



# School of Politics, International Relations and Philosophy

2018-19

Course Information Booklet

# Dear Students....

## What is this document about?

- At this time of the year, we ask you to indicate your selection of course options for next year; details of which courses are running are listed in this document.
- The combination of courses which you can take **depends upon your degree programme**. Please see page 25 onwards for further information.
- The information contained in this booklet is **provisional and subject to change**.
- New courses being offered by new members of staff will be advertised later in the year.
- Please read the information below carefully and take time to consider your courses fully before making your choices.

## How to submit your course option choices.

- Please submit your course options online here: **TBC**
- PLEASE RANK ALL OPTIONS IN CASE YOUR FIRST OPTIONS ARE FULL

## Who to contact for further advice?

Query Type	Who?
Individual course query	Please contact the Course Convenor during one of their <a href="#">office hours</a>
General advice	<a href="#">Your personal tutor</a>

## Please remember:

- We will make every effort to ensure that your course choices are met, however this may not be possible for every student
- Courses may be withdrawn if there is insufficient demand for them
- Additional/new courses will be advertised if/when they become available

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## SECOND YEAR POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COURSES

### ES2001 - UNDERSTANDING THE EUROPEAN UNION: POLITICS AND THEORY

#### POL/IR

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Mandatory - BA European and International Studies**

**Course Description** – This unit analyses the contemporary politics of the European Union and its institutions, amid the challenges of the triple crisis of economics, migration and Brexit. The first term will begin with an introduction to the European Union as a political system (weeks 1 and 2) followed by an overview of the European Union's historical development (weeks 3 and 4). The remainder of the first term will then focus on the European Union's political institutions (executive, legislative and judicial) and on the democratic deficit. The second term will focus on contestation of the European Union in its first half and on theory in the second half, in order to explain how the EU developed and the challenges that it faces. Sessions in the first half of term 2 comprise party politics (week 11), public opinion (week 12), European Parliament elections (week 13), Brexit and EU-UK relations (weeks 14 and 15). The final weeks cover the theories that explain European integration before the revision session in week 20.

**Course Leader** – Giacomo Benedetto

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

**Note:** this course is a **prerequisite** for studying the following third year courses: ES3002 *Public Policy in the European Union* and PR3xx1 *Power and Money in the European Union*.

### PR2440 - INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORY

#### IR

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Mandatory – BA Politics and International Relations, BA International Relations, International Relations as a minor component (e.g. BA Multilingual Studies with International Relations).**

**Course Description** – This course explores the key theoretical thinkers and debates in IR. These develop a variety of ways of thinking about IR, drawing on questions about the nature of power, identity and ethics in politics and what happens to these in the international realm. The course is divided into two parts. Part one explores mainstream theories, including realism, liberalism and constructivism. Part two deals with critical approaches to IR theory, including Marxism, post-structuralism, feminism and post-colonialism. The emphasis throughout the course is on reading original key thinkers. What problems and issues did these thinkers confront and how did they try to explain them? How well are their concerns and approaches reflected in current IR issues and debates? Which theories best help us understand the practice of international politics? At the end of each part of the course, there will be a special revision session where the class will watch and discuss a film.

**Course Leader** – Ivica Petrikova

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

### PR2480 - DEMOCRACY IN BRITAIN

#### POL

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – PR2480 Democracy in Britain explores the theory and practice of modern British politics. It is designed primarily to familiarise students with the ways in which British democracy has evolved, how it operates today and some of the challenges confronting it. Students taking the course will gain knowledge of the 'nuts and bolts' of the UK's political system. They will learn about why the system operates in the way it does, as well as the quality of democratic governance in Britain. The course is organised into two halves. Part I introduces students to Britain's 'traditional' democratic system, including its origins, development and main democratic institutions. Part II then addresses a number of issues in contemporary British democracy, including the rise of career politicians, gender, human rights, Europe, national identity and 'anti-politics'.

**Course Leader** – Nicholas Allen

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** - Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PR2490 - CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THEORY

**POL**

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – Underlying policy debate in contemporary states are political ideas and theories about how we should organise the state, how much people should participate in politics, whether we should redistribute wealth within the state; what human rights we should endorse, on what basis the state may punish people; whether the liberal democratic capitalist state is patriarchal or exploitative; and what our obligations are to strangers overseas. The aim of *Contemporary Political Theory* is to examine these key concepts and the thinkers who have developed them in political theory today. Specifically, it examines themes of political obligation; social justice (including exploitation, gender justice and global justice); punishment; democracy, community, utilitarianism; human rights; freedom and toleration; and writers including Rawls, Sandel, Macintyre, Okin, Foucault and Connolly. The course aims to show how abstract ideas have practical relevance, and conversely how current debates in politics are illuminated by thinking about them theoretically.

**Course Leaders** – Michael Bacon

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PR2500 - INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

**IR**

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – This course examines the relationship between states and markets, power and wealth, in International Political Economy (IPE). It introduces students to the key concepts and theoretical debates in IPE. It tackles issues such as the globalisation of trade, finance, and production, the continued problems of development and democratic governance in the world economy, and emerging questions surrounding global flows, networks and spaces. Students are taken through the history of regimes, crises, and competing theories of political economy from the nineteenth century to the present day. Throughout the course the emphasis is on how political institutions operate in international politics to regulate the creation of wealth, and who benefits from these arrangements.

**Course Leader** – Andreas Goldthau / Thomas Stubbs

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PR2550 - WAR AND SECURITY IN WORLD POLITICS

**IR**

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – This module provides a comprehensive overview of Security Studies as a sub-field of International Relations. The module will start by examining the issue of war and how war is/should be fought. It then moves on to look at more general theories of security and how these have changed, especially in an age of terrorism. The module will analyze a wide variety of security issues in-depth, including nuclear weapons, drone warfare, genocide, and gun control.

**Course Leader** – Michelle Bentley

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PR2560 - MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT

### POL

#### 30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms

**Course Description** – This course will introduce students to major political thinkers from the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, and including the works of Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Kant, Mill, Marx and Nietzsche. The ideas articulated by these thinkers continue to underpin contemporary debates about the nature of freedom, human rights, value pluralism, popular sovereignty, state legitimacy, and the modern condition. The course aims to introduce students to the themes, argumentative strategies, and critical interpretations of these thinkers, and to help them develop the skills to critically assess these interpretations against the texts themselves. It also aims to show how study of these thinkers illuminates contemporary debates even where these debates no longer make reference to them.

**Course Leader** – Nathan Widder

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PR2580 - INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

### IR

#### 30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms

**Course Description** – This course will help students develop an understanding of the scope and limitations of global governance. They will learn how to discuss the creation of international organisations and the role of states in this process, how different organisations are designed, and the effectiveness and functioning of different types of organisation. Through the exploration of specific examples the course will enable students to critically evaluate different theoretical models and develop their own perspectives on major debates. The course will also examine the actorhood of international organisations such as their role in creating policy, pursuing organisational interests/objectives, and altering the relations between actors at various levels.

