

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Aim and Title	BA (Hons) Politics and International Relations
Intermediate Awards Available	BA, Dip HE, Cert HE
Teaching Institution(s)	UEL
Alternative Teaching Institutions (for local arrangements see final section of this specification)	N/A
UEL Academic School	School of Education and Communities
UCAS Code	L240 – Level 4 entry (3 Year full time route)
Professional Body Accreditation	N/A
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statements	Politics and International Relations
Additional Versions of this Course	N/A
Date Specification Last Updated	May 2023

Course Aims and Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- Address questions of political and international order and disorder, decision-making and political contestation
- Develop a capacity to think critically and independently about events, ideas and institutions
- Relate the academic study of politics to questions of public concern and to relate the academic theory to policies and other political practices
- Develop a range of cognitive, communication and social skills relevant to your intellectual, vocational and personal development

What you will learn:

Knowledge

- To understand the nature and significance of politics as a global activity.
- To apply concepts, theories and methods used in the study of politics and international relations to the analysis of political ideas, practices and issues in the global arena.
- To demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the origins and evolution of the international political system, including contemporary changes underway

Thinking skills

- To subject the debates, concepts and approaches to politics to critical analysis
- To evaluate different interpretations of world and domestic political events and issues
- To assess political behaviour to understand its links to the social-economic framework

Subject-Based Practical skills

- To gather, organise and deploy evidence, data and information from a variety of secondary and some primary sources
- To identify, investigate, analyse formulate and advocate solutions to problems
- To construct reasoned argument, synthesize relevant information and exercise critical judgement
- To reflect on learning practices and seek and make use of constructive feedback

Skills for life and work (general skills)

- To communicate effectively and fluently in speech and writing
- To use communication and information technology, including audio-visual technology, for the retrieval and presentation of information, including where appropriate, statistical or numerical information
- To work independently, demonstrating initiative, self-organisation and time management.
- To collaborate with others to achieve common goals through group work and presentations



Learning and Teaching

Knowledge is developed through

- Integrated lectures and seminars
- Guided reading
- Private study to prepare for seminars, essays and exams

Thinking skills are developed through

- Structured discussion in seminars
- Linking conceptual and empirical work
- Structuring essays and other written assignments

Practical skills are developed through

- Researching presentations, projects and dissertations
- Undertaking data collection and analysis
- Group work

Skills for life and work (general skills) are developed through

- Presentations
- Managing work load
- Participating in the group life of the Course

Assessment

Knowledge is assessed by:

- Essays
- Time constrained assessments
- Examinations
- Presentations

Thinking skills are assessed by:

- Seminar discussions
- Structure of argument in essays
- Responses to exam questions

Practical skills are assessed by:

- Library and internet searches
- Preparing presentations
- Managing workload and Course deadlines

Skills for life and work (general skills) are assessed by:

- Presentations
- Use of information technology in assessment

Students with disabilities and/or particular learning needs should discuss assessments with the Course Leader to ensure they are able to fully engage with all assessment within the course.

Work or Study Placements

An advantage of studying in London is that there are multiple opportunities for undertaking work experience or a placement while studying for your degree. At level five, students on the course will take a module designed to support them in securing work experience/placement opportunities. At level six students will complete a work experience module where they will be supported in finding an appropriate placement.

In addition, students are able to take the Level 6 Option, SY6023 Overseas Study in Term 2 if they meet relevant UEL and module requirements.

Course Structure

All courses are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed.

One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g. lecture, seminar and private study).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:

- 3 Equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree course.
- 4 Equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
- 5 Equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
- 6 Equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
- 7 Equivalent in standard to a Masters degree.

Courses are made up of modules that are each credit weighted.

The module structure of this course:

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit Weighting	Core/Option	Available by Distance Learning? Y/N
4	SY4016	Becoming an Activist (Mental Wealth)	20	Core	N
4	SY4009	Politics	20	Core	N



4	SY4006	Global Political Economy	20	Core	N
4	SY4004	The Mess We Are In (And How We Got Here)	20	Core	N
4	SY4008	International Relations	20	Core	N
4	SY4010	Public Policy	20	Core	N
5	SY5016	Global Governance	20	Core	N
5	SY5007	Space, Bodies and Power	20	Core	N
5	SY5009	Mental Wealth 2: Social Enterprise	20	Core	N
5	SY5018	Great Power Politics	20	Core	N
5	SY5005	Research Methods	20	Core	N
5	SY5015	Human Mobility and Forced Migration	20	Option	N
5	SY5019	Environmental Justice	20	Option	N
6	SY6007	Mental Wealth 3: Placement Reflections	20	Core	N
6	SY6016	Gender, Power and Politics	20	Core	N
6	SY6002	Applied Research Project in Social Sciences	40	Core	N



6	SY6022	Global Security for the 21st Century	20	Option	N
6	SY6018	African Politics	20	Option	N
6	SY6017	Conflict intervention and Development	20	Option	N
6	SY6008	Constructions of Race	20	Option	N
6	SY6023	Overseas Study	20	Option	N

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, in order to create the best learning experience.

Additional detail about the course module structure:

A core module for a course is a module which a student must have passed (i.e. been awarded credit) in order to achieve the relevant named award. An optional module for a course is a module selected from a range of modules available on the course.

How the teaching year is divided

The teaching year begins in September and ends in June

A typical student, in full-time attendance mode of study, will register for 120 credits in an academic year. A student in a part-time mode of study may register for up to 90 credits in any academic year.

What you will study when

A student registered in a full-time attendance mode will take 120 credits per year. Typically this will be comprised of six 20 credit modules. An honours degree student will complete modules totalling 120 credits at level four, modules totalling 120 credits at level five and modules totalling 120 credits at level six.

The overall credit-rating of this course is 120 credits. If for some reason you are unable to achieve this credit you may be entitled to an intermediate award, the level of the award will depend on the amount of credit you have accumulated. You can read the University Student Policies and Regulations on the UEL website.

Course Specific Regulations

N/A

Typical Duration

It is possible to move from full-time to part-time study and vice-versa to accommodate any external factors such as financial constraints or domestic

commitments. Many of our students make use of this flexibility and this may impact on the overall duration of their study period.

The expected duration of this course is three years full-time or four years part-time.

A student cannot normally continue study on a course after 4 years of study in full time mode unless exceptional circumstances apply and extenuation has been granted. The limit for completion of a course in part time mode is 8 years from first enrolment.

Further Information

More information about this course is available from:

- The UEL web site (www.uel.ac.uk)
- The course handbook
- Module study guides
- UEL Manual of General Regulations (available on the UEL website)
- UEL Quality Manual (available on the UEL website)
- School web pages

All UEL courses are subject to thorough course approval procedures before we allow them to commence. We also constantly monitor, review and enhance our courses by listening to student and employer views and the views of external examiners and advisors.

Additional costs:

If you select to take the Level 6 option Overseas Study Module, there may be additional travel costs, living expenses and fee costs.

Alternative Locations of Delivery

N/A