Studying International Politics and Politics at City
This Online Chat session is for anyone who is interesting in studying International Politics and Politics at City. The session will be run by academic staff and current students giving you the opportunity to ask questions about your subject of interest and find out what life is like as a university student. There will be a presentation to start and at the end of the session you can type questions for the students and staff to answer and there will be interactive quizzes on student life and your subject.

Welcome to this International Politics Taster session at City, University of London. Unfortunately, we cannot have you on campus but hope that our online session will still give you a good idea of what it is like to study International Politics at City University. To give you an idea of what to expect, our session will follow this format: 1) Our academic staff have recorded a short mock lecture to give you an idea of the topics and ideas covered at university level study. We’ll begin by watching this. 2) We will follow this with a fun subject quiz. 3) Next, you’ll be able to ask questions and have them answered by our International Politics academics and student ambassadors. We also have campus tour videos to give you an idea of what our university campus is like. We are also running sessions on personal statements, the UCAS process, researching Universities and more. https://www.city.ac.uk/study/visit-us/city-at-higher-education-exhibitions

Recruitment Events 2019/20
We regularly visit other parts of the country as part of UCAS and Higher Education fairs. Find out when we’re near you.

Hi all thanks for joining today! We’ll begin the mock lecture video shortly - If you have any questions please keep them until after the quiz!

IP Taster day 15min intro Source
https://youtu.be/fpEY-Z8X8e0

Hi all! We hope you enjoyed that mock lecture. We will now begin our subject quiz. Note that each question only has one answer and you won’t be able to change your answer once you’ve submitted it. We will leave each question up for 15 seconds.
1. International Political Economy is the study of:
   a. International economics 5.56%
   c. Instances where international politics interferes with international economics 11.11%
   d. The interrelationship between politics and economics in the world 83.33%

Answer: D

2. What do realists think is the most important thing in international politics?
   a. Culture 18.75%
   b. Power 56.25%
   c. Money 25.00%

Answer: B

3. Wal Mart’s revenues are larger than the Gross Domestic Product of:
   a. Argentina 18.75%
   d. All of the above 81.25%

Answer: D

4. Ayatollah Khomeini was...
   a. The first leader of ISIS 5.00%
   b. The President of Syria 15.00%
   c. The founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran 75.00%
   d. A leading Iranian chef 5.00%

Answer: C

5. Politics is the study of:
   a. Political leaders, state institutions, and constitutional forms 48.28%
   b. Political instability, rising authoritarianism, ethnic tensions, and civil war 13.79%
   c. Ideas of justice, equality, freedom, and obligation 20.69%
   d. Political differences between countries and regions of the world 17.24%
6. In 2018, the wealth of the richest 26 people in the world was equal to the wealth of:

- a. The poorest 760 million people in the world (the bottom 10%) 14.29%
- b. The entire UK middle class 4.762%
- c. The entire UK middle and lower classes 14.29%
- d. The poorest 3.8 billion people in the world (the bottom 50%) 66.67%

Answer: D

Hope everyone enjoyed the quiz! We'll now be turning to you to ask any questions you may have to our academics. Get typing!

(For a student to answer) Can you give a few examples of the units you've studied in Politics?

HI some of the topics that have been cover in politics modules i've taken include: democracy, nations & the nation state, transitions from authoritarian regimes to democracy, populism, human rights and ethnicity & nationalism.

Is there any opportunity of placement years abroad, especially with international relations?

Hi Yes it is possible to spend a year abroad as part of our study abroad scheme. This involves doing a 'sandwich year' at one of our partner universities in between your years 2 and 3 of study. You have to apply to the scheme, but my experience over the years tells me most students who want to study abroad are able to. We also have a work placement scheme that runs in the summer between years two and three, although this is typically in the UK. You can also choose to undertake a sandwich year work placement between years 2 and 3, providing you have found a suitable work opportunity.

what major modules are covered in international politics? :)


Hi, you can find a list of modules for the BSc International Politics on this website: https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/international-politics If you scroll down to “Course content and assessment” you find all of the modules available for years 1-3. There are plenty of options to choose from!

**International Politics BSc Course**

City’s BSc (Hons) International Politics course focuses on contemporary global issues and the role of international organisations as policy-making structures.

