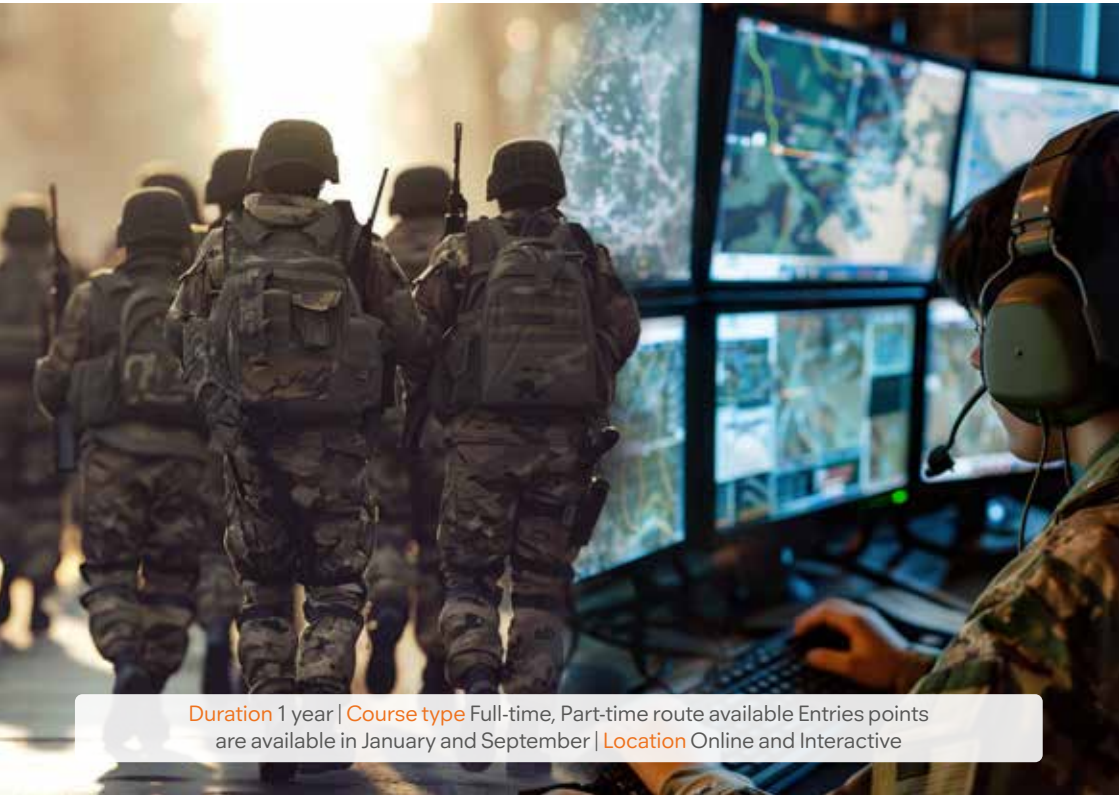


UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
BUNDESWEHR UNIVERSITY MUNICH, GERMAN MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

# MA APPLIED STRATEGY AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY



Duration 1 year | Course type Full-time, Part-time route available Entries points are available in January and September | Location Online and Interactive



UNIVERSITY OF  
PLYMOUTH

der Bundeswehr  
Universität  München



## UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH

Founded in 1862 as a School of Navigation, and among the highest-ranked modern higher education institutions in the world, the University of Plymouth (UoP) has a proud heritage. A three-time recipient of the Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education, and renowned for its world-class research and innovative teaching methods, the University has continuously evolved since its inception. In 2023, the University of Plymouth achieved gold ratings across all categories in the latest Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) evaluation.

