



LEEDS  
BECKETT  
UNIVERSITY

# Course Specification BA (Hons) Politics and Related Pathways

Course Code:POLTS

2021/22

# BA (Hons) Politics and Related Pathways (POLTS)

## Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2021/22 Undergraduate Entrants

Confirmed at APR/2021

### General Information

#### General Information

<b>Award</b>	Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) Politics Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) Politics with Global Development Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) Politics with Peace Studies* Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) Politics with Human Rights Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) Politics with International Relations
<b>Contained Awards</b>	Bachelor of Arts (Politics and all Pathway Titles) Diploma of Higher Education (Politics and all Pathway Titles) Certificate of Higher Education (Politics only)
<b>Awarding Body</b>	Leeds Beckett University
<b>Level of Qualification &amp; Credits</b>	Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5 and 6 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (360 credits in total)

**\*NB the Peace Studies pathway is currently closed for new admissions in 2021/22**

#### Course Lengths & Standard

**Timescales** Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length of the course is confirmed below, and modes of delivery will be confirmed prior to the start date in line with Government guidance:

3 years (full time, campus based)  
6 years (part time, campus based)

**Part Time Study** PT students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study. PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence to that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that the work placement option is not generally available to PT students.

**Location(s) of Delivery** City Campus, Leeds

**Entry Requirements** Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: [www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/recognition-of-prior-learning](http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/recognition-of-prior-learning).

Admissions enquiries may be directed to:  
[AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk).

**Course Fees** Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to [Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk).

## Timetable Information

Timetables will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Outlook Calendar
- ii) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- iii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

**Policies, Standards and Regulations** ([www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/academicregulations](http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/academicregulations))

There are no additional or non-standard regulations which relate to your course

## Key Contacts

**Your Course Director** Robin Redhead

**Your Academic Advisor** An academic advisor will be allocated to you at induction.

**Your Course Administrator** Abi Robinson ([A.M.Robinson@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:A.M.Robinson@leedsbeckett.ac.uk))

## Course Overview

### Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

- provide a coherent and progressive programme of study in politics which centres of questions political and international order and disorder, decision-making and political contestation.
- enable students to acquire knowledge and understanding in appropriate areas of theory and analysis, to critically examine and use the concepts, approaches and methods of politics and international relations, and to understand the contested nature and problematic character of inquiry and knowledge in the discipline
- relate the academic study of politics to questions of public concern, political action and policies focusing on contemporary issues and challenges confronting governance at the national, regional and global level
- enable students to think critically, ethically and independently about political events, ideas and institutions

- offer students opportunities to shape the direction of their studies through choice of option modules and dissertation topic
- enable students to develop a range of personal, cognitive, social, academic and employability skills relevant to their intellectual, vocational and personal development
- provide a curriculum supported by scholarship, staff development and a research culture that promotes breadth and depth of intellectual enquiry and debate
- create a learning environment that is receptive to the needs and views of students and encourages them to achieve their full potential.

Reflecting the breadth of the discipline, the course encompasses the following overlapping and interrelated themes:

### **Governance**

Key institutions, processes and actors, in the public, private and third sectors and at a variety of levels from the local to the global

### **Power, influence and political behaviour**

Nature of political power, the play of power in policy-making, political movements and parties, political participation

### **Political theory and ideas**

Political ideologies including classical and contemporary approaches, key thinkers and debates within political philosophy, explanatory and normative political theories

### **World Politics**

International relations; globalisation, regions and interdependence; global issues; actor and system approaches; human rights

### **Social and economic context of politics**

Historical development, social and economic structure, forms of social division

### **Research**

Research principles and practice, evaluating and using research, doing research, the status of knowledge claims

### **Personal development**

Develop a range of skills relevant to intellectual, vocational and personal development

### **Big issues**

The course will enable students to examine some of the pressing political issues and challenges confronting the world today, including: climate change, global justice, human rights, war and peace, migration and cultural diversity, inequality, the crisis of capitalism

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Examine, understand and evaluate politics as a human activity with a global outlook, through the ability to describe, analyse and assess the nature and distribution of power in systems, processes and institutions of governance and comprehend different interpretations of world political events and issues, synthesising relevant information, exercising critical judgement and constructing reasoned arguments.

2. Outline, contrast, evaluate and apply key theories, concepts and ideas within the study of Politics synthesising relevant information, exercising critical judgement and constructing reasoned arguments
3. Engage in and reflect on political participation; develop the academic, personal and employability skills necessary for intellectual, vocational and personal development and demonstrate global awareness and outlook in their application
4. Gather, organise and deploy evidence, data and information from a variety of secondary and primary sources, and demonstrate digital literacy in the critical and reflective use of ICTs in the retrieval and presentation of research
5. Creatively and effectively devise, plan and carry out research using a range of appropriate sources, methods and technologies, and present findings in a range of formats
6. Identify, critically analyse and advocate solutions to problems, while recognising the importance of communicating effectively in speech and writing, referencing and ethical requirements of study and time management skills, to become a mature, enterprising and independent learner.

