



1. Programme Title(s) and Code(s):

<i>Programme Title</i>	<i>UCAS Code</i>	<i>GU Code</i>
MA (Social Sciences) with Honours in Central & East European Studies with Quantitative Methods		R900A-2308

2. Academic Session:

2017-18

3. SCQF Level (see [Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Levels](#)):

10

4. Credits:

480

5. Entrance Requirements:

Refer to the current undergraduate prospectus for entrants to the MA Soc Sci at:
<http://www.gla.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees/centraleasteuropeanstudies/>

6. ATAS Certificate Requirement (see [Academic Technology Approval Scheme](#)):

ATAS Certificate not required

7. Attendance Type:

Full Time

8. Programme Aims:

Glasgow Q-Step was formed in October 2013 following an open call (Nuffield, ESRC, HEFCE) to create 15 centres across the UK to create a step change in quantitative literacy among social scientists. The University of Glasgow was awarded £1.4million and GU have matched that investment. One of the requirements of the funding was to create new 'with' degrees that sit alongside subject areas in the School of Social and Political

¹ This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if full advantage is taken of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each course can be found in course handbooks and other programme documentation and online at www.gla.ac.uk/

The accuracy of the information in this document is reviewed periodically by the University and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

Science (SSPS). The aims of this degree are:

- To enhance students quantitative skills and literacy, to improve their employability
- To encourage students to pursue advanced learning in social quantitative methods
- To produce a new generation of post-graduates and academics fluent in quantitative methods
- to provide a multi-disciplinary approach to the Central and East European region
- to give students a wide range of subject options based on different approaches to the subject area using a number of teaching methods
- to allow students to benefit from the specialised knowledge of staff in areas particular to their research and from teaching methods tailored to the aims and objectives of the course studied, including access to complementary honours courses delivered by cognate departments.

9. Intended Learning Outcomes of Programme:

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and other attributes in the following areas.

By the end of the programme students will be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

- Demonstrate an appropriate knowledge of key aspects of the culture, history, politics and economy of Central and East Europe.
- Analyse complex issues concerning specific aspects of Central and East European society
- Develop and sustain well-informed and critical arguments and evaluate competing explanations
- Develop comparative analytical skills necessary for cross cultural analysis
- Apply appropriate advanced quantitative methods to critically analyse material and data on real world problems relating to Central and East European Studies and across thematic areas including crime; class & inequality; health; conflict; economic welfare over time

Skills and Other Attributes

Subject-specific/practical skills

- to deploy critically a range of relevant and interdisciplinary approaches, within a coherent area studies programme framework, drawing on an awareness of the latest developments in the field
- Locate Central and East Europe within a broader global context whilst retaining an appreciation of the region's internal diversity in a variety of spheres (cultural, economic, ethnic, political, social and historical)
- Integrate a diverse range of appropriate primary and secondary materials such as literary and historical texts, oral interviews, sound recordings, visual screenings and internet sites
- Deploy a range of research techniques and methodologies appropriate to the cultural context of the region and its peoples
- Apply inference and modelling data skills using a range of statistical platforms including Excel and R

Intellectual skills

- Evidence a capacity for independent learning
- Frame and to test hypotheses
- Interpret, synthesise and critically evaluate data drawn from a range of primary and secondary sources with advanced skills in using quantitative sources
- Demonstrate awareness of ethical issues in the conduct of independent research involving human subjects and – where relevant – the ability to tackle these in line with University of Glasgow guidelines.
- Develop a critical awareness of the usefulness of key quantitative methods for the contribution to theoretical debates, to debates within Central and East European Studies and key debates within the social sciences more broadly.

Transferable/key skills

- Demonstrate a capacity for autonomous learning, including the ability to review literature, set and solve

- problems, process research data by reading critically and analytically
- Demonstrate originality and creativity in the application of knowledge and understanding
- Meet deadlines and to plan and execute a significant research project using a range of materials and relevant methodological approaches
- Present materials coherently in written form, with clear use of language, professional referencing and use of tables, diagrams and data visualisations where appropriate
- Generate new data demonstrating a core understanding of sampling, real world problems and relevance of producing consumable data to multiple stakeholders (potentially the statutory, the private, and the voluntary sectors).
- Communicate effectively with audiences at different levels (peer group, academic staff) and present materials orally in a clear manner, using audio-visual aids where appropriate
- Work flexibly and constructively in groups including the ability to answer questions on their work and to give and receive constructive criticism

Use a range of IT resources, including word processing, email, database and spreadsheet package, online forums and search facilities; they should also have the ability to use and evaluate internet sites perceptively and responsibly.

10. Typical Learning and Teaching Approaches:

The learning and teaching approaches used in the programme combine lectures; seminars; group and pair discussions; delivery of group and individual presentations within seminars; independent enquiry based research towards oral presentations; individual, pair and group analyses of primary data [quantitative; media; visual; ethnographic].

Knowledge and understanding is developed through lectures, labs and seminars, where direct teaching methods are supported by access to up to date material relating to the Honours option, often bringing in the research and published work of the lecturer in question.

Intellectual skills are developed through more active enquiry based learning processes such as the use of group and pair student discussion work and the analysis of relevant data sources during labs and seminars.

Transferable skills are developed through the analysis of relevant data sources; group learning and discussion, reflective exercises such as keeping research diaries; the carrying out of independent research for project work, and the presentation of work through oral presentations and written pieces. Training in advanced quantitative methods, exposure to real-world data and problem-solving exercises will further develop their critical thinking skills.

11. Typical Assessment Methods:

The assessment of the programme is through a combination of examination, coursework essay/project, oral presentation, research/reflexive diary and dissertation (see programme details below for a breakdown of marking system). This combination of assessment methods reflects the different skills which are being examined through the programme.

