

BSc(Hons) Politics and International Relations (UHPL-AFB53)

| Course and Award Details | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Course title | BSc(Hons) Politics and International Relations |
| Route(s) | BSc(Hons) Politics and International Relations |
| Awarding body | University of Bath |
| Award | Undergraduate Degree with Honours |
| Award name | Bachelor with Honours |
| Course mode of delivery | Full time |
| Course length | 3 years |
| Entry point | September 2024 |
| Main location of study | University of Bath, Main Campus, Claverton Down |
| Course-owning school/department | Politics, Languages and International Studies |

| Course Description | |
|--------------------|--|
| Course Summary | Combine the study of politics and global affairs to develop the knowledge and skills needed to understand and respond to contemporary political challenges. |
| Course Description | <p>During this course, you'll deepen and develop your understanding of politics at local, domestic, regional and international levels.</p> <p>You'll also gain the skills needed to critically analyse contemporary international and domestic socio-political challenges, from political polarisation to climate change. This will give you an effective platform to respond to key political factors that impact everyday life.</p> <p>In Year 1, you'll study topics such as political theory and analysis, international relations and British politics, the latter studied from a global and comparative perspective.</p> <p>In Year 2, you'll increase your knowledge of political theory and international relations, and advance your skills in research design and data analysis. A range of optional units will give you the opportunity to specialise in areas such as foreign policy analysis or technology and politics.</p> <p>In your final year, you'll write a dissertation. You'll also choose from a range of optional units, giving you the freedom to explore topics that interest you and prepare you for your potential future career. Optional units may cover areas like economic crises, war and peace or electoral politics.</p> <p>Informed teaching to advance your learning</p> <p>You'll learn from teaching staff with diverse backgrounds and expertise in different areas of politics and international relations. Their passion, knowledge and research shape their teaching to enhance your learning experience.</p> <p>Develop your professional skills</p> |

We work to provide you with the tools and support to prepare you for employment and further study. These include

- critical and analytical thinking
- presentation and communication skills
- data analysis
- adaptability and resilience.

Contact hours

Contact hours

Timetabled contact hours, which may be made up of lectures, seminars, tutorials and workshops, vary throughout your course and between courses but are typically between 8 and 12 hours a week in your first year.

Our teaching for this course is delivered through in-person learning on campus, supported by high quality online provision. A small proportion of these contact hours may be delivered online, with the significant majority taught on campus. This may be supplemented by additional activities such as a small number of online learning sessions (not live), skills development sessions, and personal tutorials.

The amount of timetabled sessions on campus in later years may vary based on the options you choose, with a greater emphasis on independent learning. Project and dissertation units will generally have fewer scheduled sessions to allow you time for your independent work - this may also mean the number of hours of timetabled sessions each week will vary within a year.

Independent learning

In addition to timetabled contact hours, you are expected to undertake independent learning and assessment activities. Typically, this might be around 23 to 32 hours per week in your first year, and include individual research, working on individual and group projects, preparing coursework assignments, presentations, or revising for exams. After your first year, the emphasis on independent learning becomes greater, for example, you may do a final year project in the final year.

Delivery methods

Lectures
Seminars
Tutorials
Workshops

Assessment summary

You will be assessed in a range of methods designed to develop and test your skills and knowledge.

55% - 75% of your course will be assessed through coursework. The balance of the assessment by examinations and assessment by coursework may depend on the optional units you choose.

The final degree classification is determined by your second and final year marks and each contributes 32% and 68% respectively.

You will primarily be assessed individually, but may also be assessed as part of a group.

We can make reasonable adjustments to assessment procedures for students with disabilities, take a look at our Disability Service's pages(/professional-services/disability-service/) for information.

Assessment methods

Examinations
Coursework

Placement/Study Year Abroad details

We also offer this course with a professional placement or study abroad(/courses/undergraduate-2024/politics/bsc-politics-and-international-relations-with-professional-placement-or-study-abroad/) option in Year 3. This allows you to take advantage of our links with a range of organisations in different sectors, experience a new culture, or even combine the two.

A professional placement(/campaigns/enhance-your-employability-with-a-humanities-and-social-sciences-placement/) is a great way to get insights into the career path you

Careers and professional development

want; contribute to projects and services; have fun, make friends and build your professional network; and even earn a salary.

If you decide to study abroad(/campaigns/studying-abroad-as-part-of-your-undergraduate-degree/), you will spend time at one of our partner institutions across the globe. During this time, you will study a course that complements your existing learning while experiencing a new culture.

Prepare for your future

Many of our politics graduates have gone on to careers in both the private and public sectors, working in the banking and finance industries, media, public administration, and European and international political institutions.

