



Economics & Business

A GUIDE TO YOUR DEGREE

SYLLABUS AND ASSESSMENT

2018-2019

MA Comparative Economics and Policy

Contents

Degree Structure	3
Outline of the Degree	3
Compulsory Units and Course Options	3
Course Outlines	4
Consequences of Failure	4
Re-entry to Examinations or to Other Forms of Academic Assessment	4
Number of Permitted Attempts	4
Students who have been Awarded a Degree	4
Repeating a Passed Module	5
Format of the Reassessment	5
Award of Postgraduate Degree	5
MA Comparative Economics and Policy (180 UCL Credits)	5
Information on Condonement	5
Scheme of Award	6
Criteria for the Award and Classification of a Masters Degree	6
Calculation of the Overall Average Mark	6
Interim Qualifications	6
Examination Procedures	7

Disclaimer

The information contained in this handbook is believed to be correct at the time of writing, but no guarantee can be given that details will not be amended before the commencement of, or during, the degree programmes to which it refers.

This handbook must be read in conjunction with the current version of the [UCL Academic Manual](#), which is the final authority on any issues raised, and the [SSEES Student Handbook](#).

MA COMPARATIVE ECONOMICS AND POLICY

1 YEAR FULL-TIME

Degree Structure

The Comparative Economics and Policy MA is an applied, policy-oriented programme reflecting SSEES's leading-edge expertise in comparative economics. The programme is centred around the economics and economic policy of emerging markets, viewed through the prism of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, but relevant to the emerging economies and societies of South and South East Asia, the Middle East and North Africa as well as Latin America. The current structure of the degree requires you to take 180 credits, comprising 120 credits of taught modules and 60 credits awarded for the MA Dissertation.

Outline of the Degree

Compulsory Units and Course Options

ALL STUDENTS MUST TAKE AND COMPLETE 180 CREDITS FOR THE AWARD OF AN MA. Students should normally register for 60 credits of taught modules in Term 1 and 60 credits of taught modules in Term 2.

Compulsory Courses - 120 credits

Students on this programme **MUST** take the following courses (120 credits).

<i>Module code</i>	<i>Module name</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Term (2018-19)</i>
SEES0114	International Macroeconomic Policy	30	Term 1
SEES0083	Quantitative Methods	15	Term 1
SEES0095	Advanced Quantitative Methods	15	Term 2
SEES0092	MA Dissertation Preparation	0	
SEES0123	MA Dissertation	60	

Compulsory Option - 30 credits

Students on this programme **MUST** take at least TWO of the following modules (30 credits in total).

NB: Students may choose to take more than two of these modules as an elective - see below.

<i>Module code</i>	<i>Module name</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Term (2018-19)</i>
SEES0086	Trade and FDI Policy with Reference to Eastern Europe	15	Term 2
SEES0109	Public Choice – Private Interest	15	Term 2
SEES0115	Economic Development and Policies	15	Term 1

Elective Modules - 30 credits

A further 30 credits must be selected from the following modules. Subject to approval by the Programme Co-ordinator, up to 30 credits of study may be taken from SSEES language courses or up to 15 credits may be taken from courses offered by other departments within SSEES or UCL.

<i>Module code</i>	<i>Module name</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Term (2018-19)</i>
	<i>Any Compulsory Option modules listed above if not already selected</i>		

Languages - Varies	<i>Bulgarian, Czech, Finnish, Hungarian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian, Ukrainian or Slovene . beginners or intermediate level generally available. Check website or speak to SSEES student administration for more details.</i>	30	Full year
SEES0078	Corporate Governance	15	Term 2
SEES0081	Causes, Consequences and Control: Corruption and Governance	15	Term 2
SEES0082	Political Economy of International Business	30	Term 1
SEES0091	Informal Practices in Post-Communist Societies	15	Term 1
SEES0128	Qualitative Methods	15	Term 2
SEES0097	Corporate Finance and Investment in Emerging Markets	15	Term 1
SEES0098	Financial Development	15	Term 2
SEES0113	The Economics of Property Rights	15	Term 2

Course Outlines

More detailed information on teaching, learning and assessment methods for individual courses is given in Course Outlines which are available on the SSEES website: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ssees/current-students/postgraduate>.

