1. **Title of the module**

JOUR3020 / 3021 (JN302) British Government and Politics

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

Centre for Journalism

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

Level 4

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)**

Spring

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

None

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

BA (Hons) Journalism

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   * 1. Have an understanding of the basic principles of the British constitution, the functions of Britain’s national political institutions and their role in delivering accountable and representative outcomes.
     2. Have an understanding of the electoral process, comparative electoral systems and the key issues facing electoral participation in a modern democracy.
     3. Have an appreciation of the advantages and disadvantages of the “Westminster model”.
     4. Be familiar with how a range of approaches can be used to investigate how British political systems work, and with what success.
     5. Have an understanding of the structure and financing of public services including the National Health Service, and social services.
     6. Understand the development and principles of British democracy and constitution in the era of universal suffrage.
2. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
3. Have an understanding of the key concepts and theories in the academic literature relating to British politics and journalism.
4. Have an awareness of current political issues.
5. Be able to implement research and writing skills in individual written work.
6. Be able to implement oral communication skills in group-study contexts.
7. Be able to exercise independent learning skills and organise study in an efficient and professional manner.
8. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module provides an overview of the British political system, focusing on recent political and constitutional developments. It will investigate topics such as the roles of Parliament, the Prime Minister and Cabinet, political parties, and the electoral system. It will assess key issues facing democratic government and institutions within the UK, analysing for example the role of Europe, the challenges posed by devolution, the Treasury and the National Health Service. There will also be discussion of contemporary political behaviour, including the issue of political participation.

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

Jones, B, 2010, Dictionary of British Politics, 2nd edn, Manchester University Press, Manchester

Jones, B and Norton, P, 2010, Politics UK, 7th edn, Pearson, Harlow

Judge, D, 2005, Political Institutions in the United Kingdom, Oxford University Press, Oxford

Kavanagh, D, et al., 2006, British Politics, 5th edition, Oxford University Press, Oxford

Leach, R, Coxall, B and Robins, L, 2011, British Politics, 2nd edn, Palgrave Macmillan, Basingstoke

Moran, M, 2011, Politics and Governance in the UK, 2nd edn, Palgrave Macmillan, Basingstoke

Morrison, J, 2013, Essential Public Affairs for Journalists. 3rd edn. Oxford University Press, Oxford

Peele, G, 2004, Governing the UK. British Politics in the 21st Century, 4th edn. Blackwell, Oxford

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total Contact Hours: 24

Private Study Hours: 126

Total Study Hours: 150

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

Essay (2,000 words) 40%

Seminar presentation - 20%

Examination: two hours - 40%

13.2 Reassessment methods

Like-for-like

1. ***Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section12) and methods of assessment (section 13)***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.4 |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Lecture | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Seminar | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Presentation | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Essay | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |  | x |
| Examination | 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**

Medway; Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

This module is focused on the British political system and how journalists interact with it. It is designed to be accessible to students with little or no familiarity with the structures of British politics.

**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) |
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Revised FSO Feb 2018