Furthermore, students will also begin to consider some major challenges and will be given the opportunity to debate the significance of major for the future of global governance – for example, economic challenges that require intimate regional and cross-border cooperation or the threat of climate change leading to questions of institutional competency and design. The end of the Cold War has also ushered in a host of new security challenges that states are unable to tackle alone. These include the prevention and management of state failure, countering international terrorism, policing organised crime, and preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Do these challenges to the international system imply or require a shift away from traditional conceptions of state sovereignty and action? Is the central political authority of the state still the principal locus of policy development and implementation, or should we be looking at the diffusion of power and competencies to a range of new actors and institutions? This course will examine governance and the diffusion of competencies 'horizontally' to private actors like international non-governmental organisations (INGOs) and transnational corporations (TNCs), and 'vertically' to regional and international organisations.

**Course Leader** – Tom Dyson

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PR2600 - INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL COMMUNICATION

### POL/IR

#### 30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms

**Course Description** – The purpose of this course is to provide students with a broad overview of how citizens, politicians and the media interact across Western democracies during both electoral and governing periods. The first part of the course will focus on the production and consumption of political news, while the second part will address election campaigns and their effects as well as focusing on contemporary debates in political communication, including ethical issues. While the course will cover key aspects of political communication in the United Kingdom, the focus will be mostly comparative. Seminars are centred on practical activities that allow students to apply the knowledge presented in the course to contemporary real-world examples of

political communication in action. Examples include analysis of political speeches, advertisements, candidate debates, campaign strategies, and news coverage of political issues.

**Course Leader** – Sofia Collignon

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and activity-based seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PR2XX1 - POLITICS OUTSIDE THE WEST

### POL/IR

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – This course is about how the non-white world got to where it is today. Starting with the discovery of silver in Potosí in 1545, which turbo-charges colonialism into a truly global phenomenon, we take the long view on half a millennium of the rise and fall of Empires, the expansion of global capitalism, anti-colonial revolts, revolutions from Haiti to Iran, and colonial wars from Bengal in 1757 to Vietnam in the 1970s. Themes will be the rise of nationalism, the collapse of European empires, the 'hot Cold war' in the global South, development, modernisation, and the rise of new challengers to the dominance of the West.

Every week is organised around one of the twenty 'most important years in the development of the non-West' within which four major 'threads' or themes wind in and out of the course:

- Imperialism and Anti-Imperialism
- Development and Dependency
- Revolution, Revolt, and Protest
- 'Modernity' and 'tradition'

**Course Leader** – Will Jones

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** - Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## SECOND YEAR PHILOSOPHY COURSES

### PY2001 - INTRODUCTION TO EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY 1: FROM KANT TO HEGEL

**Mandatory** for all Philosophy degrees

**15 credits – Autumn term**

**Course Description** – This course introduces students to aspects of key texts by Kant and Hegel which form the foundation of the major debates in both European, and some analytical, philosophy. Students will be introduced to the interpretation of difficult philosophical texts. Major issues concerning epistemology, ethics, and aesthetics will be introduced which will be central to the rest of their philosophical and other studies in the humanities and social sciences.

**Course Leader** – G. Anthony Bruno

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

**Note:** this course is a **prerequisite** for PY2003 *Introduction to European Philosophy 2: The Critique of Idealism* and PY3002 *Modern European Philosophy 1: From Husserl to Heidegger*.

### PY2002 - MIND AND WORLD

**Mandatory** for all Philosophy degrees

**15 credits – Spring term**

**Course Description** – This course examines some of the major metaphysical and epistemological problems that arise when attempting to understand how mind and language figure in human interactions with and in the world. It centres on attempts to conceptualise, solve, or avoid mind-body related problems in the analytic tradition and aims to contrast these with phenomenological and existential investigations of cognate phenomena.

**Course Leader** – Neil Gascoigne

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

### PY2003 - INTRODUCTION TO EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY 2: THE CRITIQUE OF IDEALISM

**15 credits – Spring term**

**Course Description** – Following on from PY2001, this course introduces students to key nineteenth century texts which are critical of 'Idealism', and which adumbrate the notion of the 'end of philosophy/metaphysics'. The course will be run on the basis of independent study, guided by the course staff.

**Course Leader** – G. Anthony Bruno

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

**Note:** PY2001 is a **prerequisite** for this course.

### PY2005 - PHILOSOPHY AND THE ARTS

**15 credits - Spring term**

**Course Description** - The course will introduce you to current debates aesthetics, including questions about the nature and value of art; the roles of intention, imagination and interpretation; and the emotional and ethical responses they provoke. Although theoretically informed, each weekly presentation will be grounded in a discussion of one or more artistic or cultural objects, be it a play, poem, musical composition, film or one of the myriad other forms of creative expression. The course is taught by a number of members of the philosophy department, and so introduces you to a range of approaches to aesthetics from different philosophical traditions.

**Course Leader** – Henry Somers-Hall

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

## PY2004 - VARIETIES OF SCEPTICISM

**15 credits – Autumn term**

**Course Description** – What is knowledge? Is it possible for us to acquire it? If so, how do we do so? This course approaches these questions by looking at the history of attempts to show that we perhaps don't in fact have knowledge – the history of scepticism. Starting with the Ancient Greek concern with knowledge of how to live the Good Life, the first sceptics aimed to show that the search for such knowledge actually stood in the way of the very path to happiness it promised. The Ancient sceptical arguments were rediscovered in the Sixteenth Century and along with the emergence of modern science led to both a new conception of knowledge and of sceptical doubt to accompany it. This course traces the fate of the Cartesian concern with certainty through the sceptical naturalism of Hume and Kant's attempt to rescue the idea of metaphysics through to the contemporary revival of interest in scepticism.

**Course Leader** – Neil Gascoigne

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PY2104 - VARIETIES OF SCEPTICISM

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – What is knowledge? Is it possible for us to acquire it? If so, how do we do so? This course approaches these questions by looking at the history of attempts to show that we perhaps don't in fact have knowledge – the history of scepticism. Starting with the Ancient Greek concern with knowledge of how to live the Good Life, the first sceptics aimed to show that the search for such knowledge actually stood in the way of the very path to happiness it promised. The Ancient sceptical arguments were rediscovered in the Sixteenth Century and along with the emergence of modern science led to both a new conception of knowledge and of sceptical doubt to accompany it. This course traces the fate of the Cartesian concern with certainty through the sceptical naturalism of Hume and Kant's attempt to rescue the idea of metaphysics through to the contemporary revival of interest in scepticism.

**Course Leader** – Neil Gascoigne

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PY2105 - PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

**30 credits - Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** - This course will introduce you to philosophical approaches to religion in both the Anglo-American and the European traditions, and to enable you to understand and critically evaluate the arguments and approaches underlying these traditions. In the first term, we will concentrate on David Hume's *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*, which, as well as being an important work of philosophical literature, explores many of the central philosophical issues concerning religion. We will supplement this text with more modern readings where appropriate. In the second term, we will look at three central figures in the European philosophical tradition that exemplify the kinds of approaches to religion developed in the nineteenth and twentieth century. Indicative figures looked at would be Friedrich Schleiermacher, Søren Kierkegaard, G. W. F. Hegel, Karl Barth, or Paul Tillich. The course will give you a grounding in the philosophy of religion, as well as ideas and thinkers whose influence on fields such as ethics and metaphysics is still felt to this day.

