

PO133-15 Foundations of Political Economy

24/25

Department

Politics & International Studies

Level

Undergraduate Level 1

Module leader

Tamar Nir

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

N/A

Module aims

This module aims to introduce students to political economy, which is a long-established and vibrant field of political studies. It will serve as a foundation for future years of study on related modules. Its principal objective is to provide a genuine foundation to political economy and help first-year undergraduate students to begin thinking like political economists. The module will be built around a series of 'big questions', which will speak to experiences of the contemporary world and will be designed to unlock debates about key concepts in the foundations of political economy through discussions of those experiences. The aim is to offer a distinctive optional module that is fully complementary to other PAIS modules at this level.

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.

Week 1: Introduction to political economy

Week 2: Markets

Week 3: Colonialism

Week 4: Gender

Week 5: Governance

Week 6: Reading Week

Week 7: Labour

Week 8: Trade

Week 9: Money & finance

Week 10: Growth & sustainability

Learning outcomes

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

- Demonstrate a basic understanding of how political economy contributes to the study of politics as a whole.
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of different approaches to the study of political economy.
- Be able to relate scholarly literature theorising political economy and actual contemporary developments including very topical events.
- Be able to make informed comparisons of various strengths and weaknesses of different political systems or regimes.
- Ability to critically analyse ideas, in writing, in relation to the issues influencing the transformation of the economy.

Indicative reading list

O'Brien, R. and Williams, M. (2010) *Global Political Economy*, third edition, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Ravenhill, J. (ed) (2011) *Global Political Economy*, third edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Blyth, M. (eds) (2009) *Routledge Handbook of International Political Economy: IPE as a Global Conversation*, London: Routledge.

Crane, G. T. and Amawi, A. (eds) *The Theoretical Evolution of International Political Economy*, second edition (Oxford University Press, 1997).

Phillips, N. (ed) (2005) *Globalizing International Political Economy*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Stilwell, F. (2012) *Political Economy: The Contest of Economic Ideas*, third edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Strange, S. (2003) *States and Markets*, second edition, London: Continuum

Stubbs, R. and Underhill, G. (2006) *Political Economy and the Changing Global Order*, third edition, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Tabb, W. (1999) *Reconstructing Political Economy: The Great Divide in Economic Thought*, London: Routledge

Watson, M. (2005) *Foundations of International Political Economy*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Subject specific skills

NA

Transferable skills

- Communication skills
 - Lateral thinking skills
 - Skills in the distillation and application of information and ideas
 - Critical thinking
 - Analytical skills
 - Independent research skills
 - Reflecting on what makes 'good' supporting evidence
 - Problem solving
 - Time management
 - Information Technology
 - Skills in academic practice
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Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Seminars	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Private study	132 hours (88%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

tbc

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group A2

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
1 x 2,500-word essay	100%		Yes (extension)

Feedback on assessment

Essay feedback will be returned within 20 working days of essay submission

Formative and summative feedback will be provided in accordance with standard PAIS practice.

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of UECA-LM1D Undergraduate Economics, Politics and International Studies
- Year 1 of UPOA-M102 Undergraduate Global Politics (with Integrated Year Abroad at Brussels School of Governance, VUB)
- Year 1 of UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics
- Year 1 of UPOA-M162 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Quantitative Methods

This module is Unusual option for:

- Year 1 of UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 1 of UPHA-V5L2 Undergraduate Philosophy and Politics

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 1 of UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics
- Year 1 of UPOA-M100 Undergraduate Politics
- Year 1 of UPOA-M16A Undergraduate Politics and International Studies

This module is Option list B for:

- USOA-L301 BA in Sociology
 - Year 1 of L305 Sociology with Specialism in Cultural Studies
 - Year 1 of L303 Sociology with Specialism in Gender Studies
 - Year 1 of L304 Sociology with Specialism in Research Methods
 - Year 1 of L302 Sociology with Specialism in Social Policy