

Course Specification

Published Date:	21-Sep-2020
Produced By:	Laura Clode
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Humanities		
Course Code(s):	RL007P01UV RL007P31UV	Full-time Part-time	1 Years 2 Years
Course Title:	MA Sikh Studies		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Master of Arts Sikh Studies Postgraduate Diploma Sikh Studies Postgraduate Certificate Sikh Studies University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	15/Jun/2018		
Last Review:	2017/8		
Course Specification valid from:	2017/8		
Course Specification valid to:	2023/4		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Dr Opinderjit Takhar
Head of Department:	Dr Andrew Cooper

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS)

You should have:

- a good Honours degree (1st, 2:1) or equivalent in a relevant subject (Religious Studies or Social Sciences)
- a good standard of written and spoken English (IELTS 6.0 or equivalent)

Distinctive Features of the Course:

The course is a unique opportunity for you to explore the Sikh community and the Sikh faith both in India and the diaspora, with a particular emphasis on the British Sikh perspective. The MA Sikh Studies will serve as an international model of good practice in community-based research relating to contemporary issues. You will be encouraged to foster links with the British Library which holds a wealth of Sikh manuscripts. You will also be given the opportunity to carry out in-depth research on any aspect of Sikh Studies. The University of Wolverhampton is an ideal location in which to undertake the MA Sikh Studies due to the population of Sikhs in the City. The University has very strong links with the local and national community and has also become the home to the UK's very first Centre for Sikh and Panjabi Studies. The University of Wolverhampton is committed to working with local communities and has extensive experience and links with the Sikh communities in Wolverhampton and nationally, along with increasing expertise in Sikh studies and research.

Educational Aims of the Course:

The MA Sikh Studies provides a range of modules relating to both the Sikh faith as well as the Sikh community (the Panth) and will provide you with the opportunity to demonstrate a systematic understanding of both traditional as well as current insights in Sikh Studies. The curriculum will encourage you to explore the many viewpoints towards particular topics such as gender equality, the philosophical teachings of Sikhi, as well as into current debates affecting the global Sikh community. Through the course you will acquire the skills to apply originality in the application of knowledge gained from research, field visits and guest lectures from leading researchers in Sikh Studies. A unique feature of this course is the fieldwork you will carry out within the Sikh community itself, this can be with organisations or regional communities. This will enable you to demonstrate self-direction and originality whilst carrying out professional research within the Sikh community.

Intakes:

September
January

Major Source of Funding:

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	H	Full Time	£6400.00
2020/1	Overseas	Full Time	£13350.00
2020/1	H	Part Time	£3200.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

Continuing students will follow the programme indicated below:

7RL001	Sikh Philosophy and Teachings	40	IN YR	Core
7RL002	Research Methods in the Study of Religion	20	IN YR	Core

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

None

Reference Points:

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Learning Outcomes:

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGCCLO1)

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of Sikh Studies. You will develop this understanding through lectures, independent work and individual tutorials.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGCCLO2)

Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in Sikh Studies. You will do this by engaging with current scholarship, as well as traditional scholarship, in Sikh Studies. You will be equipped with research methodology in order to apply this in the field through your research with the Sikh community or individual Sikh organisations.

PGCert Course Learning Outcome 3 (PGCCLO3)

Ability to conceptualise and analyse complex issues. Such as Sikh Identity, both systematically and creatively, making sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences. You will do this by a systematic analysis of a number of reports such as the British Sikh Report (produced annually since 2013) and the UK Sikh Survey (2016).

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 1 (PGDCLO1)

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your Sikh Studies. You will develop this understanding through lectures, independent work and individual tutorials.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 2 (PGDCLO2)

Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in Sikh Studies. You will do this by engaging with current scholarship, as well as traditional scholarship, in Sikh Studies. You will be equipped with research methodology in order to apply this in the field through your research with the Sikh community or individual Sikh organisations.

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 3 (PGDCLO3)

Ability to conceptualise and analyse complex issues. Such as Sikh Identity, both systematically and creatively, making sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences. You will do this by a systematic analysis of a number of reports such as the British Sikh Report (produced annually since 2013) and the UK Sikh Survey (2016).

PGDip Course Learning Outcome 4 (PGDCLO4)

Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level. You will do this by devising a robust research methodology to apply to your selected community or organisation for fieldwork. This will also be applied by preparing a detailed proposal and time frame for your Research project in Sikh Studies.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 1 (MACLO1)

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of Sikh Studies. You will develop this understanding through lectures, independent work and individual tutorials.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 2 (MACLO2)

Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to your own research or advanced

scholarship and ability to continue to advance your knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level. You will gain these skills through your independent learning, lectures and fieldwork in the Sikh community.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 3 (MACLO3)

Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in Sikh Studies. You will do this by engaging with current scholarship, as well as traditional scholarship, in Sikh Studies. You will be equipped with research methodology in order to apply this in the field through your research with the Sikh community or individual Sikh organisations.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 4 (MACLO4)

Ability to conceptualise and analyse complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate your conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences. You will do this by a systematic analysis of a number of reports such as the British Sikh Report (produced annually since 2013) and the UK Sikh Survey (2016).

