

Politics

UCAS Code: Combined Honours only (please see website for details)

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

International students can apply



Course Overview

Politics is a subject that encompasses a range of issues central to an understanding of contemporary society. At Liverpool Hope, we address an array of topics that allow us to explore the theory and practical application of politics. We look at local issues in Liverpool, the politics of the UK and the EU and consider broader theoretical concepts such as the historical evolution of democracy and how it is implemented in the world today.

Politics is a very dynamic and ever-changing subject. We actively encourage debate and discussion amongst our students, and aim to encourage a stronger awareness and appreciation of different points of view. The study of politics at Liverpool Hope does not just take place in the classroom and the library. We organise fieldtrips to regional and national institutions and we support you to get involved with community engagement projects.

Politics addresses the responsibilities of individuals and collective groups in society. It considers issues of citizenship, community and individualism, and examines how society can evolve to enhance individual sovereignty. You will be taught by staff who are experts in their field, and will help you to develop the skills you need to have a long and successful career in politics.

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.

On top of tuition fees, you also need to buy key textbooks, which we estimate to cost around £100. During your studies, there are a number of optional fieldtrips in Britain and Europe. You will be given plenty of notice about the cost of these trips.

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



**LIVERPOOL
HOPE
UNIVERSITY**

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Politics Curriculum

Year One

Foundations of Politics

Your first year of study develops your understanding of key concepts and debates in politics and political analysis. You look at the major features of politics and political systems in the UK, Europe, the United States and beyond.

In your seminars and tutorials, you will be exploring the implications and application of political ideas and ideologies and evaluating the main political institutions (such as parliaments, parties and elections). You also examine the role of key political actors, including Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), interest groups and the media.

Skills for Study and Research

You have essay writing workshops, and gain research skills and learn how to deliver effective presentations.

Year Two

Explorations in Democracy

This topic addresses the key theories and ideas underpinning modern representative democracies, its historical development in Europe and the Americas and the challenges it has faced in the past and today.

Democracy in Europe

You explore in-depth the development of democracy in Europe and the European Union and the challenges posed by contemporary developments.

British Politics

You will look at key institutions and organisations of the British political system and how they function, as well as major issues in British politics today.

Year Three

Politics in the United States

This topic looks at the evolution of American politics through the lens of core institutions and contemporary issues. Key policy challenges and dilemmas are explored, including changing demographics, gun control and the death penalty.

The Imperial Presidency

You study the development of the presidency as a central institution in American politics and foreign policy from Franklin Roosevelt's reinvention of the office in the 1930s to the present day.

Political Theory

You engage directly with major works of key thinkers in the political theory canon and explore the shifting boundaries of this sub-discipline from a focus on the state, to the importance of culture, the structure of the economy and social relations.

Power and Politics

You are introduced to key debates and concepts in the analysis of power in political contexts, and you are provided with the tools with which to conduct your own analysis through discussion and case studies.

Research Element

You will do either a 10,000 word dissertation in conjunction with your other subject, or a 5,000 words special study on a political topic. You will receive guidance and individual support from an assigned tutor in the creation and completion of this work. You are expected to work, in the main, in an autonomous way on this work.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Teaching on this degree is structured into lectures, seminars and tutorials which typically have no more than 10 students. You will also be encouraged to use the University's Virtual Learning Environment, Moodle, and you have the opportunity to have a one-to-one meeting with your tutor each week.

For the Politics part of your Combined Honours degree, in your first year of study there are approximately 6 teaching hours each week, which reduces to approximately 5 teaching hours 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 that you may have. You are expected to spend an average of 40 hours per week devoted to your studies, including taught hours and independent work.

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. Feedback is provided verbally to the whole year group where possible. You are also provided with individual written feedback and will have the opportunity to discuss your work privately with the tutor.



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