From July 2008 to August 2021, the University of Plymouth served as the principal provider of academic services to the Royal Navy at Britannia Royal Naval College (BRNC), Dartmouth. This collaboration fostered numerous synergies in teaching and research, notably the establishment of the Centre for Seapower and Strategy (CSS) under the Faculty of Business. In 2009, the University of Plymouth secured a prestigious contract to deliver an MA in Applied Strategy and International Security (MAAS) to the Greek Military, International Officers and Senior Civil Servants. This program is conducted in partnership with the Hellenic National Defence College (HNDC) in Athens, equivalent to the UK's Royal College of Defence Studies.

## UNIVERSITÄT DER BUNDESWEHR MÜNCHEN (UNIBW M)

The Universität der Bundeswehr München (UniBw M) was founded in 1973 as part of the German Armed Forces (Bundeswehr). The University was originally established to offer civilian academic education for military officers, but today has an increasing number of both civilian and international students. UniBw M has established itself in scientific research and forms part of two excellence clusters of the German government's university excellence initiative. The academic year at the university is structured in trimesters and not the usual semesters, to offer intensive studies with more credit per year to enable faster completion than would normally be expected in other German Universities. It currently has in the region of 3500 students enrolled across multiple programmes and levels who are required to be sponsored by the military or private institutions. UniBw M boasts 10 faculties and is home to 204 full professorships, ensuring a diverse and comprehensive academic environment. The Department of Social Sciences and Public Affairs proudly oversees and supports the teaching initiatives from UniBw M for this programme, ensuring the highest standards of education are upheld.



## DISTINCTIVENESS OF THE MA PROGRAMME

- The programme includes many of the core elements of strategic studies education, notably in the modules, War, Strategy and Law, Counterterrorism, Security and Resilience, Transnational and International Conflict and Maritime and Space Strategy.
- It partners with the Bundeswehr University Munich and implements a hybrid teaching model, incorporating both virtual (VTC) and optional face-to-face (F2F) delivery formats. Students have the flexibility to attend the program remotely via VTC (interactive) if they prefer.
- It will be delivered in collaboration with academics from Bundeswehr University Munich, alongside senior military professionals and executives from the defence industry who are affiliated with the University of Plymouth.
- The programme aims to equip students with the skills needed to navigate the swiftly evolving geostrategic landscape, empowering them to excel in various roles within the defence and security sector. Students will develop advanced strategic thinking and critical analysis abilities essential for success in their future careers.
- This program is designed for individuals pursuing a career in the security industry or the military within the UK, NATO countries, and international contexts.
- Modelled after a successful partnership program in Greece (Hellenic National Defence College), it is flexible in delivery and housed within the Centre for Seapower and Strategy, connecting academics, military professionals, and defence industries.
- It offers one-week teaching blocks supported by online resources, full access to the university's electronic library, and academic advisors.
- An annual hybrid research workshop, (f2f) and (VTC), will unite academics and students to explore contemporary security threats and their respective MA dissertations.
- Students will receive their degree from the University of Plymouth, with the certificate acknowledging the partnership with Bundeswehr University Munich.
- Students will also have the opportunity to receive a National Cyber Security Centre certified course on Cyber Security and Terrorism (awareness level), <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/whats-on/terrorism-and-cyber-security-awareness> (with no extra cost).





## LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Significant knowledge of the major conceptual/theoretical ideas, literature and debates used in the subfield of strategy and security studies, especially related to conflict and international order.
- A thorough and systematic comprehension of conflicts, employing a Thucydidean approach to strategy, the history and evolution of modern warfare, and contemporary international security challenges impacting maritime and space domains, encompassing relevant regional dynamics.
- Provide students with a systematic understanding of knowledge about national security strategy and foreign policy from its development within government to its policy content.
- Comprehend the role of strategic leaders in the global environment.
- Demonstrate independent research from primary and secondary sources, sifting and organising relevant information.
- Design methodology, application of appropriate methodologies to solve complex questions/procedures.
- Knowledge, critical self-reflection and understanding of key facts and concepts directly relevant to certain professions.



## CAREER OPTIONS

The programme is relevant to prospective applicants or current members of UK, German and other armed forces, as well as those seeking careers in a wide variety of sectors, including:

Security Analyst or Consultant - Analyzing security threats and advising organizations on risk management strategies.

