

<b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b>	
<i>Awarding Institution//Body</i>	University of Bath
<i>Teaching Institution</i>	University of Bath
<i>Validated/Franchised/Licensed (if appropriate)</i>	
<i>Programme accredited by (including date of accreditation)</i>	
<i>Programme approved by (including date &amp; minute number of Senate)</i>	Initial Approval by Senate: 11.6.08 (minute S12806 i) Programme Approval Panel: 19.1.09 Senate full approval 30.1.09 (S12806)
<i>Final award</i>	Postgraduate Certificate Postgraduate Diploma Master of Arts
<i>Programme title</i>	Postgraduate Certificate in International Security Postgraduate Diploma in International Security Master of Arts in International Security
<i>UCAS code (if applicable)</i>	N/A
<i>Subject Benchmark Statement</i>	
<i>Intended level of completed programme (in line with FHEQ eg 5, 6, 7,)</i>	Level 7 = Masters
<i>Duration of programme &amp; mode of study</i>	<b>Postgraduate Certificate:</b> One semester, full-time; up to 15 months, part-time. <b>Postgraduate Diploma:</b> Nine months, full-time; up to 21 months part-time. <b>MA:</b> One year, full-time; two years part-time.
<i>Date of Specification preparation/revision</i>	2008. update June 2012. Feb 2013. Revised 13 Nov 2013/revised 29 August 2014
<i>Applicable to cohorts (eg. for students commencing in September 2013 or 2013/14-2014/15)</i>	2016/17

### Synopsis and academic coherence of programme

The overall goal of the programme is to equip students with a broad knowledge of contemporary international security and the dimensions

- of political and military interactions between states and non-state entities in the contemporary world,
- of the role of state and non-state actors and of governmental and non-governmental international organisations in the new international security environment, and

- of the relationship between its different component parts

and an ability to critically discuss and write about them. In its design and implementation, the programme reflects a commitment to the integration of staff members' strong research profiles into teaching, to the application of learning and to a diversity of approaches to learning, teaching and assessment (as set out in the University's Learning and Teaching Strategy).

### **Educational aims of the programme**

The Programme has four broad aims:

1. To develop 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 the study of contemporary international security;
2. To develop a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to the students' own research and to advanced scholarship in the field of contemporary international security;
3. To enable students to be original 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 the discipline of contemporary international security;
4. To develop conceptual understanding:
  - To evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in contemporary international security; and
  - To evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses for the explanation of a wide range of diverse phenomena in contemporary international security.

The PG Certificate focuses principally on aim (1), but offers students scope for some specialist application of what they are studying (aim 2) and, through the assessment mode in individual units (e.g., essay), the opportunity to undertake a research enquiry on a modest scale (aim 3).

The PG Diploma gives additional scope for appreciation and application of different methodologies of research in the study of contemporary international politics (aim 2); and since more units are completed by the student, it gives a more substantial opportunity to undertake research of the student's choosing (aim 3).

The MA involves a dissertation which meets aim (3) on a still more substantial scale.

The PG Certificate involves some attention to aim (4), but this progressively increases with the PG Diploma and the MA, as a wider range of research methodologies and their applications in contemporary international security is critically reviewed.

### **Intended learning outcomes** (including teaching, learning and assessment methods, specifying those applicable for interim awards where appropriate)

➤ Knowledge & Understanding:

Students will

1. Understand the key concepts and theories of international security and the dimensions of political and military interactions between states and non-state entities in the contemporary world, of the role of state and non-state actors and of governmental and non-governmental international organisations in the new international security order, and the relationship between its different component parts;
2. Understand the origins, development, current activity and organisation of the institutions of the international security system;
3. Have knowledge of contemporary international security problems and how they emerge at sub-national, national and supra-national levels and between them;
4. Have a comparative understanding of international

