MA in Human Rights and Genocide Studies

Joint European postgraduate programme

Kingston University London
Course overview
In recent years there has been a growing academic and practical interest in human rights and the separate but related issue of genocide, with an increasing concern as to how genocide might be prevented or halted. The joint European Master of Arts in Human Rights and Genocide Studies, is concerned directly with these major issues of our time. It is a unique inter-disciplinary postgraduate degree programme and the first of its kind in Europe, involving five European institutions and offering a curriculum which is international in design, scope and content. At its heart lies a set of key questions, such as:

- how human rights and genocide have been conceptualised;
- where these ideas come from and how they have developed and changed over time;
- where human rights are recognised and where they are violated;
- how they are guaranteed and protected;
- how they are challenged and undermined;
- how and why genocide occurs and how it might be prevented and halted.

At the same time, the programme aims to provide students with practical professional skills needed to work in this field, to influence policy makers, and to build international communities and networks which can support human rights and help to prevent or halt genocide.

What you study
The course takes place over three semesters. In the first two semesters you will look at the legal and institutional frameworks within which human rights have been developed; at case studies in genocide and mass violence; at some of the responses that have been mounted to mass atrocities, including efforts to prevent or halt genocide; and at issues involved in efforts of humanitarian intervention.

In the third semester, there will be an internship in a human rights organisation which will provide an opportunity to gain some work experience and to use your academic knowledge in real-life situations. Alongside this, you will carry out an extended original research piece on a topic of your own choice.

Careers
The knowledge and skills acquired on this course will be valuable in a range of career settings, such as:

- Non-governmental organisations (NGOs)
- Governmental organisations
- International, transnational and regional organisations
- Commercial and not-for-profit companies
- Universities and research institutions
Course Content

Modules, Curricular structure and credit requirements

- The course runs for 3 semesters, spread over 18 months
- In semesters 1 and 2, you take a total of 8 taught modules, selected from the first 5 streams below
- Each taught module is worth 7.5 ECTS credits (15 UK credits).
- In semester 3, you undertake an Internship and write a Dissertation (Each of these are worth 15 ECTS credits [30 UK credits])
- A total of 90 ECTS credits (180 UK credits) is required for the award of the degree.
- Students must attend at least two of the partner institutions.

Module streams
1. Human Rights – Legal and Institutional Frameworks
2. Case Studies in Genocide and Mass Violence
3. Research Methods
4. Responses to Mass Atrocities – Legal Measures, Peacekeeping and Reconciliation
5. Humanitarian Intervention – Legal and Institutional Protection
6. Internship
7. Dissertation

Special Features

- This Masters programme (taught in English) offers you the possibility of studying in 2 or 3 different European countries and a unique opportunity to experience learning, working and researching in the area of human rights and genocide prevention in different academic settings and working contexts.
- This Masters programme is offered by some of the best qualified and established European universities in the area of human rights and genocide prevention.
- The development of this Masters programme has been supported by the European Union through its Socrates programme.
- The course is taught by both highly acclaimed academics and experienced practitioners who combine their teaching with work in the field of human rights and genocide prevention.
- As well as the taught modules, there is a work experience module (internship) and an opportunity to conduct your own in-depth research.

www.humanrightsandgenocidestudies.eu
Programme And Selection Of Modules

Semester One:
- 30 ECTS credits (60 UK credits) to be completed at either Kingston or Viadrina.
- Students must complete at least one module in each of the Streams 1, 2 and 3, and at least one further module to a total of 30 ECTS credits (60 UK credits) for this semester.

Stream 1: Human Rights – Legal and Institutional Frameworks
(Compulsory minimum of 7.5 ECTS credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kingston</th>
<th>Viadrina</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frameworks and foundations of human rights</td>
<td>Legal and institutional foundations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achieving human rights: theories/strategies for change</td>
<td>Civil and political rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic, social and cultural rights</td>
<td>Prohibition of discrimination</td>
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Stream 2: Case Studies in Genocide and Mass Violence
(Compulsory minimum of 7.5 ECTS credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kingston</th>
<th>Viadrina</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Politics of mass murder</td>
<td>The Jewish Holocaust and other Nazi-led killing programmes – a comparative study</td>
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Stream 3: Research Methods
(Compulsory minimum of 7.5 ECTS credits)

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research skills and methods in social sciences</td>
<td>Methods of research and project work</td>
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Stream 4: Responses to Mass Atrocities – Legal Measures, Peacekeeping and Reconciliation