**Course Leader** – Henry Somers-Hall

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

## PY2106 - PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

### 15 credits - Spring term

This course will introduce you to philosophical approaches to religion in the Anglo-American tradition. We will concentrate on David Hume's *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*, which, as well as being an important work of philosophical literature, explores many of the central philosophical issues about religion and its relationship to metaphysics and ethics. We will supplement this text with more modern readings where appropriate.

**Course Leader** – Henry Somers-Hall

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

## PY2108 - PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE

### 30 credits - Autumn and Spring terms

**Course Description** - This module will bring philosophical analysis and literary reflection into conversation: you will be encouraged to take this opportunity to reflect on the connections and disjunctions between the practice of literary criticism and philosophical activity. We will look in particular at themes such as the recourse to island imagery in both literature and philosophy, different ways of writing philosophy (dialogues, confessions, meditations, etc), as well as the question of whether novels can ever 'do philosophy'. Our concern will be with philosophy as literature and literature as philosophy, so as to think critically about what it means 'to read' and 'to philosophise'.

**Course Leader** – Daniel Whistler

**Course Delivery** – A mix of weekly lectures, seminars and workshops

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

## PY2655 - THE GOOD LIFE IN ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY

### 30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms

**Course Description** – This course is devoted to ancient ethics, which, unlike much modern moral theory, was concerned not merely with theoretical questions about what is good or bad, right or wrong but, as importantly, with more urgent and practical questions about how to live. What is a good life and how might one go about actually living it? In 2018-19 this course will focus on one of the most sustained and important ancient attempts to offer guidance about how to live: Roman Stoicism. We shall focus on two philosophers Marcus Aurelius and Epictetus. Marcus's *Meditations* are his notebook reflections on how to live a good life; he was inspired by Epictetus, whose *Discourses* record classroom discussions in his school of philosophy. Both texts are squarely focused on how to live a good life. We shall supplement both with earlier Stoic texts that outline the theory behind the practice, and some of Plato's early dialogues, which present the ideas of Socrates, who was an important role model for both Epictetus and Marcus.

**Course Leader** – John Sellars

**Course Delivery** – Weekly Lectures and Seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (20%), exam (80%)

Second year single-honours and joint honours Philosophy students are also permitted to take 30 credits of the following PR-coded courses:

- **PR2490 - Contemporary Political Theory (30 credits)**
- **PR2560 - Modern Political Thought (30 credits)**

## THIRD YEAR POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COURSES

### PR3000 - DISSERTATION

#### POL/IR

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring Terms**

**Mandatory – BA Politics and International Relations, BA Politics, BA International Relations, BA Politics with Philosophy.**

**Course Description** – In the third year of your degree course you are required to write a Dissertation of 8,000 words in length. It is an opportunity for you to examine, in greater depth, an area of interest to you. Each student will have a member of staff to act as a supervisor. The role of the supervisor is to help and guide you with your Dissertation. A series of Dissertation workshops is held, attendance at which is compulsory.

**Course Leader** – Cassie Schwartz

**Course Delivery** – Dissertation workshops and individual supervision.

**Assessment** – Dissertation (95%) and dissertation proposal (5%)

**NOTE:** This course is not offered to **Liberal Arts** or **Minor** student.

### PE3000 - ADVANCED SEMINAR AND DISSERTATION IN PPE

#### PPE

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring Term**

**Mandatory – BA/BSc Politics, Philosophy and Economics**

**Course description:** This is a compulsory dissertation course for all third year PPE students and comprises a series of advanced research seminars to go alongside students developing their dissertations with individual supervisors. The first term will consist of seminars run led by staff from politics, philosophy and economics, while in the second term seminars will be student led on the topics of individual student dissertations, with students being responsible for setting readings and leading discussion. Peer review will be an important component in the second term.

**Course leader:** Michael Bacon

**Course delivery:** Weekly seminars

**Assessment:** Dissertation of 8,000 words (100%)

**NOTE:** This course is only offered to **PPE** students.

### PR3100 - POLITICS IN ACTION

#### POL/IR

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring Terms**

**Course Description** – A university degree opens many doors to careers but the experience and skills enhanced during a placement provide extra dimension to the qualification. The Politics in Action placement scheme is a third-year undergraduate, assessed, full-unit module. It has a novel structure which combines participation in a workplace environment for one day a week during term time (and three days a week for each term's reading week) with scholarly reflection on the nature of the organizational, professional, and policy contexts of the placement.

**Course Leader** – James Sloam

**Course Delivery** – Work Placement/Internship

**Assessment** – Coursework only: mid-module skills report (25%); presentation (15%); placement report (60%)

**NOTE:** This course is not offered to **Liberal Arts** or **Minor** students.

### ES3002 - PUBLIC POLICY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

#### POL/IR

**15 credits – Autumn term**

**Mandatory - BA European and International Studies**

**Course Description** – This half unit has the objective of introducing students to political science and international relations approaches for understanding the EU's Single Market. It focuses on areas of public

policy and includes regulation of the market, the Euro and its crisis, Justice, Home Affairs, Immigration and Counter-Terrorism, Social and Environment policies, and the role of interest lobby groups.

**Course Leader** – Giacomo Benedetto

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

**NOTE:** *ES2001 Understanding the European Union: Politics and Theory* is a pre-requisite for this course.

### PR3XX1 - POWER AND MONEY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

**POL/IR**

**15 credits – Spring term**

**Course Description** - Without the VoteLeave bus promising £350 million a week for the NHS, a sum of money gained through no longer contributing to the EU's budget, the Brexit result in the EU referendum of 2016 would not have been secured. This half unit introduces students to what the EU's budget does and why it is controversial, and how an agreement made in 1970 before Britain joined the EU secured the UK's eventual departure. The half unit covers the history of key periods of the budget, how it was expanded, what rules it has, where the money actually comes from, how it is spent, and the power that national governments, the European Commission and the European Parliament exercise over it. Finally, the unit looks at reform proposals both on the spending side of the budget and on how the money could be raised through new EU taxes on banks, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions or transnational companies. This half unit will be of use to those students with interests in how international organisations make policy, or in understanding how this important issue affected the UK's membership of the EU. The half unit is recommended for those students who have taken ES2001 or ES3002.

**Course Leader** – Giacomo Benedetto

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

**NOTE:** *ES2001 Understanding the European Union: Politics and Theory* is a pre-requisite for this course.

### PR3540 - RADICAL POLITICAL THEORY

**POL**

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – This course aims to introduce students to key questions and arguments concerning the relationship between identity, power, meaning and knowledge, through close examination of texts by Hegel, Marx, Freud, Nietzsche, Adorno, Lyotard and Foucault. The course should lead students to appreciate critiques of modern Western societies and their values, which not only underpin recent “postmodernist” or “post-structuralist” thought but also form crucial theoretical elements in debates about gender, multiculturalism, nationalism, post-colonialism, new social movements, etc., across the social sciences and humanities. It aims to develop in students the ability to critically reflect about the nature and scope of politics and ethics through engagement with texts that have sought to provide insights and new ways of thinking about these realms.