Masters Course Learning Outcome 5 (MACLO5)

Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level. You will do this by devising a robust research methodology to apply to your selected community or organisation for fieldwork. This will also be applied by preparing a detailed proposal and time frame for your Research project in Sikh Studies.

Masters Course Learning Outcome 6 (MACLO6)

Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment. This will be acquired through effective communication skills when gaining access to the Sikh community from a fieldwork perspective, as well as delivering presentations as part of the assessment criteria for a number of modules.

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
7RL001	Sikh Philosophy and Teachings	MACLO1, MACLO4, MACLO6, PGCCLO1, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO4
7RL002	Research Methods in the Study of Religion	MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO6, PGCCLO2, PGCCLO3, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3
7RL003	Sikhi and the Sikhs: Contemporary Issues	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO6, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGCCLO3, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4
7RL004	Fieldwork in the British Sikh Community	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO5, MACLO6, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGCCLO3, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4
7RL005	Research Project in Sikh Studies	MACLO1, MACLO2, MACLO3, MACLO4, MACLO5, MACLO6, PGCCLO1, PGCCLO2, PGCCLO3, PGDCLO1, PGDCLO2, PGDCLO3, PGDCLO4

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

The student support and guidance mechanisms are those provided by the standard University and School systems. Staff on the MA Sikh Studies will also offer one-to-one tutorials and workshops should you require additional support. At the outset you will be shown how to locate the learning resources in the University's Harrison Learning Centre. The Learning Centre has a specific page linking to the Humanities to provide access to the Humanities International Complete database:

Most research on academic literacies and study skills development advocates embedding them in the subject rather than through bolted-on learning experiences and much of the MA Sikh Studies programme is geared towards developing your generic and subject-specific academic skills. All the modules require you to be reading and carrying out independent research every week. The subject specific input will be delivered through lectures, seminars, blended learning, workshops and fieldwork so that you have a variety of learning and teaching methods to engage with. A variety in the pedagogic approach will enable you to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in Sikh Studies.

Formative feedback and learning activities offer you with the opportunities to write and revise using feedback prior to submission for assessment. This also moves you towards more self-regulated learning (engagement with feedback promotes reflection and self-assessment). You will receive timely and frequent feedback, providing personalised study skills support. Subject specific research skills are embedded in module learning activities - both in-class and out-of-class - and require you to use electronic resources to regularly locate information about authors, and theoretical/critical texts to engage in problem-based learning.

The assessments across the modules are scaffolded to build upon one another in terms of a structured approach to building your analysis and expertise as you develop through the course.

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)
Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)
Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

General University support:

[University Learning Centres](#) are the key source of academic information for students. Learning Centres provide physical library resources (books, journal, DVDs etc.) and offer a range of study areas to allow students to study in the environment that suit them best: Social areas, quiet and silent areas. Learning Centres also provide access to wide range of online information sources, including eBooks, e-Journals and subject databases.

Learning Centres also provide students with academic skills support via the [Skills for Learning programme](#). Students on campus can attend workshops or ask for one-to-one help on a range of skills such as academic writing and referencing. Students can access a range of online skills material at: www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills

The [University Student Support website](#) offers advice on a variety of matters (careers, counselling, student union advice, etc.) Students can also access these services by booking appointment with the SU, careers, counselling services, etc.

Course Specific Support

All students have a named Personal Tutor who will provide advice and guidance in addition to that provided in course modules.

Students have access to CANVAS which includes Module Guides, Lecture power points and notes, and

electronic handouts

Regular feedback and assessment includes formative elements such as verbal and on-line feedback for draft essays.

Students will have access to student support services via Faculty of Arts - Arts Support Central within CANVAS

Employability in the Curriculum:

The fieldwork opportunities in the MA Sikh Studies course provide you with experience of engaging with the public, Sikh organisations and other relevant settings. You are also encouraged to engage in personal development planning, to ensure that you take all opportunities to develop your potential. This covers skills required for learning, accessing and processing information, presentation skills, and working with others. This development of your academic competences at graduate level, together with practical engagement with local and national Sikh communities and Sikh organisations provides a good foundation for employment in the public sector. Social, religious and learning identities are an important aspect of many people's lives and stimulating an understanding of them is highly relevant to the caring professions, social services, community work, the police, nursing and a wide range of business activities. The central strand of technology running through the course means that you will be digitally literate and have a good understanding of the design and presentation of materials for different audiences.



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