

LEGON CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS & DIPLOMACY (LECIAD)

PHD PROGRAMME

Introduction:

The PhD programme in International Affairs aims to offer students firm grasp of the classical and contemporary theories and approaches to the study of International Relations. It is therefore, to produce graduates who demonstrate theoretical knowledge and research capabilities in the discipline of International Relations and who, with the appropriate expertise acquired, may contribute effectively to higher levels of academic discourses in the various branches of International Affairs.

Admission Requirements

For the Ph.D degree in International Affairs an applicant must hold a good and/or relevant Master's or equivalent degree.

Duration of Ph.D Programme

Full time students will be required to complete their programme is four (4) years. Part time students will be required to complete their programme in six (6) years.

Requirement for Graduation

Course Work	18 – 24 Credits
Seminars (I, II, III and IV)	12 Credits
Thesis	45 Credits
Total	75 – 81 Credits

STRUCTURE OF PROGRAMME

YEAR 1 – SEMESTER 1

COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
INTA 703	Advanced Qualitative Methods	3
INTA 705	Critical Theories of International Relations	3
INTA 707	Contemporary Issues in International Law	3
FSSP 701**	Philosophy of the Social Sciences	3
Total Credits		12

* **ALL COURSES IN SEMESTER 1 ARE CORE COURSES**

***Required course*

YEAR 1 SEMESTER 2 (CORE COURSES)

INTA 702	Advanced Quantitative Methods	3
INTA 704	Issues in International Political Economy	3

Candidates are required to choose from the list below a maximum of two electives.

ELECTIVE COURSES (SEMESTER 2)

INTA 706	Foreign Policy Analysis	3
INTA 708	Theories of Integration and African Development	3
INTA 712	Gender and International Relations	3
INTA 714	Ethics in International Relations	3
INTA 716	Perspectives on Contemporary Diplomacy	3

INTA 718	Issues in African Security	3
Total Credits- Semester 2		12
Total Credits -Year 1		24

Year 2

COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	COURSE CREDIT
INTA 700	Thesis	-
INTA 710	Seminar 1	3
INTA 720	Seminar 2	3
Total Credits		6

Year 3

INTA 700	Thesis	-
INTA 730	Seminar 3	3
Total Credits		3

Year 4

Course Code	Course Title	Credits
INTA 700	Thesis	45
INTA 740	Seminar 4	3
Total Credits		48

Summary

Programme Item	Credits
Course Work	24
Seminars	12
Thesis	45
Total	81

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

FSSP 701: Philosophy of the Social Sciences¹

Course Description

This course aims at exposing and deepening doctoral candidates' understanding of the epistemological underpinnings of the social sciences. It focuses on the differences and similarities between the social and natural sciences, causal relationships, social laws, and the ontological significance of structure and agency. It also seeks to elucidate the nature of scientific enquiry and evaluate the grounds of their validity. Students will be exposed to social science explanatory frameworks, such as the humanistic approach, realism, post-modernism, and post-structuralism. The course should enable students to identify, analyze, and take a stand on the theoretical and methodological issues informing their research work.

INTA 702: Advanced Qualitative Analysis/Methods

The course is designed to arm candidates with presuppositions, methods, practices and products of qualitative research in the social sciences. A team-taught course, it highlights the key theoretical postulates and concepts in qualitative methods of research. With a directed approach, analysis starts with a theory or relevant research findings as guidance for initial codes. Emphasis will be placed on Content Analysis. Content analysis is a widely used qualitative research technique. Rather than being a single method, current applications of content analysis show three distinct approaches: conventional, directed, or summative. All three approaches are used to interpret meaning from the content of text data and, hence, adhere to the naturalistic paradigm. The major differences among the approaches are coding schemes, origins of codes, and threats to trustworthiness. The course delineates analytic procedures specific to each approach and techniques, addressing trustworthiness with hypothetical examples drawn from the area of international relations.

INTA 703: Advanced Quantitative Analysis/Methods

The course is designed to arm candidates with presuppositions, methods, practices and products of quantitative research in the social sciences. Quantitative analytical approaches allow the reporting of summary results in numerical terms to be given with a specified degree of confidence. Quantitative analysis approaches are particularly helpful when the qualitative information has been collected in some structured way. The course therefore links the qualitative approaches with the quantitative, paying attention to data structure. Data structure refers to the way in which the data can be visualized and categorized in different ways, largely as a result of the method of data collection. A team-taught course, it highlights the key theoretical postulates and concepts in quantitative methods of research.