	<p>security issues, both in historical and contemporary terms.</p> <p>The <b>PG Certificate</b> will particularly focus on learning outcomes 1 and 2; the <b>PG Diploma</b> will have an additional focus on learning outcome 3 and provide a moderate focus on learning outcome 4, while the <b>MA</b> will ensure that students achieve all four learning outcomes.</p> <p>Teaching and Learning Methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lectures and guided reading.</li> <li>• Student seminar presentations with tutorial guidance and peer feedback</li> <li>• Group-based practice in identifying and analysing contemporary international security problems and the policy responses developed for them by state and non-state actors.</li> <li>• Active participation in research seminar programmes of the Department of Politics, Languages and International Studies, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and its research centres</li> <li>• Monitoring of individual academic development with personal tutor.</li> </ul> <p>Assessment Methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coursework essays of combined length of 4,000 words (some pre-set, others self-defined), with a progression towards more student defined work as the programme proceeds.</li> <li>• A supervised MA dissertation of 15,000 words in length on a topic agreed between supervisor and supervisee.</li> </ul>
<p>➤ Intellectual Skills:</p>	<p>Students will be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 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;</li> <li>2. Continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.</li> <li>3. Demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level;</li> </ol> <p>The <b>PG Certificate</b> will particularly focus on learning outcome 1 and, to a lesser extent on learning outcome 2; the <b>PG Diploma</b> will have an additional moderate focus on learning outcome 3, while the <b>MA</b> will ensure that students achieve all three learning outcomes.</p> <p>They will also</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Be able to familiarize themselves with research methods in political studies and international security;</li> <li>2. Be able to apply problem-solving skills in seeking solutions to international political problems in a supra-national as well as national and sub-national context;</li> </ol>

	<p>3. Be able to undertake investigations of political questions, issues and problems in an international context;</p> <p>4. Be able to distinguish between the normative and pragmatic differences that affect policies and their consequences.</p> <p>5. Be able to assess the outcomes of interventions by governments and other organisations to solve international security problems;</p> <p>The <b>PG Certificate</b> will particularly focus on learning outcomes 1 to 3; the <b>PG Diploma</b> will have an additional focus on learning outcome 4 and provide a moderate focus on learning outcome 5, while the <b>MA</b> will ensure that students achieve all five learning outcomes.</p> <p>Teaching and Learning Methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lectures and guided reading.</li> <li>• Student seminar presentations with tutorial guidance and peer feedback</li> <li>• Group-based practice in identifying and analysing contemporary international security problems and the policy responses developed for them by state and non-state actors.</li> <li>• Active participation in research seminar programmes of the Department of Politics, Languages and International Studies, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and its research centres.</li> <li>• Monitoring of personal development with personal tutor.</li> <li>• Supervised dissertation.</li> </ul> <p>Assessment Methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coursework essays of a combined length of 4,000 words (some pre-set, others self-defined), with a progression towards more student defined work as the programme proceeds.</li> <li>• A supervised MA dissertation of 15,000 words in length on a topic agreed between supervisor and supervisee.</li> </ul>
<p>➤ Professional Practical Skills:</p>	<p>Students will</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Acquire bibliographic and IT skills, enabling them to identify and use library and other bibliographic resources and maintain a personal research bibliography;</li> <li>2. Be able to critically evaluate research;</li> <li>3. Understand issues posed by international security research in relation to ethics, confidentiality and legality (including IPR), and acquire the skills needed in order to respect, consider and attend to the rights of other researchers and research participants;</li> <li>4. Where appropriate, have begun to develop a working knowledge of a relevant language for a chosen geographical area(s) of study.</li> </ol>

