1. **Title of the module**

POLI8240 (PO824) : Analysing World Politics

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

Division of Human & Social Sciences

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

Level 7

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

20 credits (10 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 course(s) of study to which the module contributes**

Compulsory to: International Relations MA; International Relations and International Law MA

Optional to: MA programmes in Politics and International Relations

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Have a critical awareness of the discipline’s history
   2. Demonstrate awareness of the key debates
   3. Demonstrate an ability to critically identify key debates in the discipline
   4. Demonstrate an understanding of key concepts in IR
   5. Understand connections between IR theory, political theory and philosophy
   6. Show awareness of methodological and epistemological implications of theoretical positions
2. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. work with theoretical knowledge at the forefront of their discipline
   2. be aware of the ethical dimensions of the scholarly work done in their discipline in general as well as of their own work in particular
   3. have a comprehensive understanding of methods and methodologies in their discipline
   4. undertake analysis of complex, incomplete or contradictory areas of knowledge
   5. have a level of conceptual understanding that will allow them to critically evaluate research, advanced scholarship and methodologies and argue alternative approaches
   6. be reflective and self-critical in their research work
   7. engage in academic and professional communication orally and in writing
   8. have an independent learning ability required for continuing professional study
3. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

Whenever we make a statement about international affairs, and world politics we rely on certain (often implicit) theoretical assumptions: about power, interests, identities, norms and how they relate to the behaviour of international actors. Whether we like it or not, we are ‘doomed’ to rely on theories. The starting-point of this course is not that theories are the only possible and all-encompassing approach to the study of international affairs, but that they are helpful to understand, compare and critically evaluate interpretations of international issues: if we all use theoretical assumptions, we better make them explicit and understood, to make sure what exactly we are claiming.  
  
International Relations theories are not approached as strict categories with clear boundaries, but rather as a continuously evolving debate. The course does not attempt to give an encyclopaedic overview of all theories of International Relations, but rather to confront different views. The main objective is to understand the core differences between different theoretical approaches.

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

* Tim Dunne, Milja Kurki and Steve Smith (eds), International Relations Theories: Discipline and Diversity, 4th Edition (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013).
* Henrik Bliddal, Casper Sylvest and Peter Wilson (eds), *Classics of International Relations: Essays in Criticism and Appreciation* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2013).
* Burchill et al. (2013) Theories of International Relations. New York, Palgrave Macmilan.
* Lawson, Stephanie (2015): Theories of International Relations: Contending Approaches to World Politics
* Zvobgo and Loken, Why Race Matters in IR.
* Mohanty, Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours 24

Private study hours 176

Total study hours 200

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

Essay 1 3000 words 50%

Essay 2 3000 words 50%

13.2 Reassessment methods

Reassessment Instrument: 100% coursework

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section12) 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* | *9.8* |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lecture/seminar | **x** | **x** | **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** | **x** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essays | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The Division 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**

Examples of international contexts and organisations will be used where applicable to illustrate the subject content. Students will have the opportunity to develop the ability to think globally and have an understanding of international cultures through working with team members and students within their cohort, from diverse range of backgrounds.

**DIVISIONAL 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 delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 20.11.20 | Minor | Sep 21 | 1 | No |
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