

# Politics & International Relations BA (Hons)

UCAS Code: L201 | Duration: 3 years | Full-time | Hope Park | 2018/19

International students can apply



## Course Overview

Politics and International Relations is a subject that encompasses a range of issues central to an understanding of contemporary society. This degree considers Politics and International Relations theory, how states interact, and evaluates transnational issues such as globalization and the environment. Politics and International Relations also addresses the responsibilities of individuals and collective groups in society on both a national and global scale.

Politics and International Relations is a dynamic and changing subject area. At Liverpool Hope, we engage in fieldtrips to regional and national institutions. It considers issues of citizenship, individualism and different routes through which society can evolve to enhance individual sovereignty and international responsibility. Across your three years of study, you will consider issues in dedicated politics and international relations classes, and fuse and integrate the subject ideas together in the form of a dissertation project in your final year.

This degree has a special emphasis on the international and global dimension of politics and you will be working with a team of lecturers who are recognised experts in the field. During your time at Liverpool Hope, you can take part in our extensive programme of visiting speakers, fieldtrips, and overseas exchanges.

## Entry Requirements

The standard offer level is between BBB-BBC from A levels or DDM-DMM from BTEC, or 120-112 UCAS tariff points.

## Fees and Additional Costs

The tuition fees for 2018/19 are £9,250 for full-time undergraduate courses.

As well as tuition fees, you also need to purchase core textbooks, which we estimate to be around £200. There are also a number of optional national and international fieldtrips throughout your studies, you will be told about the cost of these trips with plenty of notice.

You will also need to consider the cost of your accommodation each year whilst you study at university.

Visit our accommodation webpages for further details about our Halls of Residence: [www.hope.ac.uk/halls](http://www.hope.ac.uk/halls)



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## CONTACT

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[www.hope.ac.uk](http://www.hope.ac.uk)

# Politics & International Relations BA (Hons) Curriculum

## Year One

### Introduction to Politics International Relations

Your first year of study introduces you to the key concepts in the study of international relations. You also look at the key concepts, debates and institutions in politics and political analysis.

You will explore the implications and application of political ideas and ideologies, evaluating political institutions and political actors. During your first year, you will also develop the skills and techniques needed for successful undergraduate study, including essay writing, research, and presentation skills.

## Year Two

### Explorations in Politics and International Relations

In your second year, you look at foreign policy and the developments and challenges of British international relations and the politics of emerging powers and non-powerful states. You also study debating theories and global issues in international relations, exploring global challenges such as climate change and terrorism.

With your tutor's guidance, you develop your knowledge of the theories and ideas underpinning modern democracy in Europe and the Americas, its historical development, and the challenges it faces. You will explore the philosophy and methods of international relations, studying the advantages and pitfalls in selected methodological approaches.

You will develop an understanding of democratic development in Europe and the European Union and the challenges

posed by contemporary developments, including economic crisis, migration, and the rise of populism.

Finally, you will look at key institutions, organisations and issues in British politics today.

## Year Three

### Advanced Studies in Politics and International Relations

Your final year has a particular focus on security, peace and conflict studies. You will analyse theories and unsettling assumptions, revisiting knowledge and understanding in international relations. You also explore in-depth core institutions and contemporary issues in US politics, for example changing demographics, gun control and the death penalty. Keeping with the US, you also study the development of the Imperial Presidency as a central institution in American politics and foreign policy from Roosevelt to the present day.

Your third year also allows you the opportunity to explore major works of key thinkers in the political theory canon, and the shift in focus from the state, to the economic, social and cultural spheres. You will also study power and politics, which provides you with tools to conduct your own analysis through discussion and case studies.

In your final year you will complete a dissertation in the Politics and International Relations area. This is a 10,000 word project. You will receive support from a tutor and have meetings on a 1-2-1 basis. In the main, this is an autonomous project, but you will receive guidance and feedback about its evolution as the academic year progresses.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

Teaching on this degree is structured into lectures, where all students are taught together, seminars of smaller groups of around 15-20 students, and tutorials which typically have no more than 10 students. You also have the opportunity to have a one-to-one meeting with your tutor each week.

In your first year of study, there are approximately 12 teaching hours each week, which reduces to approximately 10 teaching hours each week in your second and third years. On top of teaching hours, you are also expected to spend a number of hours studying independently each week, as well as studying in groups to prepare for any group assessments you may have. You are expected to spend an average of 40 hours per week devoted to your studies, including taught hours and independent study.

## ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

Assessments are varied and consist of a formal exams, and a range of written coursework assignments. In your final year, you will complete a special study or dissertation.

You will be given constructive written feedback that not only explains the strengths and weaknesses of the particular piece of work but which also makes clear what must be improved in future work. Feedback is provided verbally to the whole year group where possible, to emphasise points of general relevance.



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