	<p>5. Be familiar with the format and mechanisms for the dissemination of research on international security issues through professional bodies, including conference papers, posters and journal articles, and the process of peer review.</p> <p>The <b>PG Certificate</b> will particularly focus on learning outcomes 1 and 2; the <b>PG Diploma</b> will have an additional focus on learning outcomes 3 and 4, while the <b>MA</b> will provide students opportunities to achieve all five learning outcomes.</p> <p>Teaching and Learning Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Induction course in bibliographic, IT and research skills, with particular reference to resources that can be accessed through the University</li> <li>• Lectures and guided reading.</li> <li>• Attention to the afore-mentioned professional practical skills within all taught units, as appropriate.</li> <li>• Applying, testing and honing the afore-mentioned professional practical skills, by writing essays and giving presentations and receiving appropriate feedback from peers and faculty, and by undertaking a fully supervised dissertation.</li> <li>• Active participation in research seminar programmes of the Department, the Faculty and its research centres.</li> <li>• Use where appropriate of the University's wide range of language programmes, and University-accredited language tutors.</li> <li>• Monitoring of personal development with personal tutor.</li> </ul> <p>Assessment Methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coursework essays of a combined length of 4,000 words (some pre-set, others self-defined), with a progression towards more student defined work as the programme proceeds.</li> <li>• A supervised MA dissertation of 15,000 words in length on a topic agreed between supervisor and supervisee.</li> </ul>
<p>➤ Transferable/Key Skills:</p>	<p>Students will</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop writing, presentation and dissemination skills;</li> <li>2. Develop skills in effective team working through collaboration in projects;</li> <li>3. Develop competency in the presentation of research findings to practitioners and lay audiences;</li> <li>4. Develop an understanding of how the media communicates specialist material to lay audiences, and the skills required to engage with the media, such as writing press releases and being interviewed.</li> </ol> <p>The <b>PG Certificate</b> will particularly focus on learning outcomes 1 and 2, but also provide a moderate focus on learning outcome 3; the <b>PG Diploma</b> will have an</p>

	<p>additional focus on learning outcome 3 and provide a moderate focus on learning outcome 4, while the <b>MA</b> will ensure that students achieve all four learning outcomes.</p> <p>Teaching and Learning Methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attention to the afore-mentioned transferable/key skills within all taught units, as appropriate.</li> <li>• Applying, testing and honing the afore-mentioned transferable/key skills, by writing essays and giving presentations and receiving appropriate feedback from peers and faculty, and by undertaking a fully supervised dissertation.</li> <li>• Active participation in research seminar programmes of the Department, the Faculty and its research centres.</li> <li>• Monitoring of personal development with personal tutor.</li> </ul> <p>Assessment Methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Problem-oriented group assignments which can demonstrate the acquisition and application of these skills.</li> <li>• Coursework essays and the Dissertation, involve exercise of some of the afore-mentioned professional practical skills, and are assessed in part by reference to them.</li> </ul>
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**Structure and content of the programme** (including potential stopping off points)

See Annex 1 for the detailed Programme Description. Details of unit contents can be found from the Unit Catalogue from <http://www.bath.ac.uk/catalogues/other.html> - please note that these are updated in July of each year to list units for the following academic year.

The programme will be delivered in two taught semesters plus a dissertation, each worth 30 credits. In both of the taught semesters students have to complete three compulsory plus two optional units. For an up to date list of available compulsory and optional units please consult the MA International Security programme description.

The programme includes two potential intermediate stopping off points before the MA: a PG Certificate and a PG Diploma in International Security.

*Part-time Study*

All part-time students are expected to discuss and obtain approval for their selection of units at the beginning of each semester of study.

**MA in International Security**

Part-time students will be expected to complete three of the six compulsory units of the programme during each of their two years of study.

Part-time students either opting for the PG Diploma instead of the MA or not in a position to proceed to dissertation writing stage will be expected to complete all six compulsory units of the programme during the course of their study.

Part-time students either opting for the PG Certificate in International Security or not in a position to proceed to PG Diploma stage will be expected to complete at least three of the six

compulsory units during the course of their study.

