MA
Intelligence and International Relations

This Masters programme has been developed specifically for members of the MOD intelligence community and is designed to provide academic context and rigour to the work that is undertaken in this area and to locate that work within the discipline of International Relations. It will allow you to build upon your knowledge and experience to achieve an academic qualification.

Eligibility
Entry is for members of the intelligence community who have completed Phase 2 intelligence training and hold the minimum rank of Staff Sergeant/Lieutenant or service equivalent. Personnel who hold a first degree may also be eligible for the course. Please contact the HM Forces team for further details.

The course has developed out of our long experience of teaching International Relations at postgraduate level and in particular our experience since 2005 of doing so via distance learning.

Key Features
- Highly interactive distance learning award delivered through a virtual learning environment (VLE)
- Flexible part-time delivery recognising the demands of your ongoing career
- Curriculum content designed to complement your professional development
- Phased delivery of one module at a time
- Opportunity for accreditation of your prior experience

The MA Intelligence and International Relations consists of a series of modules at three stages as follows:
- Postgraduate Certificate in International Affairs (comprising of two modules)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Intelligence and International Relations (comprising two modules)
- Masters in Intelligence and International Relations (completion of the Masters dissertation in addition to the above).

Through long standing collaboration with the Armed Forces, Staffordshire University recognises the extensive experiential learning involved in your intelligence training and the responsibilities that go with rank. Thus the following provides an indication of the level of accreditation and entry points to the MA programme:

FG OFF / LT / WO / SSGT / FS
Direct Entry to Postgraduate Certificate

FLT LT/ CAPT / LT RN
30 Credits at Postgraduate Certificate Level

SQN LDR / MAJ / LT CDR
30 credits at Postgraduate Certificate Level and 30 credits against a reduced dissertation

How will I study?
Each module is taught via weekly tasks focused on common reading, reflection and research, and engagement with staff and other students using on-line discussion forums within the Blackboard virtual learning environment. The common reading is taken from three text books and a course pack of about 30 copyright cleared articles and book chapters which we provide, and the cost of which is included in the fees quoted. The books and course pack are central to the weekly tasks. If you are away from internet access or your work-base for a period, you can still keep up by taking the module handbook and the reading with you and catching up later on the discussion.

You will need to allocate about ten hours a week on average for the duration of each module. base for your convenience). Each module will comprise of twelve study weeks.
MA Intelligence and International Relations

Key Facts

Mode of study:
Online Learning

Duration:
Each stage of the programme takes one year
Completion must be within six years

Course begins:
September and February

involving directed weekly tasks, followed by around four weeks for assessment.

How will I be assessed?
Assessment is by coursework. You will be required to prepare essays of varying length, undertake virtual seminar presentations and make contributions to the discussion board which will also count towards your assessment for each module.

What resources will be available to me during my studies?
You will have access to the online learning environment Blackboard held on the University server, where the course pack, the course handbook, all instructions for weekly tasks and discussion boards can be found. In addition to the textbooks provided directly to you, all of the disciplinary Journals that the University subscribes to can be accessed online, and we have a substantial and growing collection of eBooks in this subject area.

The dissertation is an independent research project which does not have any taught element.

A dissertation supervisor will be appointed who is a subject matter expert. Support for your project/dissertation research will be conducted face to face, email or telephone.

How long does it take?
Each stage of the programme usually takes one year to complete unless you have exemptions. Therefore, for example, a Squadron Leader can achieve an MA in under two years, a Flight Lieutenant in two and a half years, by availing themselves of all exemptions.

To provide as much flexibility as possible, the programme has been designed so that learners can complete each stage of the programme over a longer period of time reflecting the exceptional demands placed on service personnel. Therefore, during periods of out-of-area or change in circumstance it will be possible for you to put your studies on hold until you are able to restart. However the programme must be completed within six years of commencement.

How much does it cost?
Current fees can be found at www.staffs.ac.uk/partnerships/hmforces/fees
The university is an approved ELC provider; therefore you are able to use your ELC as payment towards your fee’s. We also offer an instalment plan for payment of your Personal Contribution.

PgC Postgraduate Certificate International Affairs

Globalisation, Power and World Order (30 Credits)
This introductory module defines IR today, and looks at the development of IR Theory in the Twentieth Century through to the present day. It examines states and sovereignty, power and security, the balance of power and war, global governance, the global economy, globalisation, human rights, humanitarian law and humanitarian war as well as US hegemony and world order. This module should provide the basic IR conceptual and theoretical tools to inform study of all the other modules.

Security and Strategic Studies (30 Credits)
This module begins with traditional conceptions of security examined in relation to the deployment and use of force. It considers the philosophy of strategy, the work and importance of Clausewitz, the nuclear arms race of the Cold War and arms races, arms control and the arms trade today. The influence of the Cold War and its aftermath is also explored in terms of the impact on the security structures in Europe and on the security of developing countries. Newer challenges to the conceptualisation
of security are examined especially in terms of a broader set of post-Cold War issues, including terrorism, state and non-state threats, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and the new battlefield environment. Alternative/newer approaches to security are examined via a consideration of peace research and critical security studies.

Optional Modules*

*Flight Lieutenants and above may seek exemption from this module on the basis of prior experience

Foreign Policy Analysis (30 Credits)
This module explores some of the most prominent approaches to the study of foreign policy. The roles of states and other actors in the foreign policy-making process are examined. The ways in which international actors and processes influence foreign policy decision-making are considered. Likewise, the module considers the influence of actors and processes in domestic politics and society. The theoretical material of the module is combined with a selection of illustrative case studies including the Cuban Missile Crisis and more recent events.

Money, Trade and Development (30 Credits)
This module provides an analysis of the main problems facing the global economy including those of less developed countries (LDCs) as well as policies designed to address these problems. It emphasises the role of human capital, international money, technology, trade and the role of governments. It explores the source of leadership in relation to the concepts of hegemony and multilateral governance. The trade and international monetary regimes and their potential contribution to economic development are analysed. The role of multinational trade organisations and financial institutions (IMF, WB, WTO, etc) are considered alongside the inter-state relations evident in the regimes.

Finally, transformations in global production are examined in relation to intra-firm trade and post-Fordism.
Masters in Intelligence and International Relations
Dissertation in Intelligence and International Relations** (15,000 words) (60 credits)

**Squadron leaders and above may seek part exemption (30 credits) from this module on the basis of prior experience and write a shorter 8000 word dissertation. This will allow up to 60 credits of exemptions in total.

The Dissertation is supervised by staff but is a student centered piece of independent work. Dissertation topics may be drawn from the areas covered in any of the modules taken by individual students.

How to Apply
If you wish to apply for the course please go to the following link and click on the Apply Direct button: www.staffs.ac.uk/partnerships/hmforces/courses/maiir.jsp

If you require further details please contact a member of the HM Forces Team.

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