**Course Leader** – Nathan Widder

**Course Delivery** – 2 hour weekly seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (60%), exam (40%)

### PR3550 - THE BRITISH IN INDIA: A SOCIAL AND POLITICAL HISTORY

**POL**

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – This course begins with the arrival of the British, in 1608, in Gujarat, west India. We examine why and how the British came, how they lived and conducted themselves and their business during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, how they began their rise to power in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the relationship of the British to the Native States, British rule before and after the Mutiny/Uprising, the growth of Bombay, the life and campaigning of Gujarat's most famous son, Gandhi, and the nationalist struggles in west India. We examine competing explanations for how the British were, with very few forces, able to conquer and rule India, and we consider the comparative technological development of the two countries. We conclude by looking at how

Gujarat fared after Independence, ending in 2002 with the Godhra massacre.

By the end of the course, students should: be familiar with British–Gujarati history and its chief dynamics; have a grounded understanding of the interplay of economic and socio–political formations, identity and cultural conflict; understand the dynamics and character of past and present–day Indian migratory movements.

A feature of this course is the use of original accounts written by Britishers living in India; these are all available on the Course’s Moodle site in PDF files, or on the Web.

**Course Leader** – John Mattausch

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

### PR3600 - CONTEMPORARY MIDDLE EAST POLITICS

**POL/IR**

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – The course surveys political systems, movements, conflicts and trends in the contemporary Middle East. It explores the international and regional context of current problems and conditions, including the process of state formation, variations in regime consolidation and state–society relations, regional rivalries and conflicts, the Islamist challenge, the political economy of development, and democracy and civil society.

**Course Leader** – Ibrahim Halawi

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

### PR3620 - US FOREIGN POLICY

**IR**

**30 credits Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – This course focuses on the foreign policy of the United States of America. It outlines the theoretical frameworks for understanding US foreign policy as well as the founding principles and ideas that underpin the US approach to international politics. This goes back to the founding fathers and America’s initial rise to power (up until the end of World War II) to analyse the key themes that shape US foreign policy today. The course then analyses the historical development of US foreign policy right to the present day. It also analyses foreign policy in key regions, such as the Middle East, as well as core issues. It concludes with a look at the argument on US decline and what US foreign policy may look like in the future.

**Course Leader** – David Wearing

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

### PR3670 - COMPARATIVE FOREIGN POLICY

**IR**

**15 credits – Autumn term**

**Course Description** – This course aims to provide a systematic understanding of knowledge relating to the analysis of foreign policy (from a comparative perspective). The course will enable students to critically evaluate contending perspectives on foreign policy analysis (with respect to the foreign policies of key countries and IGOs). It will prepare students for a critical engagement with key themes surrounding foreign policy by asking them to apply theory to practice through the analysis of both primary and secondary literature. Overall, the course will provide structured opportunities for students to develop and test their own hypotheses.

**Course Leader** – James Sloam

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PR3680 - YOUNG PEOPLE'S POLITICS

### POL

#### 15 credits – Spring term

**Course Description** – The course opens with an introduction and asks What is Young People's Politics? The course then branches out to consider youth, citizenship and democracy, exploring the theoretical and empirical issues that define citizenship in contemporary democracies, focussing on issue that particularly effect young people (especially those raised in the Youth Citizenship Commission). The focus is extended to youth participation in politics, primarily Electoral Politics (e.g. voting, party membership).

The course will then move on to examine a new state and consider how the relationship between the state and the citizen (and young people, in particular) has changed in recent years (e.g. developments in the welfare state and public services – in particular, youth-focuses services - and in notions of rights and responsibilities e.g. welfare-to-work)? The course develops a focus on reform, the Supply-Side (focusing on issues raised by Power Inquiry and Youth Citizenship Commission) and evaluates measures that have been proposed and/or implemented to make electoral politics more attractive to young people. The focus on reform continues with the Demand-Side (focusing on education/citizenship education, and the recent International Civic and Citizenship Education Study study). Our final focus will be on young people's politics beyond the UK, looking at how the disengagement of young people in politics has developed (e.g. the US Civic and Political Health of the Nation Report). We will consider how this has been addressed in other countries, proposing lessons that may be drawn by the UK.

**Course Leader** – James Sloam

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PR3720 - LEADERSHIP, POWER AND THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTERSHIP

### POL

#### 15 credits – Autumn term

This course enables final-year students interested in British politics to explore in depth the office of prime minister, its powers and its capacity for leadership. The prime ministership is one of the oldest headships of government and the single most important position in Britain's political executive. We will examine its history, its relationship with other institutions and actors in the core executive, and its occupants' capacity to influence domestic and foreign policy. We will also examine how prime ministers relate to other parts of the political system, how they might be and are held to account, and how we might evaluate styles of political leadership more broadly,

**Course Leader** – Nick Allen

**Course Delivery** – Weekly seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

## PR3810 - VISUAL POLITICS

### POL/IR

#### 15 credits – Spring term

**Course Description** – There is an urgent need for critical examination of the role of visual media in politics. Many argue that 'the power of images' has policymakers, journalists and citizens spellbound. For others, thanks to media technologies it has never been easier for ordinary people to create, disseminate, play with and contest political images. This course examines the role of visual materials and practices in politics and international relations. Students will become familiar with research traditions in the discipline of Politics and IR that engage with visual media, how they conceptualise and conduct research, and the limitations of those traditions. The first half of the course covers core problems and theories and the second half covers methods and case studies. The course is comparative, examining how visual media have operated in different historical eras of politics and across policy issue areas. Assessment by way of traditional essay and online visual story (via Storify) will enable students to demonstrate their understanding of the course content.

The course is structured as follows and opens with an introduction to visual political communication and moves on to explore producing Images; consuming Images; images, identity and power; and political icons. The course then examines quantitative and qualitative visual methods; environmental politics; welfare politics; nuclear politics; and global crises.

**Course Leader** – Ben O’Loughlin

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

## PR3860 - UNDERSTANDING CHINA’S RISE: DOMESTIC POLITICS AND FOREIGN POLICY

**POL/IR**

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – If the history of modern China was written as a novel its author would be accused of losing touch with reality. During the twentieth century, China witnessed the collapse of a centuries-old imperial system, two revolutions, foreign occupation and civil war, the introduction of a radical form of communism under Mao Zedong, the retreat from communism following the death of Mao and the adoption of capitalist style economic reforms, albeit still under the auspices of a nominally communist ruling party. China has started the twenty-first century much as it started the last – in a state of transition and flux. Home to around a quarter of the world’s population, the implementation of post-Mao economic reforms has made China one of the fastest growing economies in the world. As China’s military expenditure increases and economy expands, many believe that China will emerge as the next leading superpower, eclipsing the United States some time during the next decade or so. Others predict that China is on the brink of collapse, implosion and disaster with hundreds of millions currently out of work, gross social and economic inequality and rampant official corruption.

This course seeks to understand contemporary Chinese politics. The first half of this course will examine the domestic aspect of China. Will China become a democracy? Why does the one-party system in China thrive? How does the communist party achieve economic opening while maintaining the authoritarian rule politically? Are we witnessing the coming collapse of the party? The second half of this course focuses on China’s foreign relations. It is widely believed that China will (or even has already) replace the US to become the next leading superpower. Many argue that a rising China and a declining US will be engaged in security competition with considerable potential for war. Others argue that given its economic and political openness, the current international order is well able to accommodate China’s peaceful rise. What are the implications of China’s emergence as a global power? Can China rise peacefully? Will China overthrow the existing international order, or become a part of it? How to deal with the rise of China? The course will enable students to understand China’s emergence as a global power and its implications.