**Details of work placements / work-based learning / industrial training / study abroad requirements**

N/A

**Details of support available to students (e.g. induction programmes, programme information, resources)**

1. Initial induction programme to clarify expectations, identify computing training needs, brief students on available learning resources, strengthen group identity and reflect upon diverse learning styles.
2. Detailed programme handbook and outlines for each Unit. In addition, a programme-specific Moodle page will be set up.
3. Each student is allocated a Personal Tutor, who is responsible for monitoring and supporting the academic progress and general welfare of their students, has access to the Director of Studies of the MA programme and to a wide range of additional staff within the Department and Faculty who are able to assist in more specialised areas. Staff in these roles will be able to respond to many of the questions and concerns raised by their students.
4. Unit convenors provide targeted feedback on essays.
5. Extensive library, including 24 hour access to computers, the web and many on-line journals and databases.
6. Membership of a wider community (through seminars and social activities) for those engaged in applied social science research and study.
7. Student internet communications.
8. Specialist student support services that will offer both information and advice to support these staff working with their students, as well as take referrals to work more directly with the students. Students can also self-refer to these services. These services can provide information, advice and support in relation to accommodation, emotional difficulties, assessment of needs and provision of support relating to disability, student funding, general welfare, academic problems, student discipline and complaints, careers, international students, spiritual matters, part time work, security and personal safety. The Students' Union can also provide advocacy for students. More information about these services can be accessed via: <http://www.bath.ac.uk/students/support/>.

There are also Medical and Dental Centres, and a Chaplaincy on campus that are very experienced in meeting the needs of a student population, as well as a University nursery and vacation play scheme to provide childcare for older children during the school holidays.9. Mutual support among those enrolled together on the programme is also very important, and students are encouraged to develop this, particularly during the induction phase and structured social activities.

10. The English Language Unit provides support in essay writing for native and non-native English speakers.
11. High class sports and arts facilities enable students to develop themselves in an all-round manner. There is a health centre which includes dental services and a chaplaincy centre as well as a University nursery and vacation play scheme to provide childcare for older children during the school holidays.

**Admissions Criteria (including arrangements for APL/APEL)**

1. Students should normally have a 2.1 or first class degree in the social sciences or

equivalent first degree in another subject or substantial relevant professional experience.

2. For those with English as a second language a minimum overall IELTS score of 6.5 (or a recognised equivalent) is normally required with at least .6.0 in each component. Alternatively, a TOEFL score of 92 is required Pre-sessional English language training is available and may be required by the Director of Studies for admission to the programme.
3. Two references are required, of which one must be an academic reference.
4. The award of credit for accredited prior learning (APL) or accredited prior experiential learning (APEL) may be offered for up to 12 credits towards the PG Certificate, 24 credits towards the PG Diploma and 36 credits towards the MA. Standard QA guidelines will be followed to assess such cases.

**QUALITY ASSURANCE MECHANISMS: (e.g., mechanisms for review/evaluation, quality committees, staff development):**

1. Within the University, quality assurance responsibilities are exercised by the following committees: Departmental and Faculty Learning, Teaching & Quality committees; Faculty Board of Studies, University Graduate Studies Committee, University Learning Teaching & Quality Committee, , Academic Programmes Committee, Programmes and Partnerships Approvals Committee, Senate.
2. Evaluations are routinely undertaken of each Unit using a standard pro-forma. Students also fill out a questionnaire covering the whole programme. Quantitative results and written comments are discussed in an open meeting with students at programme level and issues arising are referred both to the Departmental staff-student liaison committee and to the Department Staff Meeting.
3. Individual staff appraisal, peer monitoring of teaching, induction and mentoring of new staff is all routine. All staff also have access to a continuous university-wide staff development programme.
4. All staff teaching on this new programme have secured, or are in process of securing, membership of the Institute for Learning and Teaching.
5. External examiners are appointed for a three-year term and attend all final Boards of Examiners. Their role is to ensure that standards are maintained and are comparable to those of the best universities elsewhere in the UK.
6. The Director of Studies undertakes an annual programme review for the Departmental Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee, which brings together the results of all feedback and evaluations received, including the reports of the External Examiners, and provides the basis for programme development.
7. Each degree scheme is periodically reviewed by a specially formed panel including an external and independent reviewer. The Faculty Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee receives reports of these panels and a University-level committee receives an annual summary report from Faculties on these periodic reviews.
8. The programme has been designed with reference to University's Academic Procedures, Practices and Guidelines for the Approval of New Programmes of Study and with reference to the framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
9. The Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) periodically reviews the quality of the University of Bath's Learning and Teaching performance. At the last review by the QAA in November 2008, the University was given the highest grading available, that of 'Confidence', in the soundness of the University's current and likely future management of both the academic standards of its awards and the quality of learning opportunities available to students. The QAA's report can be seen at <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/InstitutionReports/Reports/Pages/inst-audit-University-of-Bath-08.aspx>
10. The Department was ranked fourth among its peers in the last Research Assessment Exercise (2008).
11. For an overview of the University's Quality Management framework see this [summary](#)