INTA 705: Critical Theories of International Relations

The purpose of the course is to critically explore the theories which underpin the discipline of international relations, with particular emphasis on interpretations and analysis (both classical and contemporary) of the international system. It aims at an exhaustive evaluation of such

¹ This is a faculty-wide Core Course.

systemic and structural issues as power, regimes, security, national interest, leadership, war, conflict, hegemony, stability, change, development, regionalism, and integration. The expectation is that this approach would provide the framework for an appreciation of the broad theoretical underpinnings of international relations, namely Classical Realism, Realism, Idealism, Utopianism, Neo-Realism, Pluralism, Liberalism, Globalism, Structuralism, post-Modernism, conflict theories and feminist theories, among others.

INTA 707: Contemporary Issues in International Law

The course is designed to explore and give a solid grounding in the foundations of the international legal order and will focus on controversial and challenging issues in contemporary international politics – including the recent examples of the use of force, international economic integration, international criminal law, and the promotion and protection of human rights. The overall purpose is to engage students with international affairs through the study of the legal frameworks which govern them, while at the same time situating that legal framework within the material and cultural conditions of international politics. The course will be problem-based, rather than doctrinal, and will cover a selection of contemporary issues drawn from the following issue areas: international criminal law; the laws of war (international humanitarian law, including interventions); the use of force in international politics; the promotion and protection of human rights; possibilities and challenges of global economic integration; and the protection of the global environment.

INTA 704: Issues in International Political Economy (IPE)

The course is designed to examine the structures of political and economic interaction among nation-states, particularly the decision-making processes in the international system. It identifies the nexus between politics and economics in relation to the institutional and organizational frameworks that drive decisions of states in nation-building and development. The course begins by examining a variety of theoretical approaches to IPE, the aim being to assist in developing a sophisticated understanding of the theories and concepts used to investigate and explain the structure and practices of contemporary global political-economic relations. It then profiles the role and impact of international financial institutions, trade organizations and other regulatory frameworks in these processes, such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank (IBRD), and the World Trade Organization (WTO) and other United Nations affiliate agencies.

INTA 706: Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA)

The course aims to stimulate an understanding of the process by which foreign policy is made. In exploring this process, the course takes a tour through the corpus of thought on foreign policy. Naturally, therefore, the course follows a traditional "levels of analysis" structure, beginning with the systemic or structural level, where constraints on foreign-policy making, such as balance of power considerations and alliance structures are examined. The systemic sources of foreign policy, including transnational social networks, multi-national corporations, Diasporas, epistemic communities, global norms, and the democratic peace are also critically discussed. At the state level the course investigates the influence of domestic factors such as regime type, government veto players, bureaucratic and organizational politics, sub-state interest groups, public opinion and the media, as well as cultural factors. Finally, individual-level factors that influence foreign policy decision-making, including

cognitive maps, leadership traits, psychological factors, perceptions, and beliefs are discussed.

INTA 708: Theories of Integration and African Development

The course navigates the contending theories in regionalism and regional integration and relates the phenomenon of regional integration arrangements (RIAs) to African development. In particular, the course places accent on the market (functionalist) approach to regionalism, (which basically sees integration as trade-induced), and explores the tendencies that have drawn the contours for Africa's development. Beyond the theories of integration, issues like the Lome Conventions, the Cotonou Partnership Agreements (CPA), the Economic partnership Agreements (EPAs), the African Economic Community (AEC) project, and the various sub-regional groupings in Africa will be discussed.

INTA 712: Gender and International Relations

This course provides a platform upon which to interrogate gendered international relations by exploring a variety of salient issues, from theoretical underpinnings of IR to empirical questions of state sovereignty, peace and security, political economy, development, human rights, democracy, and global governance. The course relies on gender scholarship to deepen the understanding of gender in international affairs. The course examines and deploys perspectives from feminism, (including Feminist Security Theory), gender studies, cultural studies, and sexuality studies, in conjunction with inter-disciplinary research in international political economy, civil-military relations, international development, and the study of men and masculinities. A variety of techniques will be used to deliver the course, among which include: lectures, group work, and an individual research project.

INTA 714: Ethics in International Relations

The course explores the extent and limits of contemporary international ethics and examines the ways in which the international community has responded to some of the most crucial challenges to the rationalization of international behaviour. It touches on theoretical debates (how various ethical traditions deal with the central moral problems of international affairs) and examines engaging case studies on issues of morality and international affairs: just war theory, terrorism, political violence, humanitarian intervention, and global distributive justice. The course also interrogates contending theories on global normative behavior – cosmopolitanism (an agenda that seeks to *humanize* aspects of what might be loosely termed global public policy) and post-structuralist assumptions.