**Course Leader** – Jinghan Zeng

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PR3870 - GLOBAL ENERGY POLICY

**IR**

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – This course offers a global perspective on energy. It covers key aspect of international energy policy and politics, including the global security nexus of oil and gas (discussing, for instance, European import dependence on Russian natural gas or China’s ‘going out’ strategy); global market failure and global public goods in energy (covering, among other, producer cartels such as OPEC, consumer clubs such as IEA, or the role of transit in global energy trade); the sustainability nexus (the climate change challenge and global energy transition); and the global development angle (energy as part of the Millennium Development Goals and resource governance). The course will put a focus on the empirical context in which global energy problems occur but with a view to linking them back to broader conceptual frameworks.

**Course Leader** – Andreas Goldthau

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (60%), exam (40%)

## PR3880 - REFUGEES AND MIGRATION IN WORLD POLITICS

IR

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – This course presents an interdisciplinary, social science perspective on the central issues in the study of forced migration. Although rooted in International Relations, it takes an expansive view of the discipline, integrating perspectives from sociology, comparative politics, history, gender studies, critical race theory, and so on. It is designed to include material and academic voices from the Global South, as well as the voices of refugees themselves. The course focuses mainly on refugees, although it touches upon others areas of forced migration such as internal displacement and environmental displacement. Each week will introduce key examples from a diverse range of geographical contexts. Lectures and classes will start from real world problems, identify key underlying debates, and bring concepts and academic literature to bear on those debates. The course culminates in a simulation, where students will take on the roles of a variety of representatives from key states (in and outside the EU), European institutions, other inter-governmental agencies (IOM, UNHCR, etc), civil society actors (MSF, etc), and party political elites. The agenda (notwithstanding significant changes in real world politics between the time of writing and the simulation) will be to renegotiate the Common European Asylum Policy (CEAP), its attendant directives (on eligibility, reception, and so on), and the Dublin II Protocol. The hoped for result would include a response to the immediate humanitarian crisis, and a clearer vision on the long-term future of European asylum policy and refugee policy.

**Course Leader** – Will Jones

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PR3890 - AMERICAN POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

POL

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – This module provides students with an advanced understanding of the institutions, politics, history and culture of the United States. It offers a thorough grounding in the scholarly literature on American Political Development (APD) and requires students to evaluate that literature critically through seminar discussion and oral presentations, two pieces of assessed coursework, and an unseen examination. Using diverse methodological approaches, students examine data sources alongside major scholarly works in APD. The course deploys the tools of historical institutionalism and APD to provide advanced knowledge of the domestic politics and history of the United States, with a particular focus upon the public policy development, the welfare state, and religious history and politics, alongside the institutional arrangements of Congress, the Presidency and the Supreme Court; the operation of the federal bureaucracy, the party system, elections, and state and local politics. By the end of the course students are prepared to engage in their own dissertation research in the field of US politics and to excel in the study of American politics, culture and history. This course locates one of the world's most influential democracies in temporal and comparative context.

**Course Leader** – Ursula Hackett

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%). We will hold a mini-conference in the penultimate week of each term at which students present their draft argument and give discussant feedback.

## PR3910 - THE POLITICS OF RUSSIA AND EASTERN EUROPE

POL

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – This course seeks to understand the politics and societies of post-communist Russia and Eastern Europe, through four inter-disciplinary thematic parts. Part I of the course focuses on how communist legacies and modes of post-communist transition shaped the region's different political systems. Students will discuss Europeanisation processes in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and the specific post-communist trajectory of the Russian Federation, from Yeltsin to Putin. Part II explores the building and running of post-

communist states. It will introduce the students to the role of nationalism and the politics of memory in post-communist state-building, the varieties of capitalism that emerged in the region, elections and the peculiarities of post-communist party systems, and the role of corruption and informality. Part III zeroes in on post-communist societies, exploring key issues such-as socio-economic inequality, gender politics, political participation, grassroots politics, and migration to and from the region. Part IV concludes the course by analysing current developments in the region and their wider relevance. It discusses Ukraine, as a complex case study that brings together many of the themes explored during the course; it introduces the students to the latest scholarly debates on democratic backsliding in CEE; it discusses the possibility of comparing East and West; and it wraps-up what we know and what we need to learn about the past, present and future of the region.

The course foresees a strong component of student participation. Students will work on case-studies that they will then present and discuss comparatively in class. They will also use their case-study research to write two substantial pieces of coursework. By the end of the course students will have a nuanced understanding of post-communist politics and will be able to compare both within the region and with countries outside the region.

**Course Leader** – Licia Cianetti

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PR<sub>3</sub>XX<sub>2</sub> - THE POLITICS OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**IR**

**15 credits – Autumn term**

**Course Description** - Despite growing total economic affluence, the world continues to be characterised by persistent poverty and inequality. To briefly illustrate this reality, close to one billion people globally still lack daily access to sufficient food, more than three billion people live on less than 2.5 USD a day, and more than 22,000 children die each day due to poverty (World Development Indicators, 2018). In theory, 'development' should resolve these problems – but what is development and how can it be achieved? This course explores key development challenges faced across developing countries and is divided into three sections. The first critically examines some of the major concepts, paradigms, and theories, which have attempted to define what development is, how and why it occurs (or does not), and to whose benefit. The second focuses on some of the key development challenges faced by developing countries: economic (poverty, inequality, unemployment), political (democracy, human rights, role of elites), social (religion, race/ethnicity/caste, urbanisation), and natural (climate change, pollution, resource extraction, extermination of species). The final section explores possible remedies to these issues through international cooperation (trade, aid, finance, South-South cooperation), national policies (welfare schemes, laws and regulations), and micro and informal solutions.

**Course Leader** – Ivica Petrikova

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

## PR<sub>3</sub>XX<sub>3</sub> - ISSUES IN DEMOCRATIC THEORY

**POL**

**15 credits – Spring term**

**Course Description** – The course examines the theoretical understandings of democracy and the conceptual issues and controversies arising from them. Modern political thought is characterised by an uneasy relationship with democracy. Whilst the values of freedom and equality are widely related to – and often thought to entail – democratic government, political theorists have identified various problems that democracy poses to those values. The course will examine these issues, with topics including: forms of democracy; the relationship between democracy, freedom and equality; the role of participation and deliberation; multiculturalism and group rights; and global democracy.

**Course Leader** – Michael Bacon

**Course Delivery** - weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%)

## PR3XX4 - POLITICAL THEORIES OF FREEDOM

**POL**

**15 credits – Autumn term**

**Course Description** – This course critically examines different theoretical understandings of freedom, together with their strengths and limitations. It falls into two parts. Part 1 examines liberal understandings of freedom, and part 2 looks at contrasting non-liberal and republican accounts. It does so by considering the contributions of important recent and contemporary political theorists. From the liberal tradition these include Berlin, Hayek, Hirschmann and Gray. From the non-liberal tradition, writers will include Taylor, Honneth, Pettit and Skinner. Animating the discussion of these figures is the apparently simple but ultimately complex question of whether political freedom is a matter of the ability to act unimpeded by others, or whether it requires forms of social activity.