[document.](#)

## Assessment and Progression Regulations

The programmes assessment and progression regulations are covered by the university's "New Framework for Assessment: Assessment Regulations: Phases 2 & 3 for postgraduate taught programmes (NFAAR-PGT)" which can be found at <http://www.bath.ac.uk/registry/nfa/index.htm>. Specific regulations for the masters are summarised in Appendix 11 at <http://www.bath.ac.uk/registry/nfa/nfaar-pgt-appendix-11.pdf>.

Specific regulations for the masters are summarised in Appendix 11 at <http://www.bath.ac.uk/registry/nfa/nfaar-pgt-appendix-11.pdf>.

Details of 'Stage Required Units' and 'Designated Essential Units' can be found in the Programme Description in Appendix 1.

## Schedule for Board of Examiners and Timings of Re-assessment

Once assessed work has been marked/moderated and viewed by the external examiner, all marks are considered by a Board of Examiners for Units (BEU) – these typically meet at the end of each semester i.e. February and June, and once the dissertation has been completed in November. Once the marks have been officially agreed by a BEU, they are then collated and subsequently considered by a Board of Examiners for Programmes (BEP).

In the case of **Full-Time students**, BEPs meet at the *end* of the taught stage (in June) to make formal progression decisions and in November to make formal award decisions (including progression with resubmitted dissertations, exit with a lesser award, and failing). Interim sub-BEPs *may* meet at specific point(s) during the taught stage of the programme (typically in February) to monitor student performance. Supplementary BEPs *may* meet in early September to consider supplementary assessment results taken over the summer.

Condoning and/or supplementary assessment requirements/timings/deadlines will usually be recommended at the full BEP in June and in November. All decisions will be based on the Persistent Generic PGT Rules for the programme (<http://www.bath.ac.uk/registry/nfa/nfaar-pgt-appendix-11.pdf>). Whilst final award decisions are normally made at the November BEPs, occasionally where students may have had extensions to their original dissertation deadlines or may have had to submit revised dissertations, final award decisions may have to be made in the June boards (and very occasionally in the February board).

In the case of **Part-Time students**, decisions on condoning and/or supplementary assessment requirements will be made at each June BEP *during* the taught stage (as well as at the *end* of the stage) to avoid the student having to wait until they have completed all their taught units. Any decisions regarding condoning and/or supplementary assessment requirements will be based on the Persistent Generic PGT Rules *for the whole taught stage* (<http://www.bath.ac.uk/registry/nfa/nfaar-pgt-appendix-11.pdf>). It should be noted however that, very occasionally, those decisions made *during* the stage may have to be reconsidered at a subsequent BEP, depending on the students' performance during the remainder of the stage, taking into account the timeframe in which supplementary assessment has to be completed. Given the extended durations for dissertations, final award decisions may be delayed beyond the normal November BEP to the following June BEP.

