



# THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

## External examiner's report form 2012/13

*If the space provided in the box is not large enough for your answers please continue on a separate sheet.*

Your name, institution and email address:

**Dr Mathilde von Bülow**  
**Department of History**  
**School of Humanities**  
**University of Nottingham**  
**University Park**  
**Nottingham NG7 2RD**

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Department you are responsible for examining (eg Law):

**International History**

Course(s) being examined (e.g. LL402, Alternative Dispute Resolution):

**HY400 – Crisis Decision Making in War and Peace,**  
**HY422 – Presidents, Public Opinion and Foreign Policy,**  
**HY429 – Anglo-American Relations from World War to Cold War,**  
**HY432 – From Cold Warriors to Peacemakers: the End of the Cold War Era,**  
**HY436 – Race, Violence and Colonial Rule in Africa,**  
**HY439 – War Cultures,**  
**HY440 – The Emergence of Modern Iran,**  
**HY461 – East Asia in the Age of Imperialism,**  
**HY463 – Origins of the Cold War,**  
**HY458 – LSE-Columbia University Dissertation,**  
**HY498 – LSE-Peking University Dissertation,**  
**HY499 – Dissertation.**

**PART C** – This part of the form is designed to share your comments with students, usually through departmental Staff-Student Liaison Committees. We would therefore ask that you restrict your comments to those that would be of primary interest to students, rather than, for example, technical points on assessment schemes. What you have written will not be changed, though it may be accompanied by a statement of the actions the Department or School has taken in response to your comments.

Please use the space below to comment on the following topics:

- Strengths/weaknesses of the programme/course
- Quality and appropriateness of teaching (judging by standards achieved by students)
- Methods of assessment
- Standard of the student performance

Feedback from External Examiners is a vital part of the School's Quality Assurance process and we would particularly appreciate a full statement in this part of the form.

Once again, I feel that the Masters' programmes offered by the LSE's Department of International History have lived up to their strong reputation. The programmes are designed to offer students plenty of choice and include an appropriate range of coursework and independent research. The courses on offer are extremely well designed and cover a wide range of approaches to the study of International, Imperial, and World History. Students have excellent resources available to them and tutors offer top quality teaching and supervision, providing plenty of formative feedback and guidance. Seminars and assessments are designed in such a way as to foster the academic, professional, and personal skills required of students at postgraduate level. Students are clearly encouraged to excel intellectually and to think critically and independently. The programmes themselves attract a strong and diverse student body whose standard of performance is extremely high. Nowhere is this more evident than in the strong dissertations produced by students, which engage critically and imaginatively with historiography as well primary sources, and demonstrate a real ability to formulate original arguments and interpretations.

