



# MA in International Security and the Politics of Terror

University of  
**Kent**

Politics and  
International  
Relations

# Why study International Security and the Politics of Terror?

This is the first MA programme to provide an insight into the emerging synergy between national security planning and international security challenges. The curriculum provides students with a good grounding in the study of the contending approaches and issues in international security and the challenges of national security planning in the age of terror. Students benefit from studying in a research-active and policy informed learning environment. The two core modules are team taught and deal with issues that range from homeland security, counter terrorism, war crimes, non proliferation and energy security. The course also explores the use of non military tools to combat terrorism and the infringement of civil liberties and problems of social cohesion in national security planning. As new international security challenges such as international terrorism and organised crime directly bear upon national security issues like civil emergency planning, there is an increasing need to understand what the new security challenges are and how the lines between international and national security are now so often interchangeable.

## Programme structure

Full-time students complete the MA in International Security and the Politics of Terror over twelve months. Study is divided between taught modules, which last for one term each, and dissertation work. For full-time students, a total of six modules must be taken over the first two terms. Supervised dissertation work, on a relevant agreed subject, is then undertaken during the remainder of the academic year.

The MA can be taken on a part-time basis, typically over two years but flexible arrangements are also possible. When taking it over two years, part-time students choose three modules in each academic year, and write a supervised dissertation thereafter.

The programme is also offered in a 120 ECTS format – comprising nine taught modules plus a dissertation over 20 months – and as a Postgraduate Diploma – comprising six taught modules only – worth 120 Kent credits [60 ECTS]. Both the 120 ECTS version and the Diploma can also be taken on a part-time basis.

## Modules

### First term – required

PO916 International Security in a Changing World

### First term – optional

PO824 International Relations Theory

PO828 Theories of Conflict and Violence

PO830 Comparative Political Institutions

PO839 Ethics in International Relations

PO842 Histories of Conflict

PO866 Federalism and Federal Political Systems

PO885 Decision-making in the European Union

### Second term – required

PO917 Terrorism and National Security

### Second term – optional

PO825 Philosophy and Methodology of Politics and IR

PO829 Comparative Democratisation

PO832 Conflict Resolution in World Politics

PO848 Negotiation and Mediation

PO859 Human Rights in a World of States

PO867 Federalism and Federal Political Systems

PO886 European Public Policy

PO917 American Foreign Policy

PO918 Regional Conflict and Security

## Third term and summer vacation – required for MA only

PO998 Dissertation

## Teaching and assessment

Teaching on this programme is based on lectures and seminars, typically one hour each, weekly, per course. Both lectures and seminars are given by full time members of the staff who have internationally-recognised expertise in their fields and are informed by the latest research and scholarship. Assessment is mainly by coursework, typically two essays of different lengths and a seminar presentation, supplemented in some courses by an examination. The dissertation is a supervised 12,000 word piece of individual research.

## Career options

Student completing this course can seek employment in the private sector such as corporate security, international organisations; government; the diplomatic service; think tanks; political consultancy; non-governmental organisations; the media; industry and commerce.

## Admissions

We admit a small number of highly qualified candidates in each academic year. Early applications, ie by the end of March, are strongly encouraged.

# Run over

## Further information

General enquiries can be addressed to the Departmental Administrator, Mrs Jean Hudson. T: 01227 823994  
E: [j.m.hudson@kent.ac.uk](mailto:j.m.hudson@kent.ac.uk)

For academic related queries you are welcome to contact the Programme Director, **Dr Gülnur Aybet.**

**T: 01227 827473**

**E: [g.aybet@kent.ac.uk](mailto:g.aybet@kent.ac.uk)**

Or why not visit our campus and meet the staff teaching on this programme by attending the University's in July and October?

**Saturday 5 July**

**Saturday 4 October**

[www.kent.ac.uk](http://www.kent.ac.uk)