

# PO374-30 Politics of Globalization

**20/21**

**Department**

Politics & International Studies

**Level**

Undergraduate Level 3

**Module leader**

Iain Pirie

**Credit value**

30

**Module duration**

20 weeks

**Assessment**

50% coursework, 50% exam

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

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## Description

### Introductory description

Globalisation is the dominant theme in contemporary political and economic debates. Even a cursory glance at official publications emanating from the key ministries of state across the developed and underdeveloped world reveals the centrality of this concept to policy debates. Concerns about the need to 'adapt' to and meet the 'challenge' of globalisation inform the conduct not only of macroeconomic policy but every aspect of social and economic policy. Similarly a careful analysis of material produced by major corporations reveals the critical importance these organisations place on changes in the organisation of global markets and the need to become 'global firms'.

Despite the centrality of the concept of globalisation to debates across the social sciences there is little agreement as to what this concept actually means. This module seeks to explore the content of the processes that go under the rubric of globalisation and draw out their significance for our understanding of the theory and practice of governance and development. In order to do so we explore the history of globalisation and the attempts of leading theorists to conceptualise the process. Having done so we move on to analyse the key institutions (both public and private) that are shaping the contemporary world order. We shall also consider the impact of structural changes in the global political economy upon the organisation of work, gender relations, national welfare regimes and systems of democratic control.

This module explicitly adopts a post-disciplinary approach. As such no attempt will be made to

draw clear artificial distinctions between the social, political and economic. Major processes of change in systems of human organisation are simultaneously cultural, political and economic phenomena and we seek to study them as such. In practical terms this means we must be prepared to draw upon sources from throughout the social sciences and the reading list reflects the necessity of eclecticism.

## **Module aims**

The module aims to:

- Explore the definitions, measurements and chronologies of globalisation
- Explore the main theoretical approaches to understanding globalisation
- Offer an understanding of the key institutions of supranational governance
- Analyse the key agents and logics driving contemporary processes of globalisation
- Assess the key changes that are taking place in the organisation of work and the role of structural change in the global economy in driving these changes
- Explore the political and cultural significance of consumption
- Consider the implications of globalisation for conceptions of citizenship

## **Outline syllabus**

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

tbc

## **Learning outcomes**

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate an appreciation of key debates concerning how we define, measure, date and explain globalisation
- Critically discuss the characteristics of the key institutions of global governance
- Assess the gendered social and cultural impact of structural changes in the global political economy
- Critically analyse, both orally and in writing, the current issues facing social actors as the locus of economic organisation increasingly shifts to the supranational level

## **Indicative reading list**

tbc

## **Subject specific skills**

tbc

## **Transferable skills**

tbc

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## Study

### Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	22 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Seminars	20 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Private study	258 hours (86%)
Total	300 hours

### Private study description

tbc

### Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

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## Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

### Assessment group C1

	Weighting	Study time
3000 word essay	50%	
Online Examination	50%	
2 hour examination (Summer)		

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- Online examination: No Answerbook required

### Feedback on assessment

tbc

[Past exam papers for PO374](#)

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## Availability

### Courses

This module is Optional for:

- UECA-4 Undergraduate Economics 4 Year Variants
  - Year 4 of LM1H Economics, Politics & International Studies with Study Abroad
  - Year 4 of LM1H Economics, Politics & International Studies with Study Abroad
- UECA-LM1D Undergraduate Economics, Politics and International Studies
  - Year 3 of LM1D Economics, Politics and International Studies
  - Year 3 of LM1D Economics, Politics and International Studies
- Year 4 of UPHA-V7MM Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics (with Intercalated year)
- Year 3 of UPOA-M100 Undergraduate Politics
- Year 4 of UPOA-M101 Undergraduate Politics (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 4 of UPOA-M168 Undergraduate Politics and International Studies with Chinese
- Year 3 of UPOA-M169 Undergraduate Politics and International Studies with Chinese (3 year)
- Year 4 of UPOA-M165 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Italian
- Year 3 of UPOA-M162 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Quantitative Methods
- Year 4 of UPOA-M167 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Quantitative Methods (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Option list A for:

- UPOA-M16A Undergraduate Politics and International Studies
  - Year 3 of M16A Politics and International Studies
  - Year 3 of M16A Politics and International Studies
  - Year 3 of M16A Politics and International Studies
- Year 4 of UPOA-M16B Undergraduate Politics and International Studies (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 3 of UPOA-ML13 Undergraduate Politics and Sociology
- Year 4 of UPOA-ML14 Undergraduate Politics and Sociology (with Intercalated year)
- Year 4 of UPOA-M163 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and French
- Year 4 of UPOA-M164 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and German
- Year 4 of UPOA-M166 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Hispanic Studies
- Year 3 of UPOA-M16H Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Hispanic Studies (3 year degree)

This module is Option list C for:

- UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics
  - Year 3 of VM11 History and Politics

- Year 3 of VM11 History and Politics
- Year 3 of VM11 History and Politics
- Year 4 of UHIA-VM12 Undergraduate History and Politics (with Year Abroad)