**Course Leader** – Michael Bacon

**Course Delivery** - weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

## PR3XX5 - DEFENCE AND SECURITY GOVERNANCE

**IR**

**15 credits – Spring term**

**Course description** - The international security environment has undergone a number of radical changes since the collapse of the Soviet Union. The end of bi-polarity has raised questions about how to tackle a host of new security challenges, which include dealing with and preventing state failure; international terrorism and crime; the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the implications of US unilateralism. These phenomena have fostered increasing levels of cooperation between states at the regional level (through ASEAN; the AU; CSDP; ECOWAS; MERCOSUR; NATO; the OAS, UNASUR and the SCO) . They have also led to a growing influence of non-state actors, such as NGOs and Private Military Companies (PMCs), on security policy agenda-setting and a reliance on these actors in policy implementation.

Hence the objectives of the module are to examine the increasingly multi-level nature of defence and security policy and the implications of this fragmentation for the delivery of effective, accountable and legitimate defence and security policy. It will analyse the 'vertical' fragmentation of defence and security policy to regional institutions. The module also examines the extent to which it is possible to speak of a 'horizontal' distribution of competencies in defence and security by analysing the role of NGOs and PMCs in the provision of defence and security.

The module approaches these issues by critically examining the insights provided by the literature on strategic and security studies (Realist, Marxist, Liberal and Constructivist thought and the literature on Securitisation), as well as a broader range of literature drawn from political science (notably policy studies and governance approaches). The focus is on an inter-disciplinary approach to the study of security, specifically on identifying the linkages between the disciplines of political science, international relations and history.

**Course leader** - Tom Dyson

**Course delivery** - Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** - Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%).

## PR3XX6 - MILITARY CHANGE IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

**IR**

**15 credits – Autumn term**

**Course description** - Defence budgets comprise a significant proportion of national wealth, while decision-making in defence has profound implications for the lives of citizens in the country concerned, as well as people at the receiving end of military operations. Military power also forms a central dimension of states' power and influence in the international system. However, the post-Cold War era has witnessed significant variation in the extent to which states' defence reforms have delivered a strategic advantage, with a number of cases of inappropriate or faulty military innovation and/or emulation.

This module analyses the content and sources of change in defence policy during the post-Cold War era. It will focus on changes to the objectives of defence policy, military procurement, force structures and doctrines of

the world's major military powers, including the US, China, Russia, France, Germany, the UK, India and Pakistan. In doing so, it will analyse the extent to which these reforms have helped the state concerned to meet its central security challenges.

The course will be informed by the insights of political science and IR approaches to the sources of military change. These approaches include neorealism, neoclassical realism, bureaucratic politics, organisation theory, strategic culture, organisational culture and public policy approaches. In its examination of the sources of military change, the course also looks at the factors which facilitate effective 'bottom-up' learning and adaptation within military organisations.

**Course leader** - Tom Dyson

**Course delivery** - Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** - Assessed coursework (50%), exam (50%).

## PR3XX7 - LEADERS AND POLITICAL COMMUNICATION

### POL

#### 15 credits – Autumn term

**Course Description** – Party leaders, and their public image, are increasingly considered important for a party's electoral success, for the smooth running of government and for regime legitimacy. Perhaps the most important variable for successful politicians is their ability to effectively communicate and connect with their audiences. This course will first, show students the techniques most frequently used by politicians, communicators and speechwriters to effectively deliver their messages in different contexts and settings. Next, students will analyse how these techniques have been used by the greatest leaders in the world to justify their regimes. By the end of the course students will be able to evaluate leadership styles during and after elections and design communication strategies that will deliver political messages effectively.

**Course Leader** – Sofia Collignon

**Course Delivery** - weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed video (50%), essay (50%).

## PR3XX8 - GLOBAL HEALTH POLICY

### IR

#### 15 credits – Autumn Term

**Course Description** - Since the turn of the millennium, global health has received dramatically increased attention, both as an emergent academic discipline and in terms of heightened policy salience. This course serves as an introduction to global health policy, synthesising material from a range of disciplines such as political economy, social epidemiology, and public health. It examines the constellation of health actors involved in policy formulation, including international organisations, governments, public-private partnerships, non-governmental organisations, philanthropic foundations, and commercial actors. It tackles key contemporary policy debates surrounding the health effects of—for instance—rising economic inequalities, global trade, and austerity politics. Students are also taken through approaches to effective policymaking encompassed in the planning, delivery, and evaluation of policy responses to global health issues. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on how health policies, systems, and outcomes are influenced by the so-called 'social determinants of health'—the political, economic, social, and cultural factors that operate at both national and transnational levels.

**Course leader** - Thomas Stubbs

**Course delivery** - Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** - Assessed coursework (100%)

## PR3X11 - POLITICAL PROTEST

### POL

#### 15 credits – Spring term

**Course Description** – Politics is often about conflict, but sometimes that conflict takes place within legislative bodies and other times in the streets. Most of what we study in political science courses focuses on conflict

within the electoral framework, but this course asks what happens when citizens take conflict into their own hands.

This module will examine the conditions that prompt people to organize on behalf of their collective interests, how protest movements evolve, and under what conditions they succeed. The goal is to use the scientific method to move beyond specific examples and, ultimately, understand the broader causes, strategies, and consequences of protests. Following the module, students will be able to see protests through an analytical lens that allows them to look past the noise and media frenzy.

The module will be split into two distinct parts. The first half of the module will cover theoretical topics: the causes, strategies, and consequences of protest activity. The second half of the class will focus on typologies of protest through comparative case studies. These typologies will focus on specific attributes of protests such as their use of violence, their organizational structures, and their relationships with political parties.

Most case studies in lecture will be based on examples within the Western Hemisphere (North, Central, South America, and the Caribbean) - a geographical region with an enormous variety of types, causes, and consequences of protest movements - but students are encouraged to become independently familiar with protest movements around the world.

**Course Leader** – Cassie Schwartz

**Course Delivery** - 2 hour weekly seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

## THIRD YEAR PHILOSOPHY COURSES

### PY3001 - DISSERTATION IN PHILOSOPHY

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Mandatory – BA Philosophy**

**Course Description** – The dissertation is compulsory for all Philosophy students who are not taking a dissertation or similar piece of extended work in their combined subject. It presents the opportunity to demonstrate your skills as independent learners by embarking upon a substantial (8-10,000 words), significant piece of written work. Ordinarily, the dissertation topic will derive from a course already taken, or one the student has committed to take in their final year.

**Course Leader** – Henry Somers-Hall

**Assessment** – Dissertation, 8,000-10,000 words (100%)

**NOTE:** This course is not offered to **Liberal Arts** or **Minor** students.

### PY3002 - MODERN EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY 1: FROM HUSSERL TO HEIDEGGER

**15 credits – Autumn term**

**Course Description** – This course introduces students to the work of two of the defining figures in modern philosophy. The aim is to enable students to grasp the key ideas in phenomenology and of Heidegger's interrogation of the notion of 'being'. Moreover, the point is to show what consequences these ideas have for key political, social and other issues in the modern world.