Knowledge and understanding are assessed through the examination. The essay allows students to demonstrate their understanding and awareness of the complexity of the region under study, to develop lines of independent thought and enquiry, and to foster their written skills in the presentation of their ideas and arguments. These skills are taken further through the project, where this is offered, which allows students to explore an area of study of particular interest to them and to carry out a piece of independent primary research, to analyse the resultant data, to produce pieces of highly original work, and thus to develop their capacity for autonomous learning. The group oral presentation component of the core course and individual oral presentations offered in some of the Honours options facilitates the acquisition of transferable skills, specifically communication and presentational skills. The research diary form of assessment fosters the students' reflective skills and ability to understand their own process of learning and development, with respect to their focus of study.

In-course assessment for Level 1 and 2 students comprises two essays of 1500 - 2000 words comprising 50% of the overall course mark, plus an exam in the December or April/May diet, with re-sits where required in the August/September diet, comprising the remaining 50% of the overall course mark.

In junior honours, assessment for students undertaking the core course 'Social Science Research in Russia, Central and Eastern Europe: Theory and Practice' will be exclusively course work, this consisting of a mix of oral presentations, literature review, reflective diary, regular homework tasks and the development of a project proposal which will inform their dissertation.

During junior and senior honours, students undertaking course options will benefit from a range of assessment methods including coursework (oral presentations, reflective diaries, essays, conference papers and projects) and exams.

12. Programme Structure and Features:

Full details and information relating to the curriculum, assessment and other features of offered options on this programme can be found at:

<http://www.gla.ac.uk/departments/centralandeasteuropeanstudies/undergraduate/honours/>

The programme will consist of:

1. Level 1 Central and East European Studies (40 credits), plus combination of subjects to total of 120 credits. The Level 1 course is team-taught and introduces the students to a range of key historical, political and social issues pertinent to the region.
2. Level 2 Central and East European Studies (40 credits), plus another level 2 subjects (40 credits) and Quantitative Methods 1 and Quantitative Methods 2 (40 credits). The Level 2 CEES course is team-taught and builds on the Level 1 course. It examines developments in the societies of the region from 1989. It covers such diverse topics as democratisation, economic and social change, gender issues, cultural politics and media. Quantitative Methods courses cover probability testing and principles of inference in semester 1 and explores relationships and regression in semester 2.
3. At junior honours level students will take the compulsory core course 'Social Science and Humanities Research in Russia, Central and Eastern Europe: Theory and Practice' (40 credits); Quantitative Methods 3.1 (20 credits) and Quantitative Methods 3.2 (20 credits) plus other CEES option courses (totalling 40 credits). Examinations for junior honours take place at the end of that session.
4. In senior honours students will undertake a dissertation agreed between the individual student, the Dissertation supervisor and the Honours Co-ordinator (40 credits), an optional Quantitative Methods course (20 credits) plus CEES option courses (totalling 60 credits). The length of the dissertation is 8,000 – 10,000 words (40 credits).

Compulsory Elements

Social Science and Humanities Research in Russia, Central and Eastern Europe: Theory and Practice

Core Course, Team taught (40 credits)

Dissertation

(40 credits)

Progression:

Students are required to obtain Grade D3 or better in Level 1 (CEES or equivalent Social Science subject) to progress to Level 2.

Requirements for entry to Honours are set out formally in the University Calendar, *Degree of MA in Social Sciences*, and departmental requirements, as follows, are governed by these.

(a) 40 credits at Grade C or above in Level 2 Central and East European Studies

OR

60 credits at Grade B or above in Level 3 Central and East European Studies

Students who do not attain the set of requirements above may be permitted to entry to Honours at the discretion of the Head of Subject and entry will normally be permitted where a student has attained 40 credit at Grade B or above in Level 1 Central and East European Studies in addition to meeting the standard entry requirements in a cognate Social Science or Humanities subject (Politics, Sociology, ESH, History, Geography, Slavonic Studies).

(b) Students must have a record of satisfactory class performance, this including full tutorial attendance and the submission of written work on time

(c) Students with a grade D3 or above in Psychology 2; Geography 2; Statistics, instead of completion of Quantitative Methods 1 & 2, will be permitted into QM3.1 and 3.1.

(d) Students must meet the **College requirements for admission to examination at the Honours standard.**

The standard necessary to enter Honours must be attained at the first sitting in the first year of taking the Level 2 Course. This last requirement will only be waived only under very exceptional circumstances.

Students refused entry to Honours have the right to ask the Head of Central and East European Studies to

review the decision.

Regulations

This programme will be governed by the relevant regulations published in the University Calendar. These regulations include the requirements in relation to:

- (a) Award of the degree
- (b) Progress
- (c) Early exit awards
- (d) Entry to Honours (For undergraduate programmes, where appropriate)

<http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar/>

13. Programme Accredited By:

14. Location(s):

Glasgow

15. College:

College of Social Sciences

16. Lead School:

Social and Political Sciences [REG40500000]

17. Is this programme collaborative with another institution:

No

18. Awarding Institution(s):

University of Glasgow

19. Teaching Institution(s):

University of Glasgow

20. Language of Instruction:

English

21. Language of Assessment:

English

22. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (see [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education](#)) and Other External or Internal Reference Points:

The Area Studies QAA benchmark is available in full at:

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Subject-benchmark-statement-Area-studies.pdf>

There is no specific statement for CEES with Quantitative Methods.

23. Additional Relevant Information (if applicable):

Support for students is provided by the Postgraduate/Undergraduate Adviser(s) of Studies supported by University resources such as Student Learning Development (www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/sld/), Counselling & Psychological Services (www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/counselling/), the Disability Service (www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/disability/) and the Careers Service (www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/careers/).

24. Online Distance Learning:

No

25. Date of approval: