

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Key Information

Programme Title:	Global Security programme leading to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSc (Hons) Global Security (Distance Learning) • BSc (Hons) Global Security with Aviation (Distance Learning) • BSc (Hons) Global Security with Intelligence Analysis (Distance Learning) • BSc (Hons) Global Security with Investigation (Distance Learning)
Awarding Institution:	Buckinghamshire New University
Teaching Institution(s):	Buckinghamshire New University
Subject Cluster:	Security
Award Title (including separate Pathway Award Titles where offered):	BSc (Hons) Global Security BSc (Hons) Global Security with Aviation BSc (Hons) Global Security with Intelligence Analysis BSc (Hons) Global Security with Investigation
Pathways (if applicable)	Aviation Intelligence Analysis Investigation
FHEQ level of final award:	Level 6
Other award titles available (exit qualifications):	Certificate of Higher Education Diploma of Higher Education Bachelor of Science (Ordinary Degree)
Accreditation details:	N/A
Length of programme:	3 years (full time)
Mode(s) of Study:	Full-time
Mode of Delivery:	Distance learning
Language of study:	English
QAA Subject Benchmark(s):	None
Other external reference points (e.g. Apprenticeship Standard):	
Course Code(s):	BSGLSEDL- Global Security BSGSAVDL – Aviation route BSGSIADL – Intelligence Analysis route BSGSIVDL – Investigation route
UCAS Code(s):	GLSD- Global Security GADL – Aviation route GIND – Intelligence Analysis route

	GSID – Investigation route
Approval date:	May 2025
Date of last update:	May 2025

2. Programme Summary

Why Study This Programme? In today's world, understanding global security is crucial. This programme equips you with the skills to analyse and address threats like climate change, human rights issues, and radicalisation.

What You'll Learn:

- **Military Conflicts & Terrorism:** Understand causes, differences, and solutions.
- **Cybersecurity:** How to protect against cyber-attacks and integrate security measures.
- **Climate Change & Humanitarian Crises:** Explore the impact on global security and response strategies.
- **Economic Security & International Law:** Study global structures, treaties, and their failures.
- **Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT):** Discover emerging techniques and their impact on traditional intelligence.

Programme Structure:

- **Level 4:** Dive into live analysis using OSINT, develop academic and professional skills, and develop your knowledge of global security factors and the skills to analyse them.
- **Level 5:** Personalise your programme through one of our specialist pathways:
 - **Intelligence Analysis:** Develop skills to analyse and use intelligence in various contexts. Prepare for careers in humanitarian organizations, public sector agencies, financial institutions, and corporate security.
 - **Investigation:** Understand investigative processes related to terrorism and crime. Study the roles of agencies, tech in crime-solving, and ethical issues. Get ready for careers in law enforcement, intelligence, and security sectors.
 - **Aviation:** Learn to address security, safety, and sustainability in aviation. Explore environmental and ethical issues, use data analytics, and apply tech solutions for decision-making.
- **Level 6:** Conduct individual research projects with supervisor support. Participate in the Graduate Career Transition module to build your professional network.

Programme Highlights:

- **Flexible Learning:** Three-year distance learning programme preparing you for careers in global and corporate security, insurance, fraud, financial services, the Armed Forces, Police, government departments, and security services.
- **Practical Skills:** Gain tools to analyse problems and apply them to various professional roles. Build confidence working in teams and develop analytical skills for leading small teams.
- **Expert Team:** Learn from professionals with backgrounds in commercial security, corporate resilience, government security, diplomatic protection, armed forces intelligence, police training, local government, humanitarian operations, and consultancy.
- **Career Prospects:** Graduates are prepared for careers in global and corporate security, insurance, fraud, financial services, armed forces, police, government departments, and security services.

- **Professional Memberships:** Associate memberships with the Security Institute (Syl), Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), or the Chartered Management Institute (CMI).

Ready to Make a Difference? Join us to become a confident, knowledgeable professional ready for a rewarding career in global security.

3. Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes

Programme Aims

This programme aims to:

1. Provide specialised knowledge of public sector and corporate resilience to enable graduates to embark on corporate, public-sector or charitable careers with confidence.
2. Develop the professional leadership and technical skills needed by graduates in a range of emerging careers.
3. Encourage a systematic and structured approach to analysis and assessment.
4. Embed all technical and theoretical study in a global resilience context.
5. Offer an effective employment gateway for graduates into existing intelligence and security roles and emerging roles across a wider range of business and crisis management careers.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding (K)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
K1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of public and private security requirements and applications with a global context.
K2	Recognise the significance of cyber space in the context of global security
K3	Define specific contemporary focus areas of global security such as intelligence, security and resilience.
K4	Explain the impact of legal and ethical considerations in the management of intelligence and security operations.
K5	Contrast approaches to global security across private and public sector organisations in the physical and cyber domains.

Analysis and Criticality (C)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
C1	Evaluate the range of activities within key organisational functional areas and their interconnectedness with global security requirements and management.
C2	Examine management decisions affecting organisational resilience in a manner which balances legal and ethical factors with operational imperatives.
C3	Analyse information, arguments, and concepts in relation to organisational security challenges in the global physical and cyber contexts.

C4	Critique options to enable effective problem-solving and decision-making using appropriate qualitative, quantitative, and data-processing techniques and skills.
C5	Assess government responses to contemporary security challenges in the physical and cyber contexts.

Application and Practice (P)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
P1	Manage decision-support briefs and creative, innovative activities that support organisational integrity, business continuity and resilience.
P2	Apply a range of structured analytical techniques to support management activities driven by intelligence, security, and resilience.
P3	Conduct complex research activities relating to physical and cyber risks that impact organisations locally, nationally, and internationally.
P4	Prepare workable frameworks for analysing risk in the physical and cyber domains.
P5	Demonstrate appropriate research, analysis, and data management techniques to organisational resilience problems.

Transferable skills and other attributes (T)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
T1	Demonstrate a range of skills including the capacity for continuous learning, time management and effective communication.
T2	Clarify complex questions, developing and considering alternative solutions and critically evaluating outcomes in creative and innovative ways
T3	Exhibit effective presentation skills that engage and inform an audience using understandable language and visual aids
T4	Analyse data and information to identify trends, patterns, and themes and communicate these clearly and concisely to a range of audiences

Graduate Attributes

Our programme aims to develop innovative leaders who are ready to make a positive impact as global citizens. We focus on four key attributes:

Knowledge and Its Application:

- Level 4: Introduce core themes and develop essential learning skills.
- Level 5: Explore contemporary work-based problems and teach practical solutions.
- Level 6: Encourage independent learning and focus on areas of personal interest.

Creativity:

- Develop creative problem-solving skills throughout the programme.
- Apply innovative approaches to real-world challenges.

Social and Ethical Awareness and Responsibility:

- Understand the social and ethical implications of global security issues.
- Promote responsible decision-making and ethical practices.

Leadership and Self-Development:

- Build leadership skills through interactive sessions and group work.
- Focus on self-development to prepare for successful careers.

By the end of the programme, you'll be equipped with the knowledge, creativity, social awareness, and leadership skills needed to thrive in the 21st-century labour market.

4. Entry Requirements

Ideal Candidates for the programme

If you're curious about the world and eager to understand how systems and societies function, this programme is for you. You'll enjoy problem-solving and using structured approaches to tackle challenges.

You might have studied or be interested in social sciences like politics, philosophy, geography, economics, history, or archaeology. However, no specific background is required; the course thrives on the diverse experiences and opinions of its students.

The programme is ideal for career changers who may have some practical experience in security or related work who now wish to improve their employability.

Entry requirements

The University's [general entry requirements](#) will apply to admission to this programme with the following additions:

- Applicants may be interviewed to ascertain their motivation and suitability for this programme.
- Applicants will require to use ICT throughout and so should arrive with, as a minimum, confidence in using MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Previous study, professional and / or vocational experiences may be recognised as the equivalent learning experience and permit exemption from studying certain modules in accordance with our [accreditation of prior learning](#) (APL) process.

5. Programme Structure

BSc (Hons) Global Security

Level	Modules (Code, Title and Credits)	Exit Awards
Level 4	<p>Core modules: LAW4008 Information (with Cyber) Security (20) LAW4059 Structured Analytical Techniques (20) LAW4060 Academic and Professional Skills (20) LAW4061 Intelligence Concepts and Practice (20) LAW4062 Security Operations and Management (20) LAW4063 Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) Techniques (20)</p>	<p>Certificate of Higher Education, awarded on achievement of 120 credits at Level 4</p>
Level 5	<p>Core modules: LAW5052 Technology and Security (20) LAW5077 Research Methods (20) LAW5073 Global Intelligence Security and Resilience (20) LAW5083 Financial Intelligence (20) LAW5087 Global Political Futures (20)</p> <p>Option Modules: Choose one of the following modules: LAW5071 Undergraduate Internship (20) LAW5080 Terrorism and Counter Terrorism (20) LAW5084 Cybercrime: Motivations, Methods and Impact (20)</p>	<p>Diploma of Higher Education, awarded on achievement of 240 credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5</p>
Level 6	<p>Core modules: LAW6070 Extended Independent Work (40) LAW6071 Strategic Intelligence (20) LAW6079 Global Risk and Resilience (20) LAW6088 Career Transition Experience (20)</p> <p>Option modules: Choose one of the following modules: LAW6083 Corporate Security Challenges (20)</p>	<p>Ordinary Degree, awarded on achievement of 300 credits, including 60 credits at Level 6 and 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5</p> <p>Honours Degree, awarded on achievement of 360 credits, including 120 credits at each of Levels, 4, 5 and 6</p>