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**What are the benefits of studying in London considering the living costs?**

I think studying in London, a global city, allows you the grounding of what your course is fundamentally teaching. The culture and diversity of London plays a huge part in student experience!

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**how many contact hours a week would we expect at the department?**

Hi. Typically the contact hours are 10 per week. This is based on one lecture and one seminar per module, of which you usually take 4 per term, plus two additional hours speaking to lecturers during their office hours. On top of this there is of course independent study!

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One of the biggest things I have always looked forward to about Uni is moving out. As I live in Greater London I be thinking about moving into town or commuting from home? (sorry its not a politics related question, but as you’re a London Uni hopefully someone might be able to help!)

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Hi, personally travel in from home and haven’t found it a burden of any sort. It really depends on you! If you think you’d prefer living halls and want to have the experience then go for it! I have course friends who have done both and liked living both a home or in halls. For me the biggest reason for commuting from home was that the travel costs worked out cheaper than living in accommodation.

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Where do your students go after graduating? (i.e. what are you're employment figures)

91.7% of graduates in employment or further study six months after completing the course

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Hi, how similar is International Politics to Politics and International Relations?

Hi, International Politics will be very similar to Politics and International Relations. Different universities use different names for these types of degrees, though the content more or less the same.
What careers can you do from this course?

Hello! As a graduate of City's BSc (Hons) International Politics degree, you will be suited to a wide range of career options such as: International organisations, Journalism and communication, NGOs, Politics, Research, Teaching, The civil service, The corporate sector.

What do you think it takes to be a good politics student?

Personally, I believe discipline is key! Doing the key readings is very important and overall class participation helps a lot!!

What would you be looking for in a personal statement to show a passion for international politics?

Hi, The best way to show your passion for the subject is to be honest and tell a story, using one or two examples to show that you have put some time and thought into it as well.

Hi, I'm, I hope everyone is well, I was wondering if a good understanding of history and economics is needed in order to successfully study and understand politics.

Hi, our degree programmes assume no prior knowledge of economics or history. It's great if you have a background in those subject areas, but it's not mandatory to successfully study politics.

What are the entry requirements, in terms of A levels?

Grades BBB or 120 UCAS tariff points.

Is there an option of doing a 4 year course including a year abroad?

Hi, a year abroad is offered. This will come between your 2nd and 3rd year of study.

Why are these politics courses BSc when most politics courses are BA?
Our programmes are Bachelors of Science (BSc) because we incorporate basic training in quantitative research skills, with the option to pursue these elements further if you are interested in them.

Are electives restricted to courses with a direct relation to politics (history, economics, etc) or can you choose from any course offered in the university?

Module options are open across the School of Arts and Social Sciences so you can take electives in Media, Economics, History, Politics, Journalism and Sociology.

Does Politics involve a dissertation? If so, what are some topics that it may be on?

There is a third year dissertation that you would write for Politics. The great thing about the dissertation project is that you are free to choose your own topic based on what interests you (providing it deals in some way with politics, broadly defined).

In a UCAS application, what helps a student stand out (e.g. types of activities) to admissions departments?

For your application, academics and admission departments are looking for a genuine interest in the subject area. So truly about why you want to study on the course, and anything you’ve done at school/college such as projects that may tie in with the course. As well as this, any work experience you may have done or volunteering will also work in your favour. It doesn’t matter where you worked or volunteered - try to thank about what you learnt from those experiences.

For the current students: What do you like most about the course, and why did you choose it?

The range of modules is what I like most about the course. You’re given the opportunity to explore different parts of the globe and the modules are extremely diverse. I personally choose to do the course as it felt it was the right blend of both politics and economics for me. The course gives you the opportunity to make your degree as politically or economically focused you liked and this was huge reason in me choosing to pick IPE.

What would you consider the political spectrum position of the university and the majority of the students to be?

This is an interesting question! The university doesn’t have a party political or left-right position, and university academics hold a range of different views. However, for historical reasons, City has affinities with professions like law, journalism, and banking. This does mean that many of our students are career focused, but there are other types here too!

Any recommended reading or things to do to help build your personal statement?

