Programme Specification

1	**Awarding body**	University of London
2	**Teaching Institution**	**Birkbeck College**
3	**Programme Title(s)**	**MA Gender, Sexuality and Culture**
4	**Programme Code(s)**	TMAGNSIP_C (on-campus study) TMAGNSMX_C (flexible study) TMAGNSON_C (online study) TMAGNSCJ_C (January start)
5	**UCAS code**	N/A
6	**Home Department**	History, Classics and Archaeology
7	**Exit Award(s)**	PG Dip, PG Cert
8	**Duration of Study (number of years)**	1 year full-time; 2 years part-time
9	**Mode of Study**	FT x PT x DL-FT x DL-PT x
10	**Level of Award (FHEQ)**	7
11	**Other teaching depts or institution**	N/A
12	**Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details**	N/A
13	**QAA Benchmark Group**	N/A

14	**Programme Rationale & Aims**

This programme provides students with a structured masters programme to explore gender and sexuality in past and present. It provides a framework within which preparation for doctoral study can be undertaken, for those who wish to progress to a research degree; but is focussed particularly on provision of a rich and varied experience of studying gender and sexuality from arts and humanities (and interdisciplinary) perspectives at level 7. Teaching is research-led.

15	**Entry Criteria**

Second-class honours degree in a humanities subject and references

16	**Learning Outcomes**

Subject Specific:

1. an awareness of theoretical issues at stake gender and sexuality scholarship in the arts and humanities

2. an understanding of the methodologies used in the analysis and interpretation of gender and sexuality in the arts and humanities.

3. an understanding of interdisciplinary and cross disciplinary debates in gender and sexuality studies

4. an understanding of core debates within specific subject fields

Intellectual:

5. the ability to carry out effective and critical evaluations of information, data and interpretations

6. the use of critical reasoning

7. the development of analytical skills

8. the ability to synthesise different types and quantities of data and information

9. the ability to tackle complex problems and select the appropriate evidence to solve them

Practical:

10. improved level of IT skills and computer literacy through experiences with word processing and internet, and where appropriate with databases and spreadsheets

11. ability to collate, compare and analyse substantial quantities of data

12. to carry out documentary-based research

13. to present findings both orally and in writing

Personal and Social:

14. the ability to work successfully in teams

15. the ability to work successfully on an independent basis

16. to develop presentation skills

17. to develop organisational skills

18. to master time-management

17	**Learning, teaching and assessment methods**
	Learning is achieved through a balance of formal pedagogy and independent study, with an emphasis upon the latter, suitable to this level of study in the arts and humanities. Option teaching is done primarily via seminar group, with occasional lectures; and in one-to-one tutorials as and when necessary. A core module – Theorising Gender – has a component lecture series. Research training workshops are part of the dissertation module. Where appropriate, use is made of on-line resources including Moodle.
	Most options are delivered in-person, some are delivered both in-person and online, and some online only. There is sufficient online provision to allow students to complete their degrees with no in-person modules. Those students taking the online route through the programme, or who select one or more of the online modules as part of their studies, will be taught through a mixture of online seminars, live and recorded lecture material, and a range of additional online resources.
	Assessment is via written work, with a different essay (or equivalent) for each module. The dissertation module is composed 15% coursework related to research skills and literature review and 85% for the dissertation itself.

18	**Programme Description**

The programme consists of four taught modules and a dissertation. All students take the core module 'Theorising Gender' in the first term of their degree. They then have a choice of a further three option modules (taken across two years for the part-time degree, or within one year for the full-time degree). At least two of these options must be taken from a designated MA Gender, Sexuality and Culture options list. There is also a dissertation module which incorporates skills training. Students receive one-to-one supervision for their dissertation research, and the dissertation is then submitted at the end of September in the year in which the degree is completed.

Indicative list of designated option modules:

SSHC543S7	Antisemitism, Holocaust, Colonialism, Gender: Connecting the Conversation
FDGD012S7	Queer Histories/Queer Cultures
ARVC076S7	Exhibiting the Body
SSHC360S7	The Radical Sixties
ARVC289S7	Queer and Black Photography in 1980-1990s Britain
FDDV026S7	Social Studies of Childhood: Key Concepts and Issues
ARMC228S7	Transcultural Memory
AREN116S7	Twenty-First Century Feminist Fiction and the World in Crisis
SSHC458S7	Me, Myself and I: Identity and the Self in Europe

Note: Not all options are available as online modules – however each year students will have a will have a menu of more than three online option modules in HCA and other departments, ensuring that a online path through the degree is available.

Options taught online 2022/3:

FDGD012S7	Queer Histories, Queer Cultures
SSHC543S7	Antisemitism, Holocaust, Colonialism, Gender: Connecting the Conversation
HICL195S7	The Science of Progress? Darwin, Evolution and the Making of Modernity
SSHC458S7	Me, Myself and I: Identity and the Self in Europe

Further cross-listed modules from other departments are expected to be available.

19	**Programme Structure**

Full Time programme – 1 year

Year 1

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
7	FDGD009S7	Theorising Gender	30	Compulsory
7		Option 1	30	Optional
7		Option 2	30	Optional
7		Option 3	30	Optional
7	FDGD008D7	Dissertation	60	Compulsory

Part Time programme – 2 years

Year 1

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
7	FDGD009S7	Theorising Gender	30	Compulsory
7		Option 1	30	Optional

Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
7		Option 2	30	Optional
7		Option 3	30	Optional
7	FDGD008D7	Dissertation	60	Compulsory

Status*

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

[20]	**Programme Director**	Matt Cook
[21]	**Start Date (term/year)**	Prior to 2009
[22]	**Date approved by TQEC**	Prior to 2009
[23]	**Date approved by Academic Board**	Prior to 2009
[24]	**Date(s) updated/amended**	March 2022