- Policy Analyst - Working for think tanks, NGOs, or governmental agencies to analyze and develop policies on international security, conflict resolution, and governance.
- Strategic Policy Advisor- Advises government officials, military leaders, or private organizations on matters related to international security, defense policy, or national security strategy.
- Intelligence Analyst - Working in national security or law enforcement agencies, focusing on gathering and analyzing information related to national or international threats.
- Diplomatic Security Specialist: Ensures the safety and security of diplomatic missions and personnel by assessing security risks, implementing security measures, and managing security operations.
- Counterterrorism Analyst - Specializing in understanding, preventing, and responding to terrorist threats and activities.
- Maritime Security Consultant - Addressing security challenges in maritime domains, such as piracy, smuggling, and territorial disputes.
- Crisis Management Specialist - Developing strategies and managing responses to international crises or emergencies.
- Corporate Security Manager - Overseeing security measures for multinational corporations, including personnel, physical security, and cyber security.
- Risk Management Specialist - Assessing and mitigating risks in various settings, from corporate to international environments.
- Researcher or Academic - Contributing to academic knowledge in the fields of security, international relations, and strategy through research and teaching at universities.





## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

### Full Time Route PGCert in Applied Strategy and International Security (60 credits)

#### LEVEL 7

SEMESTER 1	
Strategy, Diplomacy & International law 20 Credits	
Transnational and International Conflict 20 credits	
Transnational Governance 20 credits	

### Full Time Route PGDip in Applied Strategy & International Security (choose 3 electives, 120 credits)

#### LEVEL 7

SEMESTER 2	
Countering the Changing Threat of International Terrorism 20 Credits	Security, Risk and Resilience 20 credits
Maritime Security Strategy 20 Credits	Security Management and Organisations 20 credits

### Full Time Route MA in Applied Strategy and International Security (180 credits)

#### LEVEL 7

SEMESTER 3	
MA in Applied Strategy in International Security Dissertation 60 credits	

### Part Time Route Year 1

#### LEVEL 7

SEMESTER 1	
Strategy Diplomacy & International law 20 Credits	Transnational and International Conflict 20 credits
Transnational Governance 20 credits	

### Part Time Route Year 2

#### LEVEL 7 (CHOOSE 3 ELECTIVES)

SEMESTER 2	
Countering the changing threat of International Terrorism 20 Credits	Security, Risk & Resilience 20 Credits
Maritime Security Strategy 20 credits	Security Management and Organisations 20 credits
SEMESTER 3	
MA in Applied Strategy and International Security Dissertation	



## PROGRAMME AIMS

The MA programme offers students:

- specialised knowledge of international security and strategic studies (facts, concepts, and literature), with an emphasis on applying knowledge and skills to understand contemporary events.
- the ability to appraise the complex relationships between Strategy and International Security and demonstrate an awareness of holistic mitigation strategies.
- mastering of knowledge of learning, thinking, and communications, and their relevance to strategy and security studies.
- critical insights into team-working and problem-solving
- key thinking and learning skills and capacities; a strong ability to communicate in a written, oral, and visual forms.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A good honours degree (first or second class) or equivalent. Other qualifications accompanied by substantial experience in an appropriate field may also be considered. Non-standard applications are considered on a case-by-case basis. International students: IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent.

## FEES

Home/International Fees: £9250

## MORE INFORMATION

For further details regarding the content of the modules and the MA programme, please visit:

## CONTACT DETAILS:

For further inquiries about the MA programme at the University of Plymouth, please contact:

**Dr. Fotios Moustakis**

**Programme Leader**

fotios.moustakis@plymouth.ac.uk

Further inquiries regarding the MA programme can also be made to our representative at Bundeswehr please contact:

**Mr Robert Becker**

robert.becker@unibw.de

To start an application, please contact:

aprogrammes@plymouth.ac.uk