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kingston</th>
<th>Viadrina</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Managing and resolving international conflict</td>
<td>International law and practice on state-condoned mass murder since 1914</td>
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<tr>
<td>Representation of interests</td>
<td>Conflict prevention and management</td>
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Semester Two:
- 30 ECTS credits (60 UK credits) to be completed at one of the partner institutions indicated below and chosen from any stream

Stream 1: Human Rights – Legal and Institutional Frameworks (continued)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kingston</th>
<th>Viadrina</th>
<th>Siena</th>
<th>Collegium</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meaning and protection of human rights</td>
<td>Rights of minorities and peoples</td>
<td>The universality of human rights</td>
<td>Human rights organisations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Achieving human rights: case studies of change</td>
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Stream 2: Case Studies in Genocide and Mass Violence (continued)

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<th>Siena</th>
<th>Collegium</th>
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<tr>
<td>Case study in international conflict: the war over Bosnia</td>
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Stream 4: Responses to Mass Atrocities – Legal Measures, Peacekeeping and Reconciliation (continued)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Kingston</th>
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<th>Siena</th>
<th>Collegium</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The prevention of genocide</td>
<td>Individual criminal responsibility and state responsibility</td>
<td>Peacekeeping and conflict resolution</td>
<td>Truth and reconciliation</td>
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<td>Criminal law and enforcement</td>
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<td>Holocaust memory and impact</td>
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Stream 5: Humanitarian Intervention – Legal and Institutional Protection

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<th>Siena</th>
<th>Collegium</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human rights and armed conflict</td>
<td>Negotiating Peace – Dealing with the Challenges of Peace Processes</td>
<td>Humanitarian intervention and its context</td>
<td>International negotiations and the responsibility to protect</td>
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<td>Rights of refugees and migrants</td>
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<td>Techniques of negotiations</td>
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Semester Three:
- 30 ECTS credits (60 UK credits) at any partner institution (Kingston, Viadrina, Siena, Collegium Civitas, Uppsala).
- Both streams are compulsory.

Stream 6: Internship (15 ECTS credits, compulsory)

| An internship to be conducted at and supervised by an institution approved by the Board of Study |

This module enables you to undertake a work placement in a human rights organisation. This may be either in a governmental or non-governmental organisation. You can choose an area connected to your overall career ambitions and/or use the placement as a chance to expand your horizons.

Stream 7: Dissertation (15 ECTS credits, compulsory)

| A dissertation to be prepared on an approved topic supervised at any one of the partner institutions |

In your dissertation, you will apply the skills learnt in the research methods module in a piece of original research, studying a subject of your own choice (either applied or theoretical) in considerable depth.

For more information on the modules, teaching staff and participating institutions see www.humanrightsandgenocidestudies.eu

*The module list shows the intended and probable teaching programme of each partner institution. Changes may, however, be necessary for staffing and organisational reasons so that no guarantee of availability can be given.* While it is fully expected that the programme will be available as indicated at all partner institutions, delivery in Semester 2 in Siena and Warsaw respectively is dependent on achieving a minimum enrolment.
Entry Requirements

- Successful completion of a degree with the relevant number of ECTS credits ((180 or 240) (or the equivalent in the case of applicants outside of the EU)) in a programme of study in an area appropriate to the content of the Master’s (normally a good second class honours degree or its equivalent).
- In some cases, by agreement of all the partners, relevant non-certificated learning or an appropriate combination of certificated and non-certificated learning and relevant work experience may be admitted.
- A high degree of motivation to participate in the programme, evidenced in the application statement and, where appropriate, in a formal interview.
- References from two different institutions or enterprises.
- Where a candidate’s first language is not English, advanced English language competence in the form of appropriate certificated learning [IELTS requirement of 6.5] or equivalent must be demonstrated.

Attendance/Delivery/Duration

This is a modular 18-month programme based on credit accumulation. Students enrolled in the programme must study in at least two of the participating institutions and receive at least 30% of their credits from each institution at which they study. To be eligible for the Master’s degree, students must have achieved at least 90 ECTS credits (180 UK credits) in the required modules.

Assessment

There is a variety of assessment methods for the course including:

- Essays;
- Examinations (including on-line tests);
- Briefings;
- Oral, written and moot court presentations;
- Project reports;
- Internships evaluations;
- Research proposals;
- Dissertation.
For Further Information Please Contact
Kingston’s Admissions Office for an application form or with any further queries.

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Fax: +44 (0)20 8417 2292
Email: fasspostgrad-info@Kingston.ac.uk

Or visit the course webpage: www.humanrightsandgenocidestudies.eu

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