**Course Leader** – G. Anthony Bruno

**Assessment** – Coursework (100%)

**NOTE:** PY2001 *Introduction to European Philosophy 1: From Kant to Hegel* is a **pre-requisite** for this course.

### PY3003 - MODERN EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY 2: POSTSTRUCTURALISM AND ITS CRITICS

**15 credits – Spring term**

**Course Description** – Following on from PY3002, this course introduces students to key developments in European Philosophy after the Second World War, which form the basis of contemporary debates in both philosophy and other subjects. The course will be run on the basis of independent study, guided by the course staff.

**Course Leader** – G. Anthony Bruno

**Assessment** – Coursework (100%)

**NOTE:** PY3002 is a **pre-requisite** for this course.

### PY2005 - PHILOSOPHY AND THE ARTS

**15 credits - Spring term**

The course will introduce you to current debates aesthetics, including questions about the nature and value of art; the roles of intention, imagination and interpretation; and the emotional and ethical responses they provoke. Although theoretically informed, each weekly presentation will be grounded in a discussion of one or more artistic or cultural objects, be it a play, poem, musical composition, film or one of the myriad other forms of creative expression. The course is taught by a number of members of the philosophy department, and so introduces you to a range of approaches to aesthetics from different philosophical traditions.

**Course Leader** – Henry Somers-Hall

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

### PY3104 - VARIETIES OF SCEPTICISM

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** – What is knowledge? Is it possible for us to acquire it? If so, how do we do so? This course approaches these questions by looking at the history of attempts to show that we perhaps don't in fact have knowledge – the history of scepticism. Starting with the Ancient Greek concern with knowledge of how to live the Good Life, the first sceptics aimed to show that the search for such knowledge actually stood in the

way of the very path to happiness it promised. The Ancient sceptical arguments were rediscovered in the Sixteenth Century and along with the emergence of modern science led to both a new conception of knowledge and of sceptical doubt to accompany it. This course traces the fate of the Cartesian concern with certainty through the sceptical naturalism of Hume and Kant's attempt to rescue the idea of metaphysics through to the contemporary revival of interest in scepticism.

**Course Leader** – Neil Gascoigne

**Course Delivery** – Weekly Lectures and Seminars

**Assessment** – Coursework (50%) Examination (50%)

### PY3105 - PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

**30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** - This course will introduce you to philosophical approaches to religion in both the Anglo-American and the European traditions, and to enable you to understand and critically evaluate the arguments and approaches underlying these traditions. In the first term, we will concentrate on David Hume's *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*, which, as well as being an important work of philosophical literature, explores many of the central philosophical issues concerning religion. We will supplement this text with more modern readings where appropriate. In the second term, we will look at three central figures in the European philosophical tradition that exemplify the kinds of approaches to religion developed in the nineteenth and twentieth century. Indicative figures looked at would be Friedrich Schleiermacher, Søren Kierkegaard, G. W. F. Hegel, Karl Barth, or Paul Tillich. The course will give you a grounding in the philosophy of religion, as well as ideas and thinkers whose influence on fields such as ethics and metaphysics is still felt to this day.

**Course Leader** – Henry Somers-Hall

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

### PY2106 - PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

**15 credits - Spring term**

**Course Description** - This course will introduce you to philosophical approaches to religion in the Anglo-American tradition. We will concentrate on David Hume's *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*, which, as well as being an important work of philosophical literature, explores many of the central philosophical issues about religion and its relationship to metaphysics and ethics. We will supplement this text with more modern readings where appropriate.

**Course Leader** – Henry Somers-Hall

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

### PY3108 - PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE

**30 credits - Autumn and Spring terms**

**Course Description** - This module will bring philosophical analysis and literary reflection into conversation: you will be encouraged to take this opportunity to reflect on the connections and disjunctions between the practice of literary criticism and philosophical activity. We will look in particular at themes such as the recourse to island imagery in both literature and philosophy, different ways of writing philosophy (dialogues, confessions, meditations, etc.), as well as the question of whether novels can ever 'do philosophy'. Our concern will be with philosophy as literature and literature as philosophy, so as to think critically about what it means 'to read' and 'to philosophise'.

**Course Leader** – Daniel Whistler

**Course Delivery** – A mix of weekly lectures, seminars and workshops

**Assessment** – Assessed coursework (100%)

## PY3655 - THE GOOD LIFE IN ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY

### 30 credits – Autumn and Spring terms

**Course Description** – This course is devoted to ancient ethics, which, unlike much modern moral theory, was concerned not merely with theoretical questions about what is good or bad, right or wrong but, as importantly, with more urgent and practical questions about how to live. What is a good life and how might one go about actually living it? In 2018-19 this course will focus on one of the most sustained and important ancient attempts to offer guidance about how to live: Roman Stoicism. We shall focus on two philosophers Marcus Aurelius and Epictetus. Marcus's Meditations are his notebook reflections on how to live a good life; he was inspired by Epictetus, whose Discourses record classroom discussions in his school of philosophy. Both texts are squarely focused on how to live a good life. We shall supplement both with earlier Stoic texts that outline the theory behind the practice, and some of Plato's early dialogues, which present the ideas of Socrates, who was an important role model for both Epictetus and Marcus.

**Course Leader** – John Sellars

**Course Delivery** – Weekly Lectures and Seminars

**Assessment** – Coursework (20%) Examination (80%)

Third year single-honours and joint honours philosophy students are also permitted to take 30 credits from the following PR-coded courses:

- **PR3540 - Radical Political Theory (30 credits)**
- **PR3XX3 - Issues in Democratic Theory (15 credits)**
- **PR3XX4 - Political Theories of Freedom (15 credits)**

## DEGREE PROGRAMME STRUCTURES

### BA POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

#### Year 2

Students must take:

- PR2440 (International Relations Theory – 30 credits),
- A further 30 credits designated as IR courses (IR or Pol/IR),
- 60 credits designated as Politics courses (Pol or Pol/IR).

#### Year 3

Students must take:

- PR3000 (Undergraduate Dissertation in Politics and/or International Relations – 30 credits),
- A further 90 credits, so that they take 60 credits in Politics (Pol or Pol/IR) and 60 credits in IR (IR or Pol/IR),
  - This will depend on the topic for PR3000.

### BA POLITICS

#### Year 2

Students must take:

- 90 credits designated as Politics courses (Pol or Pol/IR)
- 30 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR).

#### Year 3

Students must take:

- PR3000 (Undergraduate Dissertation in Politics and/or International Relations – 30 credits),
- A further 60 credits designated as Politics (Pol or Pol/IR)
- 30 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR).

### BA INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

#### Year 2

Students must take:

- PR2440 (International Relations Theory – 30 credits),
- Another 60 credits designated as IR courses (IR or Pol/IR),
- 30 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR).

#### Year 3

Students must take:

- PR3000 (Undergraduate Dissertation in Politics and/or International Relations – 30 credits),
- A further 60 credits designated as IR (IR or Pol/IR),
- 30 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR).

