

## Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	Course Title	MA Black Studies
2	Course Code	PT1285
3	Awarding Institution	Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s)	
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation	<i>Not applicable</i>

6	Course Description
	<p>In 2017 Birmingham City University became the first university in Europe to launch an undergraduate Black Studies degree programme. Our MA Black Studies course aims to build on the success of this pivotal programme. Since its emergence Black Studies at BCU has been one of the most high profile and successful research activities since 2014 in the faculty. We have produced highly rated and world leading research, secured research funding and hosted some foundational research activities.</p> <p>This course will be well suited to those already in employment as well as those wanting to develop specialist knowledge and build on transferable skill sets which will boost their employability and career options to working within education, local and national government, criminal justice, media, the arts and advocacy organisations. We have links with the public, private and voluntary sector organisations in local community, national and international settings. Engagement with stakeholders is fundamental part of the final project; which further enhances students' personal and professional development and networking skills.</p> <p><b>What's covered in the course?</b></p> <p>Black Studies has been hugely influential in debates on university campus across the UK. BCU staff are regularly invited to speak at student and staff organised symposia about 'decolonising' the university. It was students that pushed for courses such as Black Studies, asking questions like 'Why is My Curriculum White?' From speaking at campuses across the country it is obvious there is a call for a postgraduate course in Black Studies.</p> <p>In designing the course, we have built on the principles we have embedded into the undergraduate course. These have become the basis of the discipline of Black Studies that we are at the forefront of creating in academia. These key principles are embedded into the design of the degree and in module titles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Politics of Blackness. Black Studies is about connecting into the politics of Africa and the diaspora. We will explore critically and in relation to historical and existing social movements.</li> <li>○ Black Studies in Action. Taking Black Studies knowledge off campus is indispensable to the discipline, therefore we will explore research methods and partnerships with public, private and voluntary sectors in the community. This will feed directly into the Black Studies Project where student will develop a project with an impact off campus.</li> <li>○ Intersecting Identities. The most developed area of research in the discipline is Black Feminism, of which the key principles will be explored in this module.</li> <li>○ Race and Modernity. A critique of Eurocentric notions of progress is an essential component of 'decolonising' the curriculum.</li> <li>○ Culture, Media and Representation. Popular culture has been a central tool for exploring Black Studies knowledge, which aims to engage in the real world. We will be drawing heavily on these traditions in the course.</li> <li>○ Historical analysis. Throughout the modules we will be drawing on historical analysis to understand the contributions, experiences and perspectives of Africa and the African diaspora.</li> </ul>

<b>7</b>	<b>Course Awards</b>		
<b>7a</b>	<b>Name of Final Award</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credits Awarded</b>
	Master of Arts Black Studies	Level 7	180
<b>7b</b>	<b>Exit Awards and Credits Awarded</b>		
	Postgraduate Certificate Black Studies	Level 7	60
	Postgraduate Diploma Black Studies	Level 7	120

<b>8</b>	<b>Derogation from the University Regulations</b>		
	N/A		

<b>9</b>	<b>Delivery Patterns</b>			
	<b>Mode(s) of Study</b>	<b>Location(s) of Study</b>	<b>Duration of Study</b>	<b>Code(s)</b>
	Full Time	City Centre	1 years	PT1285
	Part Time	City Centre	2 years	PT1286

<b>10</b>	<b>Entry Requirements</b>		
	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at <a href="https://www.bcu.ac.uk/">https://www.bcu.ac.uk/</a> .		

<b>11</b>	<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>		
	<b>Knowledge and Understanding</b>		
<b>1</b>	Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of past and present Black Studies theories and concepts.		
<b>2</b>	Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to a critical understanding of Black Studies, and a wide range of interdisciplinary subjects.		
<b>3</b>	Effectively communicate a critical understanding of key Black Studies concepts, theories and perspectives.		
<b>4</b>	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 Black Studies.		
<b>5</b>	To apply Black Studies theories to have an impact on the social world.		
	<b>Skills and other attributes</b>		
<b>6</b>	Ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences		
<b>7</b>	Ability to continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level		
<b>8</b>	Apply critical reasoning and analytical skills with regards to the relationship between theoretical and empirical social research in order to carry out social research		
<b>9</b>	Competent in self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and able to act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.		
<b>10</b>	Ability to select, justify and evaluate appropriate academic literature within a specialized subject area.		

12	Course Requirements																																										
12a	<p>Level 7:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 160 credits):</i></p> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>SOC7XXX</td><td>Politics of Blackness</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>SOC7XXX</td><td>Black Studies in Action</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>SOC7XXX</td><td>Intersecting Identities</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>SOC7XXX</td><td>Representation, Discourse and Culture</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>SOC7XXX</td><td>Understanding Self through History</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>SOC7XXX</td><td>Black Studies Project</td><td>60</td></tr></table> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 20 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.</i></p> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>CRI7032</td><td>Understanding Domestic and Sexual Violence</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>CRI7034</td><td>Homicide and Organised Violent Crime</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>CRI7035</td><td>Inside Out</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LAW7135</td><td>Global Health Law</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LAW713x</td><td>International Criminal Law</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>LAW7133</td><td>Refugees and the Free Movement of People</td><td>20</td></tr></table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	SOC7XXX	Politics of Blackness	20	SOC7XXX	Black Studies in Action	20	SOC7XXX	Intersecting Identities	20	SOC7XXX	Representation, Discourse and Culture	20	SOC7XXX	Understanding Self through History	20	SOC7XXX	Black Studies Project	60	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	CRI7032	Understanding Domestic and Sexual Violence	20	CRI7034	Homicide and Organised Violent Crime	20	CRI7035	Inside Out	20	LAW7135	Global Health Law	20	LAW713x	International Criminal Law	20	LAW7133	Refugees and the Free Movement of People	20
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## 12b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only.

### FULL TIME

	<b>Semester 1</b> PG Cert Stage	<b>Semester 2</b> PG Dip Stage	<b>Semester 3</b> Masters Stage
Postgraduate Learner Course (e.g. Two weeks)			
Level 7	Politics of Blackness (20 Credits)	Intersecting Identities (20 Credits)	Black Studies Project (60 Credits)
	Black Studies in Action (20 Credits)	Representation, Discourse and Culture (20 Credits)	
	Understanding Self through History (20 Credits)	Option (20 Credits)	
Option Modules			
CRI7032	Understanding Domestic and Sexual Violence		20 Credits
CRI7034	Homicide and Organised Violent Crime		20 Credits
CRI7035	Inside Out		20 Credits
LAW7135	Global Health Law		20 Credits
LAW713x	International Criminal Law		20 Credits
LAW7133	Refugees and the Free Movement of People		20 Credits

## PART TIME

Year 1	Semester 1	Politics of Blackness (20 Credits)	Black Studies in Action (20 Credits)
	Semester 2	Intersecting Identities (20 Credits)	Representation, Discourse and Culture (20 Credits)
Year 2	Semester 1	Understanding Self through History (20 Credits)	
	Semester 2	Option (20 Credits)	
	Semester 3	Black Studies Project (60 Credits)	

## Options

CRI7032	Understanding Domestic and Sexual Violence	20 Credits
CRI7034	Homicide and Organised Violent Crime	20 Credits
CRI7035	Inside Out	20 Credits
LAW7135	Global Health Law	20 Credits
LAW713x	International Criminal Law	20 Credits
LAW7133	Refugees and the Free Movement of People	20 Credits

## 13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

### Level 7 Workload

#### % time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	152
Directed Learning	216
Private Study	1432
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>1800</b>

### Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	60%
Exam	
In-Person	40%