



UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON

2024



Postgraduate study in

Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies

With academic
direction from:



SCHOOL OF
ADVANCED STUDY
UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON

london.ac.uk/refugee-migration

World class. Worldwide.

Join the World Class

1 **A mark of excellence**

Gain a University of London degree from anywhere in the world and increase your potential career development.

2 **Quality of learning**

This MA is the first ever postgraduate course on forced migration to be offered by distance learning. It is designed and run by the University of London's Refugee Law Initiative, the leading academic centre in the UK dedicated exclusively to International Refugee Law.

3 **Worldwide relevance**

The programme is designed to be of worldwide relevance, and will help you to further your career development. You will benefit from the up-to-date knowledge of specialist academics and those working in the field who teach on the MA.

4 **Access a wealth of online resources**

Study online and access course content through a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). For each module there are online tasks to complete and you can discuss your work with fellow students and tutors.

5 **Flexible learning**

With no travel, relocation or accommodation costs, studying for a University programme at a distance is cost effective. What's more, you can continue working full time.



“In a fast changing environment of worldwide access to higher education, a University of London degree continues to offer a guarantee of quality, value and intellectual rigour.”

Professor Wendy Thomson
Vice-Chancellor,
University of London



Your prestigious University of London qualification

About your qualification

When you graduate with a degree, diploma or certificate from the University of London you will receive two important documents – your Final Diploma (the parchment you receive on graduation) and a Diploma Supplement.

The Final Diploma

- Indicates that you were registered with the University of London and awarded a University of London degree, diploma or certificate.
- Gives the name of the University of London Member Institution that developed the syllabus and provided assessment.
- Features the University of London crest and the Vice-Chancellor's signature.

The Diploma Supplement

- Describes the nature, level and content of programme you successfully completed.
- Includes the transcript of courses taken, marks achieved and overall classification.
- States the role of the School of Advanced Study and the method of study.

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Key dates

Application deadline:

1 February 2024
1 September 2024

Registration deadline:

1 March 2024
1 October 2024

Outstanding distance learning opportunities



Professor David James Cantor

Director of the University of London's Refugee Law Initiative

This is an innovative and unique degree programme – it is the longest running postgraduate programme on forced migration that is delivered by flexible and distance learning. It is now also the largest programme on forced migration in the world. We want to make this programme globally accessible to students in order to attract people from a wide range of regional and professional backgrounds, including many working directly in the field as they study.

To this end, the programme has been awarded the prestigious Roger Mills prize for its innovative approach to online learning and teaching.

The high student approval ratings received year on year (over 90 per cent) demonstrates how much our

students value this unique and tailored programme.

The programme has been developed by the Refugee Law Initiative (RLI) of the School of Advanced Study, University of London, a unique academic centre promoting interdisciplinary research, teaching and exchange on law, policy and practice in refugee and displacement contexts.

During your studies, you will interact online with academics from the RLI, as well as receive guidance from your subject tutors for each module.

Our teaching at the RLI is grounded in an interdisciplinary approach that combines the perspectives of law, policy and social sciences. This MA programme is designed to emphasise that approach.

Through a mixture of core and elective modules, we will introduce you to

different social science disciplines and deepen your understanding of refugee law, policy and studies by examining them from different perspectives across a wide range of contexts.

I look forward to welcoming you to this challenging and exciting programme.

- Watch a video of our students at the Refugee Law Initiative annual conference where we asked them what it was like studying the programme:

bit.ly/RLI-annual-conference

- Read an article by Programme Director Professor Sarah Singer, in which she discusses current challenges faced by refugee communities and how our master's programme provides a strong foundation for building a career in this field: bit.ly/sarah-singer-lc



The School of Advanced Study

The MA in Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies has its foundations in the teaching and research of a leading centre in refugee law and policy, the Refugee Law Initiative (RLI).

The RLI is a unique academic centre promoting interdisciplinary research, teaching and exchange on law, policy and practice in refugee and displacement contexts. It is part of the University of London's School of Advanced Study.

You will get access to cutting-edge research being undertaken by RLI staff and other academic experts, joining our community in an online environment of networking, connectivity and dialogue.

The lead academics for the programme are Professor Sarah Singer, Programme Director and Professor David James Cantor, Director of the RLI and a recognised specialist in the field.

Why study Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies?

Is the programme for you?

We developed this degree in response to demand. The RLI identified the need for a postgraduate programme on the basis of interest from its global networks and from professionals in the field of international refugee law and protection. This subject area is attracting substantial and growing interest around the world, for several reasons:

- Forced migration is an important global phenomenon with a long history which, unfortunately, shows no signs of abating in the near future. On the contrary, flows of refugees are increasing.
- It is a fascinating and complex subject area that generates interesting humanitarian, legal, political, philosophical and sociological questions.
- There is a wide range of professional organisations working in this area, with varied opportunities for employment.