LAW6080 Operational Leadership (20) LAW6091 Espionage and Counter-espionage (20)

BSc (Hons) Global Security with Aviation

Level	Modules (Code, Title and Credits)	Exit Awards
Level 4	<p>Core modules: LAW4008 Information (with Cyber) Security (20) LAW4059 Structured Analytical Techniques (20) LAW4060 Academic and Professional Skills (20) LAW4061 Intelligence Concepts and Practice (20) LAW4062 Security Operations and Management (20) LAW4063 Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) Techniques (20)</p>	Certificate of Higher Education , awarded on achievement of 120 credits at Level 4
Level 5	<p>Core modules: LAW5052 Technology and Security (20) LAW5073 Global Intelligence Security and Resilience (20) LAW5077 Research Methods (20) ENG5045 Security in Aviation (20) (Pathway) LAW5086 Aviation Safety and Crisis Management (20) (Pathway)</p> <p>Option Modules: Choose one of the following modules: LAW5071 Undergraduate Internship (20) LAW5080 Terrorism and Counter Terrorism (20) LAW5084 Cybercrime: Motivations, Methods and Impact (20)</p>	Diploma of Higher Education , awarded on achievement of 240 credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5
Level 6	<p>Core modules: LAW6070 Extended Independent Work (40) LAW6085 Career Transition Experience (20) ENG6039 Sustainability and Ethics in Aviation (20) (Pathway) ENG6040 Aviation Analytics (20) (Pathway)</p> <p>Option modules:</p>	<p>Ordinary Degree, awarded on achievement of 300 credits, including 60 credits at Level 6 and 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5</p> <p>Honours Degree, awarded on achievement of 360 credits, including 120 credits at each of Levels, 4, 5 and 6</p>

	<p><i>Choose one of the following modules:</i></p> <p>LAW6083 Corporate Security Challenges (20)</p> <p>LAW6080 Operational Leadership (20)</p> <p>LAW6091 Espionage and Counter-espionage (20)</p>	
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BSc (Hons) Global Security with Intelligence Analysis

Level	Modules (Code, Title and Credits)	Exit Awards
Level 4	<p>Core modules:</p> <p>LAW4008 Information (with Cyber) Security (20)</p> <p>LAW4059 Structured Analytical Techniques (20)</p> <p>LAW4060 Academic and Professional Skills (20)</p> <p>LAW4061 Intelligence Concepts and Practice (20)</p> <p>LAW4062 Security Operations and Management (20)</p> <p>LAW4063 Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) Techniques (20)</p>	<p>Certificate of Higher Education, awarded on achievement of 120 credits at Level 4</p>
Level 5	<p>Core modules:</p> <p>LAW5052 Technology and Security (20)</p> <p>LAW5073 Global Intelligence Security and Resilience (20)</p> <p>LAW5077 Research Methods (20)</p> <p>LAW5076 Advanced Structured Analytical Techniques (20) (Pathway)</p> <p>LAW5083 Financial Intelligence (20) (Pathway)</p> <p>Option Modules:</p> <p><i>Choose one of the following modules:</i></p> <p>LAW5071 Undergraduate Internship (20)</p> <p>LAW5080 Terrorism and Counter Terrorism (20)</p> <p>LAW5084 Cybercrime: Motivations, Methods and Impact (20)</p>	<p>Diploma of Higher Education, awarded on achievement of 240 credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5</p>
Level 6	<p>Core modules:</p> <p>LAW6070 Extended Independent Work (40)</p> <p>LAW6072 Factors in Commercial Intelligence (20) (Pathway)</p> <p>LAW6081 Ethics for Intelligence Investigations (20) (Pathway)</p> <p>LAW6088 Career Transition Experience (20)</p>	<p>Ordinary Degree, awarded on achievement of 300 credits, including 60 credits at Level 6 and 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5</p>

	<p>Option modules: <i>Choose one of the following modules:</i> LAW6083 Corporate Security Challenges (20) LAW6080 Operational Leadership (20) LAW6091 Espionage and Counter-espionage (20)</p>	<p>Honours Degree, awarded on achievement of 360 credits, including 120 credits at each of Levels, 4, 5 and 6</p>
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BSc (Hons) Global Security with Investigation

Level	Modules (Code, Title and Credits)	Exit Awards
Level 4	<p>Core modules: LAW4008 Information (with Cyber) Security (20) LAW4059 Structured Analytical Techniques (20) LAW4060 Academic and Professional Skills (20) LAW4061 Intelligence Concepts and Practice (20) LAW4062 Security Operations and Management (20) LAW4063 Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) Techniques (20)</p>	<p>Certificate of Higher Education, awarded on achievement of 120 credits at Level 4</p>
Level 5	<p>Core modules: LAW5077 Research Methods (20) LAW5073 Global Intelligence Security and Resilience (20) LAW5052 Technology and Security (20) LAW5042 Investigation (20) (pathway) LAW5083 Financial Intelligence (20) (Pathway)</p> <p>Option Modules: <i>Choose one of the following modules:</i> LAW5071 Undergraduate Internship (20) LAW5080 Terrorism and Counter Terrorism (20) LAW5084 Cybercrime: Motivations, Methods and Impact (20)</p>	<p>Diploma of Higher Education, awarded on achievement of 240 credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5</p>
Level 6	<p>Core modules: LAW6070 Extended Independent Work (40) LAW6088 Career Transition Experience (20)</p>	<p>Ordinary Degree, awarded on achievement of 300 credits, including 60 credits at Level 6 and 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5</p>

	<p>LAW6074 Criminal Investigation Systems (20) (pathway) LAW6081 Ethics for Intelligence Investigations (20) (pathway)</p> <p>Option modules: <i>Choose one of the following modules:</i> LAW6083 Corporate Security Challenges (20) LAW6080 Operational Leadership (20) LAW6091 Espionage and Counter-espionage (20)</p>	<p>Honours Degree, awarded on achievement of 360 credits, including 120 credits at each of Levels, 4, 5 and 6</p>
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Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. Other option modules may also be introduced at a later stage enabling the programme to respond to changes in the subject area.

6. Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Learning and teaching

We take great pride in offering a learner-centred course. The programme is designed to be progressive. In the first term, we expect you to bring enthusiasm and engage with the learning opportunities to help you adjust to degree-level study. By the end of Level 4, you'll be confident in your abilities and ready to take a more independent approach.

From the start, you'll have the chance to focus on topics that interest you. We encourage you to combine your learning with developing your professional skills and confidence.

One of the major benefits of distance learning is the flexibility of home study. This programme is flexible and designed so you can balance your distance learning study with your other commitments. The programme structure and learning materials enable you to study at your own convenience, while offering opportunities to engage with your peers.

Our programme structure and learning materials enable you to study at your own convenience and develop your own study schedule in order to meet the assignment deadlines. You will study independently and be required to read around your subjects, research topics, look for relationships between different elements studied and solve problems.

All teaching on this distance-learning programme will be conducted through our virtual learning environment (VLE). Sessions will be live and recorded for revision. Most sessions will be interactive, including small group work, to help you develop your professional skills. You'll have opportunities to guide the programme and present your research and opinions during seminars.

The VLE is a dedicated online university learning space for students. Your tutors will use the VLE to engage with you. You will use the VLE to access course materials, assessment information, virtual classrooms and discussion boards. Your assessed work will be submitted and graded online, so you will be able to see your grades and feedback wherever you are in the world.

You'll frequently conduct live exercises simulating work-based tasks. Initially, these will be led by the tutor, but from Level 5, you'll increasingly lead small groups yourself.

Throughout the duration of your studies, you will have access to a dedicated course tutor. Your Course Tutor will oversee your online studies and ensure that the resources are in place to deliver the programme effectively. Your tutor will support you if there are personal issues or if there are problems that your module tutors cannot resolve.

You will also have Module Leaders who will be able to help you with specific queries about your distance learning degree modules. This is the person to consult if you have specific study difficulties with the module. For example, you might not fully understand the assessment requirements for the module or have difficulties obtaining reading material.

By leveraging our industry links, you will have access to practitioners and guest lecturers who will discuss contemporary issues of the day. All course members will also benefit from associate membership of at least one relevant professional body which will give you free access to online resources and webinars.

With online learning, all your materials will be provided electronically, and you will have access to a wide range of learning resources, including e-books, videos, and other electronic

materials through Blackboard. Your assessed work will be submitted and graded online, therefore it is important that you have a computer and an adequate internet connection for your online studies. You will also have access to a wide range of e-books, journals and other materials from the library. This can all be accessed remotely via the VLE, so you can use our library online from your own PC, laptop or tablet.