INTA 716: Perspectives on Contemporary Diplomacy

The course is designed to provide a comprehensive exploration of the evolution and concepts of the institution of diplomacy, through the theoretical and practical building blocks of diplomacy, with a focus on contemporary issues and challenges. Having navigated the basics of traditional diplomacy and its attendant realities and problems, the course then provides a comprehensive introduction to, and analysis of, the changing actors, venues, processes, and functions of diplomacy in the 21st Century. Basically, therefore, the course explores the critical theoretical tools that can be employed to understand diplomacy and its evolution since

the end of the Cold War. The course is brought 'to life' through the use of case studies and examples which highlight the working of contemporary diplomacy within the international political arena.

INTA 718: Issues in African Security

Africa has a dynamic security environment, which is characterized by great diversity – from conventional challenges such as insurgencies and gun-running, drug and human trafficking, resource and identity to socio-economic problems of disease, drought and desertification, sustainable development, among others. The course is therefore, designed to provide a basic understanding of political, social, military, and economic aspects of security in Africa, with emphasis on current security threats. Future risks of instability and current policy designs are analyzed, within the framework of the Peace and Security architecture of the African Union.

SEMINARS

INTA 710: Seminar 1

Candidates are expected to formulate their research proposals under the guidance of their supervisors. The proposals must follow laid down guidelines for Research Design. Such a proposal will have to be presented to the Faculty for assessment and inputs.

INTA 720: Seminar 2

The main activity of the second year of the PhD programme at LECIAD will be directed at guiding candidates to engage in projects that allow them to be abreast with, and well-grounded in research activities. Here, candidates will be required to be part of projects and/or programmes that demand the application of the theories and skills acquired to data analysis and report writing. These would include the practical demonstration of the methodologies to be employed in the PhD research.

Candidates may therefore, be attached to projects that relate to their areas of research to enable them have first-hand experience about their thesis areas. Candidates are advised to look for attachments in allied institutions- Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Regional Integration (MFARI); Ministry of Trade & Industries; Ministry of Energy; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO); The United Nations Information Centre (UNIC); The World Health Organization (WHO); The World Bank; The International Monetary Fund (IMF); The International Organization for Migration (IOM); West Africa Monetary Institute (WAMI); West Africa Network for Peace (WANEP); The European Union Office; etc. etc. Candidates shall also be encouraged to obtain sponsorship and attachment outside of Ghana to organizations/institutions such as the UN (New York), World Bank and the IMF (Washington D.C); the African Union (Addis Ababa); the Pan-African Parliament; the EU (Brussels); the Africa, Caribbean & Pacific Countries (Brussels); the ECOWAS (Abuja); etc., or any of Ghana's Missions abroad. A Report is expected at the end of the attachment.

In addition to the above, candidates may be attached to, and/or be made to participate in, on-going LECIAD projects. The following are currently running at the LECIAD:

1. European Union/ECOWAS Project.

This is an EU-funded programme through the ECOWAS. It mainly involves support programmes for the AU Peace and Security Architecture (training of trainers, research, etc.). Under this programme, LECIAD is engaged in two activities: training and research on Training Needs Assessment of the Police Component of the ECOWAS Stand-by Force. This project can help candidates acquire skills in data collection, data analysis, and report writing.

2. Peace-Building and Good Governance Project

The Peace-building and Good Governance Project is funded by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the Italian Government. It mainly involves training of the civilian components of peace-keepers (for Africa) as well as the documentation of conflict and crisis situations in Ghana. A Quarterly (*Conflict Watch*), is published. Attachment to this project will enable candidates to acquire skills in training, preparation of modules/manuals, data collection and analysis, and report writing.

Seminar and Conference Participation

Candidates will be required to participate in Seminars, Workshops, and Conferences of the Centre and in such others as the Centre may be involved. They will equally be obliged to participate in Colloquia, organized by the Faculty of Social Sciences. It is envisaged that, by participating in these activities, candidates will have the opportunity to interact with specialists/practitioners in the field of International Relations and be mentored. Candidates will be encouraged to write and present papers at these Seminars, Workshops, and/or Conferences.

INTA 730: Seminar 3

Progress Report: Candidates are expected to present a progress Report on their theses. The Faculty is able to advise, through scrutiny.

INTA 740: Seminar 4

Candidates are expected to present their findings.