Employment routes

The MA programme is intended to give you a solid basis from which to start or advance your career in refugee protection, be it as an academic or practitioner. It enables you to combine your studies with your ongoing professional and domestic commitments. The programme is designed for those who wish to pursue careers in a range of professional contexts in the refugee, human rights or humanitarian fields.

Potential employers include international agencies, such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International office of the Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Organization on Migration (IOM), governmental bodies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).



Dr Tamara Wood

Module convenor and tutor for elective module 'Asylum and refugees in Africa and Latin America'



Dr Tamara Wood is a Visiting Fellow at the Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law,

UNSW Sydney. She researches in the fields of international refugee law, regional refugee law, free movement agreements, complementary pathways to protection, and displacement in the context of natural hazards, disasters and climate change. She is a member of the Advisory Committee for the Platform on Disaster Displacement, Climate Mobility Africa Research Network (CMARN) Steering Group, and the International Journal of Refugee Law Case Law editorial team. She has acted as a consultant to UNHCR, IOM, Platform on Disaster Displacement, Nansen Initiative on Disaster-Induced Cross-Border Displacement, Institute for Security Studies Africa and the World Bank.

Programme structure



Programme structure

The MA consists of six modules (two core, four elective) plus a dissertation.

Core modules

Protecting human rights, refugees and displaced persons in international law

An introduction to refugee and forced migration studies

Elective modules

Four elective modules chosen from:

Asylum law in Europe: towards regional harmonisation of international protection

Asylum and refugees in Africa and Latin America: regional models for refugee protection in the global south

Internal displacement in law and policy: war and beyond

Gender and group identities in the refugee context

Securing refugee protection in practice

Disasters, climate change and displacement

Advanced international refugee law

Statelessness, nationality and the protection of stateless persons

Displacement, healthcare and humanitarian action

Dissertation

Overview

The MA offers a challenging multidisciplinary education with a lot of flexibility in terms of what you study, and when and how you study it. It is designed to be studied part time over a two-year period, but the registration period is five years, so you can pause your studies if you wish.

Time commitment

You will need to spend around 15–20 hours per week studying the programme. Most of the study resources that we provide are online, and you will be expected to log in to the programme's VLE frequently to participate in online discussions, submit assignments and network with tutors and your fellow students.

You will have access to a vast range of academic journals, books and primary source materials, so a lot of your time will be spent sifting through these resources, identifying the most relevant or interesting readings, and studying them in detail.

Assessment

Core and elective modules are assessed through a combination of online activities ('E-tivities') and a piece of written coursework. The E-tivities are carefully designed to build your skills and knowledge and help you prepare for each final piece of coursework.

You also research and write a 15,000-word dissertation on a topic that you choose (subject to agreement with your research supervisor).

For more information on the programme modules please visit: london.ac.uk/refugee-migration

Distance and flexible learning: how it works

The Student Portal and the VLE

As soon as you register, we send you a University of London username and password which enables you to log in to the Student Portal. All of the online resources you need to study the programme are made available via the Portal.

The VLE is the programme's intranet, an online space where you can:

- interact with tutors and fellow students through discussion forums
- download subject guides, readings and study skills resources for your modules
- upload your work and receive academic feedback.

Study materials

We provide you with a range of study resources and support, including:

- hard copies of the core textbooks
- online study resources including a subject guide for each module; scanned readings from a range of textbooks, journals and monographs; plus access to a fully searchable Online Library with a huge stock of journals and primary source materials.

Academic support

You will interact regularly with RLI academics.

- For each module, a tutor provides advice on readings and guides the online discussions.
- Tutors provide academic advice and guidance for each module that you study. Other programme queries can be directed to the Academic Support Officer. Alternatively, the Programme Director will be able to answer queries and provide support throughout your studies.
- You receive feedback on E-tivities and coursework for each module.
- You are allocated a research supervisor to guide your dissertation work.

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facebook.com/SASRLI



Follow us on Twitter:
twitter.com/RLI_News

Mahi Ramakrishnan

Current student, based in Malaysia



'This programme has been an incredible experience for me, both as a refugee rights activist and academically. I have learnt so much and can now bring clued-in perspectives during panel discussions. I would most definitely recommend this programme to prospective students because the knowledge gained is phenomenal. The programme is well-tailored and the two core modules equip us with so much knowledge about forced migration.'

Mahi is an award-winning investigative filmmaker and human rights activist.

Entrance requirements

Academic

You need an undergraduate degree (e.g. bachelor) that is comparable to a UK upper second class honours degree; in the social sciences, humanities, laws or other related subject areas. You can still apply without this, and we will consider each application on its merits.

If you do not meet the entrance requirements you may still apply. Each application will be considered on an individual basis by the Programme Director.

