

Study Abroad Programme

The module description below is from the 2019/20 academic year and is subject to change, and for the use of study abroad students only.

Module name	Transnational Social Movements
Module code	IP2019
School	School of Arts and Social Sciences
Department or equivalent	International Politics
UK credits	15
ECTS	7.5
Level	5
Delivery location (partnership programmes only)	N/A

MODULE SUMMARY

Module outline and aims

This module is designed to provide you with a comprehensive introduction to the theory and practice of transnational social movements, and to enable you to assess their nature and impact in respect of a wide range of contemporary global political issues. Knowledge and understanding of transnational social movements is essential to the programme's goal of being able to address inter-society as well as inter-governmental relations. The lectures and classes introduce you to the nature of transnational social movements, their historical evolution and contemporary characteristics, their roles in world politics, and their impact. Social movement theory is used to evaluate each of these aspects of transnational social movements. You will gain an understanding of the role of transnational social movements in a wide range of key aspects of world politics, such as: peace and security, democratization, human rights, women's equality, labour rights, development, nationalism and religion.

Content outline

The module begins by outlining the key characteristics of transnational social movements, and introduces you to the broad range of issues in which these movements have become involved since the end of the Cold War. You will become familiar with recent transnational social movement activity, such as the World Social Forum, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, Jubilee 2000 and the Global Call to Action against Poverty. You are introduced to the historical evolution of transnational social movements, and the factors that have affected their emergence and growth. You are introduced to the tools for understanding transnational social movements provided in the relevant analytical literature. The interactions between transnational social movements and a broad range of major international political actors (including governments, intergovernmental organizations and transnational actors such as multinational corporations) are evaluated, as are the factors affecting the influence of transnational social movements. Case studies are used to analyse the impact of transnational social movements in a wide variety of issue-areas, such as: peace and security, democratization, human rights, women's equality, labour rights, development, the environment, nationalism and religion.

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of this module, you will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding:

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- Recognise and define the principal characteristics of transnational social movements.
- Outline how transnational social movements can be categorised into a variety of different types and structures.
- Define and utilise the theories and concepts essential for analysis of transnational social movements.
- Understand the relationship between transnational social movements and other major actors in international politics, including intergovernmental organizations, transnational corporations, and governments.
- Describe and evaluate the role of transnational social movements in a variety of issue areas in contemporary world politics.
- Analyse the significance of the activities of transnational social movements as a challenge to traditional academic analysis of international politics.

Skills:

- Distinguish the transmission of information and attempts to influence values and behaviour in written and oral communications received from other people.
- Distinguish empirical, normative and explanatory statements from each other.
- Distinguish empirical, normative and explanatory statements from each other, in writing on transnational social movements.
- Compare and contrast the values and objectives embodied in different communications received.
- Define abstract concepts and utilise them with rigour and consistency.
- Define the abstract concepts used in analysis of transnational social movements, and utilise them with rigour and consistency.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the role of transnational social movements in a variety of international political contexts and issue areas.

Values and attitudes:

- Demonstrate tolerance, expressed as respect for the opinions of colleagues, so that orderly discussion in classes is possible.
- Be aware of the differences between the value positions of different political actors.
- Produce an essay indicating precisely and honestly what is the author's own work and what is attributable to others, so that the offence of plagiarism is not committed.

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HOW WILL I LEARN?

Acquisition of knowledge and understanding is promoted through a combination of lectures and interactive classes with a strong emphasis on students' presentations. You are encouraged to undertake extensive reading and independent study in order to understand the topics covered in lectures and classes and to broaden and deepen your knowledge of the subject. You also receive feedback on your coursework to encourage you to reflect on what you have produced

Teaching component	Teaching type	Contact hours (scheduled)	Self-directed study hours (independent)	Placement hours	Total student learning hours
lecture	Lecture	10	40		50
Seminar sessions	Seminar	10	90		100
Totals					150

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessments

You will be assessed through a 5 minute individual oral presentation and a 2500 word essay. These should be on a topic of your choosing from the module outline. Essay titles are to be agreed with the module leader in advance of essay submission. Further guidance on assessments will be provided in class and in the module outline.

Assessment pattern:

Assessment component	Assessment type	Weighting	Minimum qualifying mark	Pass/Fail?
Essay (2500 words)	Written assignment	80%	30	N/A
Presentation	Oral presentation	20%	30	N/A

Assessment criteria

Assessment Criteria are descriptions of the skills, knowledge or attributes you need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully and Grade-Related Criteria are descriptions of the skills, knowledge or attributes you need to demonstrate to achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment. Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria for module assessments will be made available to you prior to an assessment taking place. More information will be available from the module leader.

Feedback on assessment

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Following an assessment, you will be given your mark and feedback in line with the Assessment Regulations and Policy. More information on the timing and type of feedback that will be provided for each assessment will be available from the module leader.

Assessment Regulations

The Pass mark for the module is 40%. Any minimum qualifying marks for specific assessments are listed in the table above. The weighting of the different components can also be found above. The Programme Specification contains information on what happens if you fail an assessment component or the module.

INDICATIVE READING LIST

- S. Batliwala & L. D. Brown, *Transnational Civil Society: An Introduction* (2006)
- T. Davies, *NGOs: A New History of Transnational Civil Society* (2014)
- M. Edwards & J. Gaventa, *Global Citizen Action* (2001)
- M. E. Keck & K. Sikkink, *Activists Beyond Borders* (1998)
- S. Khagram, J. Riker & K. Sikkink, *Restructuring World Politics: Transnational Social Movements, Networks and Norms* (2002)
- J. Smith, *Social Movements for Global Democracy* (2007)
- J. Smith, C. Chatfield & R. Pagnucco, *Transnational Social Movements and Global Politics: Solidarity Beyond the State* (1997)
- S. Tarrow, *The New Transnational Activism* (2005)
- S. Tarrow, *Power in Movement* (2011)
- D. West, *Social Movements in Global Politics* (2013)