

## Programme Specification

**BSc International Development (full-time)**

**For students entering Part 1 in September 2023**

**UCAS Code: L900**

**UFINTDEV**

**UFINTDES**

**UFINTDEWY**

**This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	3 years
Length of Programme with placement/year abroad	BSc International Development with Study Year Abroad - 4 years (internal transfer only) BSc International Development with Placement Year - 4 years (UCAS Code: L901)
Accreditation	Not applicable

### **Programme information and content**

The programme aims to provide you with a degree-level understanding of the complex global dynamics affecting the planet's resources, climate, food systems, and the politics of development. Through the course of the degree, students are exposed to critical thinking in international development, capturing key ideas in international development policy and practice, illustrated with rich use of case studies from around the world. The cross-university programme incorporates a wealth of multi-disciplinary expertise, including from geography, economics, international relations, agriculture, and food and nutritional sciences.

Part 1:	Introduces you to themes within international development, including on global-local issues; food dilemmas, economics, development planning, and sustainability & prosperity. It also provides a basic grounding on studying for a university degree, facilitates the professional development of students through individual and team based learning, and builds communication skills for a range of audiences.
Part 2:	Provides you with the opportunity to apply and expand on knowledge gained in Part 1 through consolidating understanding of core development theories, exploring the role of politics and power in development, introducing research methods for international development that can later be applied to a research project, and permitting students to further specialise in subject areas dependent on their interests and career aspirations.
Part 3:	Gives you the opportunity to undertake an individual research project on a chosen topic, whilst developing deeper knowledge in a range of areas related to global

development. You will also explore communication and socio-economic, environmental and political change around the world.

### Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

#### Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AP1A28	Global Sustainability: Challenges and Prospects	20	4
AP1EE4	The Economic Environment	20	4
AP1ID1	International Development: Global and Local Issues	20	4
AP1ID3	Study Skills for BSc International Development	0	4
FB1FD1	Food Challenges for the Future: Production, Security and Health	20	4

Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from the School of Agriculture, Policy and Development and Schools across the University, subject to Programme Director approval and timetabling constraints.

#### Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AP2ID1	Research Methods for BSc International Development	20	5
AP2ID2	Approaches to International Development	20	5
AP2ID7	Professional Practice Placement for International Development	20	5

Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from the School of Agriculture, Policy and Development and Schools across the University, subject to Programme Director approval and timetabling constraints.

#### Modules during a placement year or study year (if applicable):

If you are undertaking a year-long placement or a year-long study abroad, students will take one 120 credit module as follows:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AP2PP1	Professional Placement	120	5
Or			
AP2SA3*	Professional Placement with Study Abroad Experience	120	5
Or			
AP2SA1*	Study Abroad Year	120	5

As part of the Placement Year, students have the option to take either a full year (minimum of 40 weeks) in full time employment or, with approval from the module convenor and programme director, a shorter work placement (minimum of 20 weeks) combined with a study abroad semester. Students can also select a full year of study abroad. \*Students will only be eligible for AP2SA3 and AP2SA1 if they meet the criteria and if places are available in overseas institutions – places are not guaranteed.

**Part 2 (continued) modules:**

Students may be permitted to undertake a placement year or a study abroad year between Part 2 and Part 3 of the programme. In such cases students will transfer to a 4-year programme. The placement or study abroad year should not normally be shorter than nine months full-time.

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

**Part 3 Modules:**

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AP3ID3	Dissertation (BSc International Development)	40	6
AP3ID6	Power and Development	20	6

Your remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from the School of Agriculture, Policy and Development and Schools across the University, subject to Programme Director approval and timetabling constraints.

**Optional modules:**

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your programme can be found online in the Course Catalogue. Details of optional modules for each part, including any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

**Additional costs of the programme**

If you undertake a Placement Year, associated costs will vary according to the nature and location of the placement and/or the study abroad host institution, and individual travel and subsistence arrangements.

Costs are indicative, but will vary according to module choice and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. The estimates were calculated in 2022.

### **Placement opportunities**

If you take the 4 year degree with a Placement Year, you are required to undertake a compulsory placement as part of your Programme (see section above on Placement). You will be supported in finding this placement.

### **Teaching and learning delivery:**

You will be taught through seminars, lectures, group discussions.

The contact hours for your Programme will be approximately 250-300 hours in Part 1, 250-300 hours in Part 2 and 200 - 250 hours in Part 3 and will depend upon your module combination; however information about module contact hours can be located in the relevant module descriptions.

### **Accreditation details**

N/A

### **Assessment**

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations and coursework, assessed via a range of methods.

### **Progression**

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' as follows

#### **Part 1**

To gain a threshold performance at Part 1 a student shall normally be required to

- (i) obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1; and
- (ii) obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 1;

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2 of this programme, a student shall normally be required to achieve a threshold performance at Part 1 and;

- (iii) achieve a credit weighted average mark of not less than 40% over the compulsory modules (AP1ID1, FB1FD1, AP1A28 and AP1EE4); and

- (iv) a mark of not less than 30% in each compulsory module.

If you gain a threshold performance at Part 1 and do not proceed to achieve a higher award, you are eligible to receive the award of Certificate of Higher Education. The Part 1 Examination does not contribute to the classification of your degree.

#### Part 2

The Part 2 examination is used to assess a student's suitability to proceed to Part 3 of their programme. It also determines eligibility for the Diploma of Higher Education. In addition, the marks achieved in the Part 2 Examination contribute to the classification of your degree.

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to achieve:

- (i) a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2; and
- (ii) marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits; and
- (iii) marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 120 credits, except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, student must achieve a threshold performance at Part 2. If you gain a threshold performance at Part 2 and do not proceed to achieve a higher award, you are eligible to receive the award of Diploma of Higher Education.

#### Placement Year/Year Abroad (or combination thereof)

Students are required to pass their year out in order to progress on the programme which incorporates the placement year, study abroad year or combination thereof.

Students who fail the placement year transfer to the non-placement year version of the programme.

#### **Classification**

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark	Interpretation
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

#### Three-year programmes

Part 2 one-third

Part 3 two-thirds

#### Four-year programmes, including placement year or study abroad:

Normally:

Part 2 one-third

Placement Year not included in classification  
Part 3 two-thirds

(Where a student fails a placement year or study abroad year, which does not contribute to classification they transfer to the three-year version of the programme)

**For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

BSc International Development (full-time) for students entering Part 1 in session 2023/24  
20 November 2023

© **The University of Reading 2023**