English language

You need a high standard of English to study this programme. You will meet our language requirement if you have achieved the following within the past three years: IELTS (International English Language Testing System) – overall score of at least 7.0 with at least 6.0 in reading and writing.

Tests from other providers will be considered on an individual basis. Even if you have not formally met these requirements the University may still consider other evidence, for example if your current degree was taught in the medium of English.

Minimum computer specification

You must have regular access to a computer (or mobile device) with an internet connection so that you can access your learning materials through the VLE.

To get the most from your studies, your computer should have at least the following minimum specification:

- a web browser (the latest version of Firefox, Chrome or Internet Explorer). This must accept cookies and have JavaScript enabled
- screen resolution of 1024 x 768 or greater
- sufficient bandwidth to download documents of at least 2MB
- a word processor that reads Microsoft Word format (.doc)
- Adobe, or another PDF reader.

Dr Nick Maple

Module convenor and tutor for core module
'An introduction to refugee and forced migration studies'



'This programme has been designed to give students an excellent grounding to start or advance

their careers in refugee (and related) fields. A unique element of the programme, which we are very proud of, is how it offers a great deal of direct engagement and feedback from tutors, convenors, and fellow students, while also creating the space for students to build a community of like-minded advocates on refugee matters.'

How to apply and register

Getting started

You must apply online at:
london.ac.uk/refugee-migration

Please read the 'Guidance Notes for Applications' before you complete your application: **bit.ly/PG-guidance**

Stage 1

Submit your online application.

Stage 2

Submit your documentary evidence. This can be done online when submitting your application or at a later stage. Please see: **bit.ly/Doc-evidence**

Please do not send original documents (scanned copies are acceptable).

Stage 3

We will notify you whether or not you have been accepted.

Please note: applications will only be considered when we have received all the necessary documentation, including the references, where applicable.

Stage 4

Complete the online registration. We explain how to do this in the Offer Letter.

Stage 5

Start your studies. You will be given access to the VLE and your study materials once you have registered.

Useful information for applicants

Submit your application even if it is incomplete (for example, if you are waiting to sit an examination or to receive examination results). Do not delay – we can formally advise you on what requirements/grades you will need to obtain in order to meet our entrance criteria.

If you are unsure about whether or not you meet our entrance requirements, we might be able to advise you on this before you submit your application. However, due to our increase in workload we are unable to provide this advice between 1 September and 30 October each year. To contact us, please see: **sid.london.ac.uk**

Iakheiidin Mirzashev

Alumni, based in Kyrgyzstan



'I strongly believe that I received the best education at this university. I gained knowledge regarding international laws, which is very important for my current work. The most rewarding parts of my experience at the University of London were new skills and knowledge, the high quality of the education programmes, great teaching staff and fellow students, and interesting virtual debates on different topics.'

Iakheiidin works as a Protection Manager at DRC.

Fees and further information



Fees payable to the University

The total fee payable to the University of London for the 2024–2025 academic session will be published on our website once confirmed. For the latest information on programme fees, please visit: london.ac.uk/fees

Please note: student fees shown on our website are net of any local VAT, Goods and Services Tax (GST) or any other sales tax payable by the student in their country of residence. Where the University is required to add VAT, GST or any other sales tax at the local statutory rate, this will be added to the fees shown during the payment process. For students resident in the UK, our fees are exempt from VAT.

A limited number of scholarships are available that seek to support outstanding students who might not otherwise be able to gain access

to this MA. For more information please see: bit.ly/funding-RPM

Financial assistance

Some employers in both the public and private sector may offer financial assistance to their employees. No financial assistance is available from the University.

For details on bursaries and scholarships available for the MA Refugee Protection and Forced Migration Studies programme, visit: bit.ly/Refugee-funding

Further information

Interested in finding out more about refugees and forced migration? Explore our online short course 'Refugees in the 21st Century', available at: coursera.org/learn/refugees-in-the-21st-century

Dr Tamás Molnár

Module convenor and tutor for elective module 'Statelessness, nationality and the protection of stateless persons'



Dr Tamás Molnár is a visiting lecturer on international migration law in

the Corvinus University of Budapest, Department of International Relations and has published widely in the fields of international law, EU law and statelessness/nationality law. He has also undertaken consultancy for UNHCR on statelessness issues since 2010 and for the European Network on Statelessness since 2014. Since September 2016, he has been working for the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (Vienna) as a legal research officer on asylum, migration and borders, also in the field of statelessness. Previously he was head of the Migration Unit, Department of EU Cooperation, Ministry of the Interior of Hungary (2010–2014) and was charged with the drafting of the Hungarian statelessness determination procedure in 2006–2007.



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London WC1E 7HU
United Kingdom

Telephone enquires: +44 (0)20 7862 8360

Online enquiries: sid.london.ac.uk



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Migration**
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