### BA EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

#### Year 2

Students must take:

- ES2001 (Understanding the European Union: Politics and Theory – 30 credits)
- A further 30 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR)
- 60 credits from Modern Languages

#### Final Year

Students must take:

- ES3002 (European Union Public Policy – 15 credits),

- A further 45 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR),
  - It is recommended that students take PR3XX1 (Power and Money in the European Union – 15 credits)
- 60 credits from Modern Languages

## BA POLITICS WITH PHILOSOPHY

### Year 2

Students must take:

- PY2001 (Introduction to European Philosophy: From Kant to Hegel – 15 credits),
- PY2002 (Mind and World – 15 credits),
- 90 credits designated as Politics courses (Pol or Pol/IR).

### Year 3

Students must take:

- 30 credits designated as Philosophy courses,
- PR3000 (Undergraduate Dissertation in Politics and/or International Relations – 30 credits),
- A further 60 credits designated as Politics (Pol or Pol/IR).

## BA POLITICS & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND PHILOSOPHY

### Year 2

Students must take:

- PY2001 (Introduction to European Philosophy: From Kant to Hegel – 15 credits),
- PY2002 (Mind and World – 15 credits),
- A further 30 credits from Philosophy,
- 30 credits from the following:
  - PR2440 (International Relations Theory – 30 credits),
  - PR2490 (Contemporary Political Theory – 30 credits),
  - PR2560 (Modern Political Thought – 30 credits),
- A further 30 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR).

### Year 3

Students must take:

#### **EITHER**

- PR3000 (Undergraduate Dissertation in Politics and/or International Relations – 30 credits),
- A further 30 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR),
- 60 credits from Philosophy.
  - For Philosophy, students are permitted to take 30 credits from the following PR-coded courses:
    - PR3540 - Radical Political Theory (30 credits)
    - PR3XX3 - Issues in Democratic Theory (15 credits)
    - PR3XX4 - Political Theories of Freedom (15 credits)

#### **OR**

- PY3001 (Dissertation – 30 credits),
- A further 30 credits from Philosophy,
  - For Philosophy, students are permitted to take 30 credits from the following PR-coded courses:
    - PR3540 - Radical Political Theory (30 credits)
    - PR3XX3 - Issues in Democratic Theory (15 credits)
    - PR3XX4 - Political Theories of Freedom (15 credits)
- 60 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR).

## BA HISTORY, POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### Year 2

Students must take:

- 60 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR),
- 60 credits from History.

### Year 3

Students must take:

#### **EITHER**

- PR3000 (Undergraduate Dissertation in Politics and/or International Relations – 30 credits),
- A further 30 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR),
- 60 credits from History.

#### **OR**

- History dissertation (30 credits)
- A further 30 credits in History
- 60 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR).

## BA HISTORY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### Year 3

Students must take:

#### **EITHER**

- PR3000 (Undergraduate Dissertation in Politics and/or International Relations – 30 credits),
- A further 30 credits from International Relations (IR or Pol/IR),
- 60 credits from History.

#### **OR**

- History dissertation (30 credits)
- A further 30 credits in History
- 60 credits from International Relations (IR or Pol/IR).

## BSc GEOGRAPHY, POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### Year 2

Students must take:

- At least 30, but no more than 60 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR),
- At least 60, but no more than 90 credits from Geography.

### Year 3

Students must take:

- At least 30, but no more than 60 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR),
- At least 60, but no more than 90 credits from Geography,
- From this selection, you must take a dissertation in **either** Geography (30 credits) **or** Politics and International Relations (PR3000 – 30 credits).

## BSc ECONOMICS, POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### Year 2 and Year 3

Students must take:

- 60 credits from Economics,
- 60 credits from Politics and International Relations (Pol, IR or Pol/IR).

## BA/BSc POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY AND ECONOMICS

### Year 2

Students must take:

- PY2001 (Introduction to European Philosophy: From Kant to Hegel – 15 credits),
- PY2002 (Mind and World – 15 credits),
- At least 30 credits, but no more than 60 credits from each discipline of Politics, Philosophy and Economics. This must total to 120 credits.

### Year 3

Students must take:

- PE3000 (Advanced Seminar and Dissertation in Politics, Philosophy and Economics – 30 credits),
- A further 90 credits across at least two of the disciplines of Politics, Philosophy and Economics.

Further information regarding specific award requirements for PPE can be found

here: <https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/studyhere/progspecs/repository/pir/ug/politics-philosophy-economics-from-2016-ug-programme-specification-latest.pdf>.

## COMBINED HONOURS DEGREE WITH POLITICAL STUDIES AS A MINOR ELEMENT

(e.g. BA Music with Political Studies)

### Year 2 and Year 3

Student must take:

- 90 credits in the major subject.
- 30 credits from Politics (Pol or Pol/IR).

## COMBINED HONOURS DEGREE WITH INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AS A MINOR ELEMENT

(e.g. BA Multilingual Studies with International Relations)

### Year 2

Students must take:

- 90 credits in the major subject,
- PR2440 (International Relations Theory – 30 credits).

### Year 3

Students must take:

- 90 credits in the major subject,
- 30 credits from International Relations (IR or Pol/IR).

## BA PHILOSOPHY

### Year 2

Students must take:

- PY2001 (Introduction to European Philosophy: From Kant to Hegel – 15 credits),
- PY2002 (Mind and World – 15 credits),
- A further 90 credits from Philosophy,
  - Student are permitted to take 30 credits of the following PR-coded courses:
    - PR2490 - Contemporary Political Theory (30 credits)
    - PR2560 - Modern Political Thought (30 credits)

### Year 3

Students must take:

- PY3001 (Dissertation – 30 credits)
- A further 90 credits from Philosophy
  - For Philosophy, students are permitted to take 30 credits from the following PR-coded courses:
    - PR3540 - Radical Political Theory (30 credits),

- PR3XX3 - Issues in Democratic Theory (15 credits),
- PR3XX4 - Political Theories of Freedom (15 credits).

### JOINT HONOURS DEGREE WITH PHILOSOPHY AS AN EQUAL COMPONENT

(e.g. BA History **and** Philosophy)

#### Year 2

Students must take:

- PY2001 (Introduction to European Philosophy: From Kant to Hegel – 15 credits),
- PY2002 (Mind and World – 15 credits),
- A further 30 credits from Philosophy,
  - Student are permitted to take 30 credits of the following PR-coded courses:
    - PR2490 - Contemporary Political Theory (30 credits)
    - PR2560 - Modern Political Thought (30 credits)
- 60 credits in the other subject (e.g. History).

#### Year 3

Students must take:

- 60 credits in Philosophy,
  - For Philosophy, students are permitted to take 30 credits from the following PR-coded courses:
    - PR3540 - Radical Political Theory (30 credits)
    - PR3XX3 - Issues in Democratic Theory (15 credits)
    - PR3XX4 - Political Theories of Freedom (15 credits)
- 60 credits in the other subject (e.g. History).

### COMBINED HONOURS DEGREE WITH PHILOSOPHY AS A MINOR ELEMENT

(e.g. BA History **with** Philosophy)

#### Year 2

Students must take:

- PY2001 (Introduction to European Philosophy: From Kant to Hegel – 15 credits),
- PY2002 (Mind and World – 15 credits),
- 90 credits in the other subject (e.g. History).

#### Year 3

Students must take:

- 30 credits in Philosophy,
- 90 credits in the other subject (e.g. History).