

Postgraduate Admissions Statement

MRes Global Political Economy

Programmes covered

This Admissions Statement applies to the following programme(s):

MRes Global Political Economy

Applicants should also refer to the relevant prospectus entry for further programme details.

This Admissions Statement should be read in association with the [University Admissions Principles and Procedures for Postgraduate Taught Programmes](#).

Faculty

Faculty of Social Sciences and Law

Admissions team and contact details

Senior Postgraduate Admissions Administrator
School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies
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Telephone: +44 (0)117 331 7577

Website: www.bristol.ac.uk/spais/study/postgraduate-taught

Admissions cycle

This Admissions Statement applies to applications submitted for entry to the programme between 1 October 2018 and 30 September 2019.

Application deadline

Application deadlines can be found on the individual programme page within the [University course finder](#).

Results deadline

Applicants who receive a conditional offer will be required to submit all final results to meet their offer conditions by **31st July**. Offer holders who will be unable to provide their final results by 31st July should notify the admissions team as soon as possible.

Admissions criteria

Academic requirements

Applicants must hold/achieve a minimum of an upper second-class honours degree (or equivalent qualification) in a relevant subject.

For information on international equivalent qualifications, please refer to our [International Office website](#).

English language requirements for non-native English speakers

Applicants whose first language is not English, and whose full undergraduate degree was not taught in an English-speaking country, must hold/achieve a minimum score in an approved English language test as specified in Profile C of the [University's English Language Requirements Policy](#).

You do not need to have reached the required level of English language before submitting an application, but if necessary you must submit an English language test with your application for us to assess your level of proficiency. If necessary, English language will be included as a condition of offer.

There is an option to take one of the University's Pre-sessional English courses; details are available on the [Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies website](#).

Application process

Online application form

Applicants should complete the online application form, uploading all required documents directly. Guidance on uploading documents can be found in the [guidance for online applications](#).

Before applying, make sure you choose the right programme by reading the prospectus entry and Admissions Statement fully. If you need clarification, please [contact the relevant admissions team](#).

Applications may not be considered until all required documents have been uploaded. If you have already submitted an application, you can upload additional documents into the 'Post-submission uploads' section of the application form.

Documents to upload to online application form

Required documents for this programme are as follows:

- **Two academic references (minimum).** References should be submitted electronically by the referee, using the online reference form. Alternatively, scanned copies of the original reference document(s) can be uploaded by the applicant.

If you graduated more than two years ago, or if professional experience is relevant to your application, a professional reference will be accepted in lieu of one academic reference. At least one referee should be familiar with your academic work. References must be written, signed and dated on official letter-headed paper from the referee's organisation, and must include full referee contact details as shown in the [reference template](#). References supplied with a personal contact email address are only accepted in exceptional circumstances, which must be explained within the reference. All references must be dated within the last two years.

- **Degree certificate(s)** from first and subsequent degrees. We require colour scans of original documents and certified translations of documents issued in any language other than English.
- **Academic transcripts** from first and subsequent degrees. We require colour scans of original documents and certified translations of documents issued in any language other than English. Transcripts must list all subjects taken and grades achieved to date, with the grade scale clearly displayed in the transcript. Applicants must clearly state their current average

grade in the online application form.

- **Personal statement.** The personal statement should highlight your motivation for applying for the course, and any relevant experience and/or skills. You should describe how the content of the programme reflects your own interests, and how your own intellectual journey has fostered your interest in and passion for the subject.
- **English language certificates** are required from applicants whose native language is not English and whose full undergraduate degree was not taught in an [English-speaking country](#).

Optional documents

- **High school (pre-university) certificates.** Please provide colour scans of original documents or certified copies, as well as certified translations of documents in any language other than English.
- **Additional references.** You are welcome to upload additional references, such as professional references from work experience in a related field and/or industrial placements, to further support your application.

Correspondence with applicants

We will correspond with you via the email address used to set up your application form account. Please keep this address up-to-date.

Selection process

Assessment of applications

All applicants are considered on an equal basis in line with the [University's Equality and Diversity Policy](#).

Once a complete application has been submitted with all required supporting documents, it is considered by the admissions team using the following criteria:

- Academic achievement
- Academic references
- Personal statement
- English language proficiency

Applicants who have undertaken a transnational education partnership programme or top-up degree and meet the minimum academic requirements will not automatically receive an offer. In these cases, admissions decisions are based on the applicant's academic history alongside relevance of degree, and, if necessary, degree content and performance in key modules.

Applicants are considered holistically on their own merit and in competition with the rest of the applicant cohort during that academic cycle.

Interviews

Interviews do not normally form part of the selection process. However, we may interview applicants with non-standard qualifications or those with additional skills and experience to be considered as part of their application.

Interviews are used to assess whether the applicant has the necessary skills and capabilities to pursue their chosen programme, and whether the programme is appropriate to their interests and aspirations.

Interviewees based overseas are usually interviewed by telephone or Skype.

Interviews are normally conducted by two members of staff, at least one of whom is trained in fair and effective recruitment techniques. All interviews are undertaken in accordance with the [University's Equality and Diversity Policy](#).

Non-standard applications

We welcome applicants with non-standard qualifications who can demonstrate knowledge, experience and skills developed in the workplace, or elsewhere, relevant to their chosen programme. Please use your personal statement to provide further details.

Non-standard applications are considered by the programme admissions tutor(s).

Decisions

Notification of decisions

Applicants will be notified by email when a decision has been made and decision letters will be available to view and print by logging into the application. Decision letters include any deadline by which applicants must accept an offer.

Offers

Offers are typically made in line with the academic requirements set out above.

Offers may be conditional or unconditional. Unconditional offers are made to successful applicants who have met the admissions requirements. Successful applicants who have not yet fulfilled the academic or language requirements will receive a conditional offer outlining the outstanding requirements.

Unsuccessful applicants may be considered for an alternative programme in a related subject area. In such cases, applicants will receive an email with details of the alternative options. You may have to submit additional documentation in order to be considered for an alternative programme. Please check the relevant [admissions statement](#) for details.

Deferrals

Deferrals are not permitted for this programme. Applicants who wish to defer are encouraged to resubmit their application for consideration in the relevant year.

Additional information

Extenuating circumstances

If your education has been significantly disrupted through health or personal problems, disability or specific difficulties within your studies, you can submit an [extenuating circumstances](#) form as part of your application.

The information provided will be treated confidentially and will help us to assess your academic performance fairly in light of your circumstances.

ATAS

An ATAS certificate is not required for this programme.

Deposits

International self-funded students accepting a place on a taught postgraduate programme must pay a deposit of £1,500. Further information on [how to pay programme deposits](#) is provided in the offer letter as well as online.

The deposit is non-transferable and non-refundable except under the circumstances outlined in the [International Deposits Refund Policy](#).

Visa

International students coming to the UK to study full-time must apply for a student visa. [Tier 4 student visa guidance notes](#) are available on the University website.

Sponsored students

Sponsored students are not required to pay the deposit, but must upload a copy of their sponsorship letter in the 'Post-submission uploads' section of the online application, and must also complete and upload the [sponsorship authorisation form](#).