## KentVision Code and title of the module

POLI8240 Analysing World Politics

## Division and School/Department or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module

Division of Human and Social Sciences, School of Politics and International Relations

## The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)

Level 7

## The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents

20 credits (10 ECTS)

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

Autumn or Spring

## Prerequisite and co-requisite modules and/or any module restrictions

None

## The course(s) of study to which the module contributes

Compulsory to the following courses:

* International Relations MA
* International Relations and International Law MA

This module is available to all students on MA courses within the School of Politics and International Relations.

Also available as an elective module.

## The intended subject specific learning outcomes. On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

8.1 Demonstrate a sophisticated appreciation of key theories and concepts of international relations, including significant traditions and debates

8.2 Demonstrate high level critical engagement with theories and concepts of international relations.

8.3 Undertake compelling analysis of complex historical events and contexts through the application of relevant theories and concepts of international relations

8.4 Analyse contemporary international politics and possible future trajectories through the application of relevant theories and concepts of international relations

8.5 Demonstrate an advanced understanding of how the responses of researchers and policy makers to events is shaped by theories and concepts of international relation.

## The intended generic learning outcomes. On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

9.1 Demonstrate a deep appreciation for the role of theories and concepts in the formation of knowledge

9.2 Articulate a compelling understanding of the relationship between theory and practice, and how they inform each other.

9.3 Develop complex arguments, synthesise relevant information and exercise advanced critical judgement

9.4 Communicate ideas effectively and fluently in writing

9.6 Work independently, demonstrating initiative, self-organisation and time-management.

## 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 module 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 module 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.

## Reading list

The University is committed to ensuring that core reading materials are in accessible electronic format in line with the Kent Inclusive Practices.

The most up to date reading list for each module can be found on the university's [reading list pages](https://kent.rl.talis.com/index.html).

## Contact Hours

Private Study: 176

Contact Hours: 24

Total: 200

## Assessment methods

* 1. Main assessment methods

Essay 1 1500 words 30%

Essay 2 4000 words 70%

* 1. Reassessment methods

Like for like

## Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods and methods of assessment (section 13)

**Module learning outcomes against learning and teaching methods:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 |
| Lecture/seminar | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Private study | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

**Module learning outcomes against assessment methods:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 |
| Essay1 | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Essay 2 | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

## 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

## Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered

Canterbury

## 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 USE ONLY**

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

| Date approved | New/Major/Minor revision | Start date of delivery of (revised) version | Section revised (if applicable) | Impacts PLOs (Q6 & 7 cover sheet) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 20.11.20 | Minor | Sep 21 | 1 | No |
| 24.11.22 | Major | September 2023 | 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14 |  |