The Geopolitics, Territory & Security MA is a unique multidisciplinary course that focuses on the territorial aspect of inter-state relations. You will explore geopolitical and political geographic analysis – contextualised within the wider social sciences – and the relevant aspects of international law to understand the creation and maintenance of international boundaries, borders at various scales and the factors driving contemporary territorial disputes.

**Key benefits**

- Learn from established academic authorities on borders, boundaries and territorial questions from a variety of multidisciplinary perspectives. Also learn from leading legal practitioners and technicians in international boundary dispute resolution, including from Eversheds (Paris), Latham and Watkins and Volterra Fietta.
- Makes extensive use of London’s vast collection of resources for researching historical and contemporary aspects of international boundary questions and territorial disputes.
- Excellent access to the National Archives and British Library.
- Flexibility for researching an extensive range of regional issues, with students granted considerable autonomy in developing the focus of their coursework.

**Course details**

The Geopolitics, Territory & Security MA is a specialised master’s course, concentrating on the territorial element of inter-state relations. International (legal and technical) experts as well as recognised scholars will provide you with a clear theoretical and historical foundation in the principal study concepts relating to territory and international boundaries. The course will introduce you to legal, technical and practical factors of the creation and maintenance of international boundaries on land and sea, as well as offering valuable insights into the processes involved in resolving border and territorial disputes. The course engages with how academic disciplines have evolved to cover territorial questions, including the latest vogue critical lenses. It also focuses on how processes play out at the regional level, including a concentration on the Middle East and North Africa.

The study course is made up of optional and required modules. You will be required to obtain the minimum of 180 credits for the course. If you are studying full-time, you will complete the course in one year, from September to September. If you are studying part-time, your course will take two years to complete and you will take a combination of required and optional modules over this period of time, with the dissertation in your second year.
Teaching
We will teach you through a combination of lectures and seminars, and you will typically have 20 hours of this per module. We also expect you to undertake 180 hours of independent study for each module. For your 12,000 word dissertation, we will provide four workshops and five hours of one-to-one supervision to complement your 587 hours of independent study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Lectures, seminars and feedback</th>
<th>Self-study</th>
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<tr>
<td>Per 20-credit taught module</td>
<td>Typically 20 hours.</td>
<td>180 hours (some modules in the Geography Department may involve lab work or e-learning which would require less self-guided learning).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dissertation module</td>
<td>Usually 4 dissertation workshops/ tutorials and 5 contact hours of one-to-one or group consultation with supervisors.</td>
<td>587 hours of self-study and project work.</td>
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Typically, one credit equates to 10 hours of work.

Assessment
Performance on taught modules in the Geography Department is normally assessed through essays and other written assignments, oral presentations, lab work and occasionally by examination, depending on the modules selected. All students also undertake a research-based dissertation of 12,000 words.

Regulating body
King’s College London is regulated by the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

Course structure
Courses are divided into modules. You will normally take modules totalling at least 180 credits.

Required modules
You are required to take the following modules:
- Practising Social Research (20 credits)
- Dissertation in Geopolitics, Territory & Security (60 credits)
- Boundaries, Sovereignty & the Territorial State (40 credits)

Optional modules
You are also required to take 20 credits from a range of optional modules that may typically include:
- Territorial & Boundary Dispute Resolution (20 credits)
- Geopolitics of Natural Resource Disputes (20 credits)
- Critical Geographies of Terrorism (20 credits)
- Water, Security & the Environment (20 credits)
- Geopolitics, Power & Place (20 credits)
- Human Mobility (20 credits)

You will take enough credits to bring your total for the degree to the minimum of 180 from a wide range of optional modules that may include:
- Any of the modules listed above.
- Any Level 7 (Master’s) modules offered in the Department of Geography.
- Any Level 7 (Master’s) modules offered in the Department of War Studies, subject to approval (limited to one 20 or 40 credit module).
- Up to 20 credits from Level 7 modules offered by other departments or institutes outside of Geography, subject to approval.

Career prospects
Every 18 months, the course organisers stage The London International Boundary Conference (jointly with leading international law firm Volterra Fietta), a leading international forum dedicated to exploring the complexities of contemporary boundary and territorial disputes. Our first conference was staged in the Spring of 2013, and our next (fourth) iteration is scheduled for December 2018. Masters students on the Geopolitics, Territory & Security course are intimately involved with this event.

King’s College London reviews the modules offered on a regular basis to provide up-to-date, innovative and relevant programmes of study. Therefore, modules offered may change. We suggest you keep an eye on the course finder on our website for updates.

Location
This course is primarily taught at the King’s College London Strand and Waterloo Campuses. Our superb location in the heart of London allows you access to important social, cultural, and textual resources, such as our own Maughan Library and the British Library.

Career prospects
Graduates from this course have gone on to occupy senior management positions in government agencies and international consultancies. Many have also gained employment with NGOs involved in dispute resolution, international law firms, government ministries, oil companies, departments of the United Nations and the European Union.
Fees and funding

Full-time and part-time tuition fees – UK
The UK tuition fees for the 2018–19 academic year are available on the course web page.
Please note that the tuition fees for subsequent years of study may be subject to increases in line with King’s terms and conditions.

Full-time and part-time tuition fees – EU
Current regulations allow some students to pay UK tuition fees on the basis of their EU citizenship or residency. Until these eligibility criteria are changed, the EU tuition fee will remain the same as the UK tuition fee.

The UK tuition fees for the 2018–19 academic year are available on the course web page.
Please note that the tuition fees for subsequent years of study may be subject to increases in line with King’s terms and conditions.

Deposit
When you receive an offer for this course you will be required to pay a non-refundable deposit to secure your place. The deposit will be credited towards your total fee payment.

The UK/EU deposit is £500.
The International deposit is £2,000.
For further information, please visit the fees and funding section of our website: www.kcl.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/fees-and-funding/index.aspx

Additional costs
In addition to your tuition fees, you can also expect to pay for:
- Books if you choose to buy your own copies.
- Fieldwork and/or laboratory materials.
- Clothing for optional course related events and competitions.
- Library fees and fines.
- Personal photocopies.
- Printing course handouts.
- Society membership fees.
- Stationery.
- Travel costs for travel around London and between campuses.
- Graduation costs.
- Some modules include the option to undertake other short day-trip fieldwork. These fieldwork options will enhance the modules, but they are not assessed as part of the module. The additional costs for short day-trip fieldwork would typically not exceed £50 per year.
- Costs may be incurred for dissertation work if fieldwork and/or laboratory materials are needed for the chosen study topic, but such work is not mandatory and would not impact academic success if an alternative approach to dissertation research is taken.

Disclaimer
This PDF was produced in August 2017. Although it was up-to-date at the time it was produced, please make sure you check our website www.kcl.ac.uk/study or contact us directly for the very latest information before you commit yourself to any of our courses.

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