Additional details are normally contained in a Course Handbook or directly on the course Moodle page.

Consequences of Failure

Re-entry to Examinations or to Other Forms of Academic Assessment

- Students who obtain a mark below the condoned mark range will be required to re-enter that examination at the next normal occasion.

Number of Permitted Attempts

- If a student does not meet the Progression and Award requirements at the first attempt, and there are no Extenuating Circumstances (ECs) material to that failure, they will be permitted one Reassessment attempt. Depending on the volume of failure, reassessment will take the form of a Resit or a Repeat.
- Students who have valid Extenuating Circumstances at the first attempt are eligible for a Deferral i.e. a new first attempt.
- Students who have valid Extenuating Circumstances at the second attempt (i.e. ECs on a Resit or Repeat) are eligible for a Deferral i.e. a new second attempt.
- Taught Postgraduate students who meet the Condonement Criteria, and therefore the Progression and Award Requirements, will not be permitted a further attempt (however they will now be eligible for a Merit or Distinction classification).
- Students are not permitted a second attempt if they are eligible for the award of a degree, or if they have been excluded for academic insufficiency, academic misconduct or disciplinary issues.
- Students cannot be reassessed in a passed module (unless there are valid ECs).

Students who have been Awarded a Degree

Students who have been awarded a degree will not be permitted to re-enter any failed module.

Repeating a Passed Module

Students who have passed a module cannot repeat the assessment for the module nor can they enter for the same assessment for another module which is deemed to overlap with the module examination which they have already taken and passed.

Format of the Reassessment

Students will re-sit only the failed assessment elements, unless the regulations for their programme require that students must retake all assessed elements of a module.

Award of Postgraduate Degree

SSEES MA programmes use the Taught Postgraduate Classification Scheme in the UCL Academic Manual (Chapter 4, Section 10: Classification).

All returning Part Time students, as well as any other students who entered onto their programme prior to 2018/19 are subject to the Classification Scheme as described in the individual Programme Handbooks and the Academic Manual (Chapter 4, Section 15: Classification).

For students on taught programmes at UCL, a programme is complete when a student has been declared by a Board of Examiners to be complete on all components for that programme taking into account the following:

MA Comparative Economics and Policy (180 UCL Credits)

Students must have been enrolled, and been academically assessed, on modules up to a value of 180 UCL credits. Students must have achieved a pass mark in all 180 credits; subject to the programme Scheme of Award, students may have a mark of 40-49% condoned in up to 25% of the taught programme.

Information on Condonement

Condonement allows a student to progress from one year to the next and/ or to be awarded a qualification where they are carrying a small amount of failure, as long as their overall performance is of a good standard and the requirements of any relevant Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies are met. Students who meet the Condonement Criteria will not be reassessed.

A student's eligibility for Condonement in any given module is determined by the programme on which they are enrolled - some modules may be 'Non-Condonable' i.e. students must pass them. **The following courses must be passed (and cannot be condoned) in order to be awarded MA Comparative Economic Policy:** Advanced Quantitative Methods (15 Credits), International Macroeconomic Policy (30 Credits). Condonement applies to module marks falling within a certain range, and students will need to meet defined criteria to be eligible for Condonement.

Further information:

- [Hyperlink: Academic Manual Chapter 4, Section 9: Progression and Award](#)

Scheme of Award

Criteria for the Award and Classification of a Masters Degree

Calculation of the Overall Average Mark

Individual courses are weighted according to their credited value and the overall average mark represents the mean average of 180 UCL credits. The Final Weighted Mark must be calculated from a credit-weighted mean of all module marks, rounded to 2 decimal places.

Numeric Marking Scale	Letter Grade Marking Scale
Qualifies for Distinction	A Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 69.50% OR A Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 68.50% AND Module marks of at least 70.00% in at least 50% of the credits
Qualifies for Merit	A Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 59.50% OR A Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 58.50% AND Module marks of at least 60.00% in at least 50% of the credits
Qualifies for Pass	Meets the Award Requirements

Interim Qualifications

Where a student does not meet the requirements for a MA in Comparative Business Economics, the Board of Examiners may award an interim qualification if the student meets or surpasses defined learning outcomes and credit requirements.

