases and/or commentary) that are relevant to the discussion topic and address the question(s) posed. Such contributions can also include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responding to questions that arise during the discussion forum.</li> <li>• Asking relevant questions during the discussion forum.</li> <li>• Providing personal viewpoints concerning issues arising in the discussion forum.</li> <li>• Reflecting on the discussion by providing summaries of the arguments so far.</li> <li>• Providing pointers to relevant links or articles relating to the discussion.</li> </ul>