

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	Advanced Theories of Global Politics
Module code	IP2020
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

Building upon the theoretical knowledge and critical skills developed in IR Theories 1 (first year), this course is intended to provide you with an understanding of advanced approaches to the study of global politics. The course covers the latest debates within the rationalist sphere including game theoretical modelling, network theories, and diffusion theory. In addition, the module explores institutionalist approaches including sociological institutionalism and evolutionary institutionalism. Finally the course turns to contemporary critical theory, exploring contemporary debates in this field, specifically Eco- and Green theory, Post-Colonialism, Feminisms and Post-Structural/Libidinal approaches.

Content outline

- Game Theory
- Network Theory
- Diffusionism
- Historical and Sociological Institutionalism
- Evolutionary Approaches
- Ecological/Green Theory
- Post-Colonialism
- Feminisms
- Post-Structural/Libidinal approaches

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

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

Knowledge and understanding:

- Identify and explain a range of mainstream and critical approaches to the study of global politics
- Understand the origins and historical emergence of these theories
- Show awareness of the places, roles and functions of these theories within the discipline of IR/IPE today

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- Take a position regarding the respective merits of the theoretical paradigms explored, and defend this.
- Explore the relationship between 'theory' and the 'real' world, and understand the implications of this for the study of global politics
- Analyse, evaluate and critically engage with the political implications of the range of theories explored

Skills:

- Identify and understand the range of views regarding what a theory is, how it functions, and what its purposes might be
- Distinguish empirical, normative and explanatory statements from each other.
- Define abstract concepts and utilise them with rigour and consistency.

Values and attitudes:

- Give an account of advanced theories of global politics, and understand how these form the building blocks of empirical study
- Further develop a critical and reflective approach to the study of global politics, and employ this in the context of conceptual and theoretical issues

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 pattern:

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		20	130		150

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WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessments

One essay of 3000 words

Assessment pattern:

Assessment component	Assessment type	Weighting	Minimum qualifying mark	Pass/Fail?
Essay (3000 words)	Coursework	100%	40	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

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

Ronen Palan (ed.) *Global Political Economy: Contemporary Theories* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2012).

Tim Dunne, Milja Kurki and Steve Smith (eds.) *International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity* (Oxford: OUP, 2010).

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Robbie Shilliam (ed.), *International Relations and Non-Western Thought: Imperialism, Colonialism and Investigations of Global Modernity* (Routledge, 2011)

Cynthia Enloe, *Bananas, Beaches and Bases: Making Feminist Sense of International Relations* (University of California Press, 2000)

Emilie M. Hafner-Burton, Miles Kahler and Alexander H. Montgomery (2009). Network Analysis for International Relations. *International Organization*, 63, pp 559-592.

Steve Smith, Ken Booth and Marysia Zalewski (eds.) *International Theory: Positivism and Beyond* (CUP, 1999)

Duncan Snidal (1985). The Game Theory of International Politics. *World Politics*.

Schelling, T. (1961). *Experimental games and bargaining theory*. In K. Knorr & S. Verba (Eds.), *The international system: Theoretical essays* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press).

Richard Ashley, 'The Achievements of Post-structuralism' in Smith, Booth and Zalewski (eds.) *International Theory: Positivism and Beyond* (CUP, 1999).