An award of **MA Comparative Social Studies** may be awarded if the student otherwise meets the criteria for an MA in Comparative Business Economics but has had a mark in the 40-49% range condoned in either SEES0082 Political Economy of International Business or SEES0095 Advanced Quantitative Methods.

- 1) A student who is unable to meet the minimum requirements for a Masters Degree may be awarded a **Postgraduate Diploma (PG Dip)** if they have:
 - a) Met the standard or programme-defined PG Dip Progression and Award Requirements,
AND
 - b) Met or surpassed the standard or programme-defined Interim Qualification outcomes for a PG Dip.
- 2) Credits from a Masters Dissertation/ Research Project may be used towards a PG Dip if the Programme Board of Examiners is satisfied that the student has met or surpassed the standard or programme-defined PG Dip Interim Qualification Learning Outcomes.

- 3) A student who is unable to meet the minimum requirements for a Masters Degree or a Postgraduate Diploma may be awarded a **Postgraduate Certificate (PG Cert)** if they have:
 - a) Met the standard or programme-defined PG Cert Progression and Award Requirements, AND
 - b) Met or surpassed the standard or programme-defined Interim Qualification Learning Outcomes for a PG Cert.
- 4) Credits from a Masters Dissertation/ Research Project may be used towards a PG Cert if the Programme Board of Examiners is satisfied that the student has met or surpassed the standard or programme-defined PG Cert Interim Qualification Learning Outcomes.

Please follow this link <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/academic-manual/chapters/chapter-4-assessment-framework-taught-programmes/section-12-interim-qualifications> for full criteria.

Examination Procedures

The exam period is provisionally scheduled for 24 April to 7 June 2019. Nevertheless, procedures leading up to examinations begin almost at the very start of the academic year. Since the UCL Exams Office manage up to 16,000 candidates, it is not surprising that the procedure is tightly structured. By the same token, it is very easy to 'get lost in the system', particularly if you miss deadlines or fail to complete the necessary forms in time.

The first deadline you have to meet will be Friday 12 October 2018, which is the final date for the completion of student module selections on Portico. Subsequently, you will have an opportunity to complete a green Change of Course form if you decide to change a course. The purpose of these forms is to inform the UCL Exams Office of the courses you are taking and hence, the exams for which you should be entered. It should be obvious what could happen if you do not manage to complete these forms accurately or in time.

Extenuating circumstances may arise which affect your ability to complete exams or submit coursework during the year. These extenuating circumstances are normally understood as medical or as the consequence of family bereavement. If you wish to apply for a deferral of an exam to the next occasion or for an extension on a coursework deadline on the grounds of extenuating circumstances, then you should submit a completed extenuating circumstances form supported by medical certificate or other evidence to ssees-extenuating-circumstances@ucl.ac.uk. This information will be treated in confidence. Students with a medical condition necessitating alternative exam arrangements should complete an application for reasonable adjustments with a letter from their GP, so that they can take exams in an appropriate special UCL facility (for example in a quiet room, in an accessible room, with the use of a computer or with medical support). For more information about extenuating circumstances, reasonable adjustments and special examination arrangements see

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/academic-manual/chapters/chapter-4-assessment-framework-taught-programmes/section-6-extenuating-circumstances>

It is your responsibility to ensure that all forms are completed in time, that you are correctly entered for the right exams, that your exam is timetabled (watch out - there are often changes between the provisional and final published timetables), that you have let all the relevant people know of any extenuating circumstances, and that you actually turn up to the exam at the right place at the right time. If you fail to follow these guidelines, then your degree result and opportunity to progress to the next year may be jeopardised.

Students must ensure that they are aware of the regulations governing Assessments for taught programmes by following this link

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/academic-manual/chapters/chapter-4-assessment-framework-taught-programmes>

Students should pay particular attention to the regulations governing Examinations by following this link

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/academic-manual/chapters/chapter-4-assessment-framework-taught-programmes/section-4-examinations>

Students should pay particular attention to the regulations around examination irregularities. Students who are suspected of any form of cheating or of breaching the Examination Regulations will be investigated under UCL's Examination Irregularities and Plagiarism procedures.

https://www.ucl.ac.uk/academic-manual/sites/academic-manual/files/section_9_examination_irregularities_and_plagiarism_procedure_2018-19.pdf