1. **Title of the module**

POLI5550 (PO555) - The United Nations

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

School of Politics and International Relations

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 5

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

15 credits (7.5 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn or Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

Politics and International Relations BA;

Politics and International Relations with a Language BA;

Politics and International Relations with a year in North America BA;

Politics and International Relations with a year in Continental Europe BA;

Politics and International Relations with a year in China/Hong Kong BA;

Politics and International Relations with a year in Japan BA;

Politics and International Relations with a year in the Asia-Pacific BA;

Politics and International Relations with Quantitative Research BA;

Politics and International Relations (Bi-Diplôme) BA;

War and Conflict BA.

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the role of the United Nations in international relations from its creation to the present.
3. Understand and critically assess the role of the UN in the area of human rights.
4. Appreciate the diversity and scope of UN activities in world politics.
5. Critically assess changes in how the UN responds to its core objective of maintaining international peace and security.
6. Assess the significance of the United Nations in world politics.
7. Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the UN as an international organisation.
8. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
9. examine and evaluate different interpretations of political issues, events and solutions to problems
10. describe, evaluate and apply different approaches involved in analysing and presenting political information
11. develop reasoned and structured arguments, synthesise relevant information and exercise critical judgement
12. reflect on and manage their own learning and seek to make use of constructive feedback from peers and staff to enhance their performance and personal skills
13. communicate ideas effectively and fluently in writing
14. use information and communication technology for bibliographical searches, data acquisition, data analysis and presentation
15. work independently, demonstrating initiative, self-organisation and time-management
16. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module explores the origins, evolution and role of the United Nations (UN) in world politics. The aim is to understand how and why states and other actors participate in the UN. The module further explores the extent to which the United Nations is able to achieve its stated goals of maintaining peace and security, achieving cooperation to solve key international problems, and promoting respect for human rights. The module examines the work of key UN organs, agencies, and member states in a variety of issue areas, with the aim of critically assessing the successes, challenges, and failures of the United Nations.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Thakur, Ramesh. The United Nations, Peace and Security: From Collective Security to the Responsibility to Protect. 2nd edition (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017).

Weiss, Thomas G. and Sam Daws, Eds. The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations. 2nd edition (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018).

Mingst, Karen A., Margaret P. Karns and Alynna J. Lyon. The United Nations in the 21st century. Dilemmas in World Politics. 5th edition (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2017).

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours: 22

Private study hours: 128

Total study hours: 150

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

* Essay, 2500 words (50%)
* Exam, 2hrs (50%)

13.2 Reassessment methods

Reassessment Instrument: 100% coursework

1. ***Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)***

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| **Module learning outcome** | *8.1* | *8.2* | *8.3* | *8.4* | *8.5* | *8.6* | *9.1* | *9.2* | *9.3* | *9.4* | *9.5* | *9.6* | *9.7* |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lectures | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  |  |  |
| Seminars | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |
| Private Study | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Exam | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |  | **x** |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

The subject content and learning outcomes of the module (and the assessment) support internationalisation—the module explores how the United Nations seeks international cooperation in a variety of issue areas and promotes norms that can be both international and local. The reading list is drawn from scholars around the globe and supports a wide range of international perspectives.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 21/08/2019 | Minor | September 2019 | 11, 13, 14 | No |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Revised FSO August 2019