There aren’t any specific readings we suggest for building your personal statement. My advice would be to discuss readings that you’ve enjoyed and perhaps mention how these readings have motivated your own decision to study this subject.
Recommendations for further subject engagement


Recommendations for reading

For students that have studied a year abroad, what are some examples of countries that students have visited and studied in?

Hi, we have a number of partner universities. I've sent students to South Korea, the US, and France, but there are others too!

Do you interview as part of the admissions process?

Hi, no we don’t conduct interviews as part of the admissions process.

What is the accommodation like for first year students?

I’m an international student so my first year in London I decided to go for an independent student accommodation. The experience was amazing and I actually got to know a lot of people from other universities as well. The university also has its own accommodation halls.

Would it still be possible to move into the banking and finance sector with the single politics degree and rely on the job training or is it safer to take a course with a stronger finance aspect?

Hi, the application for many graduate jobs vary position by position. In my experience, I haven’t found studying a politics related degree to have any sorts of negative impact on my application process. Employers tend to look at your skill set, experience and nature to assess whether you will a good fit for what they are looking for. Studying a political related degree has in fact helped when applying for jobs in the finance sector since my course has allowed me to have a better understand of how financial markets work. Hope that helps!

Is there an option to do international relations as a combined degree/joint honours?

Hi, we have a joint degree in International Politics and Sociology, which involves core modules from each of these disciplines. We also have a joint degree in Politics and History. Beyond this, our individual degrees allow for a significant degree of flexibility in terms of elective modules, and this means you choose to study a lot of International Politics as part of your Politics degree, for example.

Is there any way of doing any languages in conjunction with a political course?
Hi, yes you can take a language module alongside your course.

What makes the Politics and International Politics course different to similar courses at other universities such as International Relations at London Met?

Do you recommend an EPQ?

Whilst we don’t request or accept EPQ’s in place of Alevels, it definitely will not hurt your application if the A level requirements of BBB have been met already.

What's the balance between the different styles of assessment?

Hi, the balance between different assessment methods varies module per module. Some modules can be 100% coursework or 100% exam, while others can have a mix of the two. You can have a look at the assessment breakdown here: https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/international-political-economy

International Political Economy

The International Political Economy degree will help you acquire, develop and advance analytical and conceptual knowledge of key processes, structures, institutions and agents of the world economic system.

What extra-curricular activities are you looking for in someone wanting to go into any of these courses?

Hi, I think it would be good (though not mandatory) to demonstrate some interest in extra-curricular activities that relate to the degree. One example would be volunteering and NGO work.

Does the international relations and sociology course have a strong focus on political ideologies due to the sociology part of the course?

Hi, Not necessarily. Political ideologies would be covered well in the core modules of our Politics degree too. Sociology tends to bring in issues like gender, media, whereas political ideologies appear in all our programmes.

What are the entry requirements for the International Baccalaureate?
Hello! 30 points including 5,5,5 from three Higher Level subjects (no specific subjects required).

Are there any trips that are part of the course?

Hi [Name], you’ll find that many of your lecturers plan trips, depending on the module. In the past we’ve had field trips to various institutions within London. We haven’t had any field trips abroad, but there is the study abroad option for the degree.

Sorry - is there an option to combine politics with literature as a joint degree? I have completed my EPQ on Latin American political instability and how magical realist literature evolved from this, and am really interested in studying this further.

Hi! Not currently no, however, please do take a look at the programme spec, which includes all elective modules. [Link](https://www.city.ac.uk/-/data/assets/pdf_file/0004/470362/USPOL-BSc-International-Politics.pdf) You’d of course then be primed to do a masters programme, once completing your undergraduate, in a more specialised field.

Do any students on this course tend to go into political advisory?

Hi [Name], yes we’ve had some of our students go on to be policy advisors for the major political parties, as well as think tanks and NGOs.

(Forg.) What specific course do you believe is best for someone who wants to be an MP?

I’d recommend Politics due to the focus on political institutions.
Thank you everyone for all your questions and we hope today’s session was useful. If you do have any further questions then please do contact us using either our contacts page on our website: https://www.city.ac.uk/about/contact or through our Unibuddy page where you can contact staff and students: https://www.city.ac.uk/study/ask-a-student.

**Contact City, University of London**

General contact form for City, University of London.

**Ask our students and staff**

Speak with one of our current students and find out more about what it is like to study at City.