## Sources of Other Information

Faculty website:

- <http://www.bath.ac.uk/hss/>

Departmental website:

- <http://www.bath.ac.uk/polis/>

Postgraduate brochure:

- <http://www.bath.ac.uk/prospectus/postgrad/>

## Annex 1: Programme Description

<b>Programme code</b>	THPL-AFM15 MA International Security (Full-time) THPL-APM15 MA International Security (Part-time)
<b>Programme title</b>	MA in INTERNATIONAL SECURITY (MAIS)
<b>Award type</b>	Masters
<b>Award title</b>	MA in International Security, with the following intermediate qualifications: THPL-AFC16 PG Certificate in International Security (full-time) comprising any 30 TSC. THPL-APC16 PG Certificate in International Security (part-time) comprising any 30 TSC. THPL-AFL16 PG Diploma in International Security (full-time) THPL-APL16 PG Diploma in International Security (part-time)
<b>Mode of Attendance</b>	FULL TIME / PART TIME
<b>Length</b>	12 months F/T; 24 months P/T
<b>State any designated alternative programme(s)</b>	PG Certificate in International Security (DAP for PG Dip and MA) comprising any 30 TSC PG Diploma in International Security (DAP for MA)
<b>Approving body and date of approval</b>	Updated 13.11.13 FLTQC, Updated 29.8.14 FLTQC, Updated 23.9.14 FLTQC, Updated 15.4.15 FLTQC, Updated 15.8.16 FLTQC

### Year 1 (for implementation with effect from 2016-17)

Part	Stage	Normal period of study for this Mode	Unit code	Unit title	Unit status	Credits	DEU status	SRU status	Taught, or Dissertation/ project credits	Notes	
4	1	S1	PL50763	International security: theories & concepts	C	6	DEU	Non SRU	TSC		
		S1	PL50869	Scopes and methods of politics and international relations	C	6	DEU	Non SRU	TSC		
		Select three from the following:									
		S1	PL50751	International relations theories	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
		S1	PL50763	International security, theories & concepts	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
		S1	PL50785	Memory cultures – memory politics	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
		S1	PL50866	Foreign policy analysis	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
		S1	PL50905	Governance, Security and Development in East and Southeast Asia	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
		S1	PL50750	International Terrorism	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
		S1	PL50978	The Cultures of Globalisation	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
		S1	PL50979	Politics of Russia in Comparative Perspective	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
		S1	ZZ5001	Director of Studies approved unit	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
		S2	PL50764	International security: the contemporary agenda	C	6	DEU	Non SRU	TSC		

Select four from the following:									
S2	PL50663	Organised crime in Europe: threats and challenges	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
S2	PL50768	Britain and Europe	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
S2	PL50868	International organisations in world politics	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
S2	PL50884	International Relations of South and Central Asia	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
S2	PL50894	Theories of Conflict and Conflict-Resolution	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
S2	ZZ5001	Director of Studies approved unit	O	6	-	Non SRU	TSC		
2	DIS	PL50770	Project/Dissertation unit	C	30	n/a	n/a	DPC	

Assessment weightings and decision references		
Stage	Weighting within programme	NFAAR-PGT decisions reference See: <a href="http://www.bath.ac.uk/registry/nfa/index.htm">http://www.bath.ac.uk/registry/nfa/index.htm</a>
1	67%	All assessment:
2	33%	All assessment:

**Notes:**

- All averages are credit weighted.
- Any re-assessment of a Stage Required Unit (SRU) must be completed in the normal supplementary assessment period prior to progression to the next stage of the programme, i.e. students cannot commence stage 2 prior to the completion of re-assessment of a SRU.
- Students can only be condoned in a maximum of 20% of the taught stage credits (TSC).
- For a Masters/diploma programme, the maximum number of credits that can be re-assessed is 18 TSC. 12 TSC for PG Certificate.
- Where the Dissertation Project Average (DPA) is made up of more than 1 unit, marginal failure in one unit can be compensated by a better mark in the other unit.
- Where the project/dissertation unit(s) is started at the same time as taught stage units please ensure that this is clear by indicating this in the Normal Period of study column.
- DIS = dissertation period i.e. normally the summer vacation after the end of teaching.