Assessment

Assessment will be progressive with no written exams. Instead, you'll be assessed through real-world tasks like oral presentations, one-to-one briefings, technical demonstrations, group activities, and some written work.

At Level 4, quizzes will check your understanding of basic concepts, and you'll participate in group exercises, technical challenges, and oral presentations. All assessments will be based on realistic work scenarios.

As you progress, you'll have more autonomy to choose your topics. For example, a written report on bias in intelligence reporting could use a recent police investigation, or a presentation on a structured analytical technique could be based on a corporate security challenge or a Cold War espionage case.

At Level 6, you'll produce reflective portfolios to relate your learning to your career aspirations. You'll also complete an extended independent project (dissertation) on a relevant subject of interest.

Contact Hours

This programme blends synchronous, asynchronous learning, and self-directed exploration to provide flexibility and support individual learning styles.

- **Scheduled Activities:** On average, you'll engage in about 12 hours of learning activities each week, including lectures, seminars, supervision, and workshops. Module delivery is split between synchronous and asynchronous sessions.
- **Independent Learning:** Outside of scheduled teaching, you'll dedicate 16-18 hours per week to self-directed exploration. This is where you can dive into research articles, explore case studies, and stay updated on industry trends. You'll also use this time to prepare for lectures or seminars and complete assessments.

7. Programme Regulations

This programme follows the *Regulations for Taught Degree Programmes (2023)*.

8. Support for learners

The following systems are in place to support you to be successful with your studies:

- The appointment of a personal tutor to support you through your programme
- A programme handbook and induction at the beginning of your studies
- Library resources, include access to books, journals and databases - many of which are available in electronic format – and support from trained library staff
- Access to Blackboard, our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), which is accessible via PC, laptop, tablet or mobile device
- Access to the MyBNU portal where you can access all University systems, information and news, record your attendance at sessions, and access your personalised timetable

- Academic Registry staff providing general guidance on University regulations, exams, and other aspects of students and course administration
- Central student services, including teams supporting academic skills development, career success, student finance, accommodation, chaplaincy, disability and counselling
- Support from the Bucks Students' Union, including the Students' Union Advice Centre which offers free and confidential advice on University processes.

9. Programme monitoring and review

BNU has several ways for monitoring and reviewing the quality of learning and teaching on your programme. You will be able to comment on the content of their programme via the following feedback mechanisms:

- Formal feedback questionnaires and anonymous module 'check-ins'
- Participation in external surveys
- Programme Committees, via appointed student representatives
- Informal feedback to your programme leader

Quality and standards on each programme are assured via the following mechanisms:

- An initial event to approve the programme for delivery
- An annual report submitted by the External Examiner following a process of external moderation of work submitted for assessment
- The Annual Monitoring process, which is overseen by the University's Quality Assurance Committee
- Periodic Subject Review events held every five years
- Other sector compliance and review mechanisms

10. Internal and external reference points

The design and development of this programme have been guided by the following key reference points:

- **Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ):** This framework outlines the levels of qualifications. Our programme aligns with these standards, ensuring your learning journey is robust and widely recognised.
- **Credit Accumulation:** Each module you complete earns credits that count towards your degree. The BNU Qualifications and Credit Framework ensures transparency and consistency in your degree programme.
- **BNU Grading Descriptors:** These descriptors cover the entire marking spectrum. They reflect your growth, effort, and mastery of the subject matter.
- **University Strategy: Thrive 2028:** This document outlines the university's vision and influences all strategic decisions. It includes initiatives to foster innovation and promote inclusivity, aligning all programmes with this strategy.

Mapping of Subject Benchmark Statement (QAA Business and Management) to Programme Learning Outcomes

No appropriate standard applies.

Mapping of Programme Learning Outcomes to Modules

Programme Learning Outcome	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)			
	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4
Level 4																			
LAW4008 Information (with Cyber) Security		X		X	X	X											X		
LAW4059 Structured Analytical Techniques	X		X					X	X			X		X		X		X	
LAW4060 Academic and Professional Development																X	X		X
LAW4061 Intelligence Concepts and Practice	X	X	X		X		X			X	X						X		X
LAW4062 Security Operations and Management	X		X					X		X	X				X				X
LAW4063 OSINT Techniques			X				X											X	X
Level 5																			
LAW5052 Technology and Security	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X			X	X					
LAW5073 Global Intelligence Security and Resilience	X		X			X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X		X
LAW5077 Research Methods	X		X	X			X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X

Programme Learning Outcome	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)			
	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4
Level 6																			
LAW6070 Extended Independent Work	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
LAW6085 Career Transition Experience	X	X			X				X		X					X	X	X	X