They have worked for organisations such as:

- Amazon
- American Chamber of Commerce to the EU
- Civil Service
- Interel
- KPMG
- Virgin Media

Course Assessment Regulations

| | |
|--|--|
| Applicable Assessment Regulations | Undergraduate assessment regulations - https://www.bath.ac.uk/publications/undergraduate-assessment-regulations/ |
| Exemptions from Regulations | N |
| Weighting of each Study Year | Stage 1: 0% Stage 2: 32% Final Stage: 68% |
| Is this Course Standalone or Co-Existent? | SA |

Course Structure

Year 1

| Period of study | Module code | Module title | Module status | Level | Credits | Option choice rules |
|-----------------|-------------|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------|---------------------|
| AY | PL00000 | Academic integrity training & test | Extra | Foundation (FHEQ level 3) | 0 | |
| AY | PL12002 | Politics: key concepts and analysis | Part 1 Stage 1 Compulsory | Certificate (FHEQ level 4) | 15 | |
| AY | PL12003 | Introduction to international relations | Part 1 Stage 1 Compulsory | Certificate (FHEQ level 4) | 15 | |
| AY | PL12005 | Global Britain? the UK's place in the world | Part 1 Stage 1 Compulsory | Certificate (FHEQ level 4) | 20 | |
| S1 | PL12004 | Essential study skills in politics | Part 1 Stage 1 Compulsory | Certificate (FHEQ level 4) | 5 | |
| S2 | PL12007 | Solving puzzles about politics | Part 1 Stage 1 Compulsory | Certificate (FHEQ level 4) | 5 | |

Year 2

| Period of study | Module code | Module title | Module status | Level | Credits | Option choice rules |
|-----------------|-------------|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|---------------------|
| AY | PL22025 | Thinking the world politically | Part 2 Stage 2 Compulsory | Intermediate (FHEQ level 5) | 10 | |
| AY | PL22026 | Qualitative and quantitative research methods | Part 2 Stage 2 Compulsory | Intermediate (FHEQ level 5) | 10 | |
| S1 | PL22027 | Comparative politics | Part 2 Stage 2 Compulsory | Intermediate (FHEQ level 5) | 10 | |
| S2 | PL22028 | Peace, conflict and international security | Part 2 Stage 2 Compulsory | Intermediate (FHEQ level 5) | 10 | |

Title Year 2 Options

Total credits in this study yr 20

Overview of options in this study yr In Year 2, you will study 20 credits of optional units. You'll select at least one all-year option worth 10 credits.

Options cover a range of topics, such as foreign policy making, international political economy, the politics of technology, and UK Parliamentary democracy.

Year 3

| Period of study | Module code | Module title | Module status | Level | Credits | Option choice rules |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------|---------------------|
| AY | PL32057 | Dissertation | Part 3 Stage 3 Compulsory | Honours (FHEQ level 6) | 20 | |

Title Final Year Options

Total credits in this study yr 40

Overview of options in this study yr In the final year, you will study 40 credits of optional units.

Options cover a range of topics, such as emerging powers, peacebuilding, the politics of culture and national identity and contemporary UK politics.

You'll study these optional units alongside your dissertation.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, you will be able to

| | Knowledge and Understanding | Intellectual Skills | Professional and Transferable Skills | Placement | Study Year Abroad |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Illustrate and evaluate the normative and material foundations of ideas in politics and international relations | ✓ | | | | |
| Apply concepts, theories and methods used in the study of politics to the analysis of policies, institutions and ideologies that inform national and international politics, while recognising their complexity and contestability | ✓ | | | | |
| Examine and critique different political systems; the nature and distribution of power in them; the social, economic, historical, environmental and cultural contexts within which they operate; and the origins, evolution and contemporary dynamics of the international system within which they exist | ✓ | | | | |
| Describe, compare and critique different events | ✓ | | | | |

analyse different events
and issues in world politics

Select, systematise and
use evidence, data and
information from a variety
of secondary and primary
sources in accordance with
the ethical requirements of
study in Politics and
International Relations

✓

Identify, assess, formulate
and advocate solutions to
problems in the context of
Politics and International
Relations

✓

Display critical judgement
in source selection

✓

Use a range of digital and
non-digital formats to
communicate research
findings to a variety of
audiences

✓

Collaborate with others to
achieve common goals
through group-based
research activities

✓

Alternative Courses and Exit Awards

Designated Alternative Courses (DAC) and exit awards

This course has no designated alternative course (DAC).
Exit awards:
Diploma of Higher Education
Certificate of Higher Education