## Teaching and Learning Activities

### Summary

There will be some variation in learning and teaching activities between modules, depending on the learning outcomes and different approaches taken by module leaders (see Module Specifications for details). However, learning and teaching activities will generally take the following form:

- Emphasis is placed on the importance of face-to-face student-tutor and student- student contact in a classroom situation
- Learning and teaching is built around a programme of lectures and seminars. Typically, students will be involved in one lecture and one seminar each week for each module through the semester
- Lectures and seminars provide a foundation and guidance for students' independent study and a forum for feedback.

A strong emphasis is placed on challenging and stimulating students and encouraging them to think critically and independently, e.g. by exploring the contested nature of political ideas through lectures, reading and seminar discussions

Lectures generally involve a large group (usually comprised of all students taking a particular module). The nature of lectures can vary within and between modules, for example in terms of the nature of student participation. In general lectures provide a framework for independent study and for the learning and teaching in seminars

Seminars usually involve a smaller group (20 students), are usually more participatory in style, and focus on week-by-week directed study and learning activities and providing feedback. Seminars provide opportunities for students to clarify their understanding, present and defend their ideas, and engage in dialogue and debate

Lectures and seminars are supported by learning resources usually provided in electronic (VLE) formats. The module handbook is normally posted on the VLE at the start of the semester, and further resources e.g. lecture presentations may be added throughout the semester. Learning resources typically include:

- Module specification and/or other description of aims and learning outcomes
- Lecture/seminar programme
- Assessment tasks, including reassessment
- Assessment criteria
- Arrangements for submission of assessments and feedback
- Seminar tasks eg discussion questions
- Programme of 'reading' including utilising a range of print and on-line resources
- Lecture presentations e.g. PowerPoint
- Tutor contact details and arrangements

Tutors will be available for scheduled office hours and drop-in sessions. Scheduled contact may also be organised utilising the VLE, e.g. on-line discussions. Tutors will also be available for non- scheduled contact with students via telephone, email or face-to-face meetings

## Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. PT students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

### Course Structure BA (Hons) Politics

#### Level 4

Semester 1	Core(Y/N)	Semester 2	Core(Y/N)
Politics, Ethics & Justice	Y	Politics, Ethics & Justice	Y
Political Movements & Ideologies	Y	Introduction to Political Economy	Y
World Politics	Y	Introduction to Governance	Y

#### Level 5

Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Active Citizenship	Y	Active Citizenship	Y
The UK and the EU	Y	Global Inequalities	Y
		The Modern State	Y
Optional Modules			
Political Economy of the Global South	N	Understanding Development	N
Theories of Peace & Security	N	Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution	N
International Human Rights	N	Introduction to Marx	N
Understanding Security	N	Debates in Human Rights	N
		Environment and World Politics	N

NB - All option modules are indicative.

#### Level 6

Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Dissertation in Politics			
Policy Making	Y	Governing Globalisation	Y
Optional Modules			
The Politics of Human Rights	N	Advanced Surveillance	N

Non-Violent Resistance	N	British Politics	N
International Political Economy	N	International Peacekeeping	N
Community Development	N	Decolonising Politics	N
Rethinking Diplomacy	N		

NB - All option modules are indicative.

### Course Structure BA Hons Politics with Global Development

#### Level 4

Semester 1	Core(Y/N)	Semester 2	Core(Y/N)
Politics, Ethics & Justice	Y	Politics, Ethics & Justice	Y
Political Movements & Ideologies	Y	Introduction to Political Economy	Y
World Politics	Y	Introduction to Governance	Y

#### Level 5

Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Active Citizenship	Y	Active Citizenship	Y
The UK and the EU	Y	Global Inequalities	Y
Political Economy of the Global South	Y	The Modern State	Y
		Understanding Development	Y

#### Level 6

Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Dissertation in Global Development	Y	Dissertation in Global Development	Y
Policy Making	Y	Governing Globalisation	Y
Community Development	Y	Optional Modules	
		Advanced Surveillance	N
		International Peacekeeping	N
		Decolonising Politics	N
		British Politics	N

NB - All option modules are indicative.

### Course Structure BA Hons Politics with Peace Studies

**NB: the Peace Studies pathway is currently closed for new admissions in 2021/22**

#### Level 4

Semester 1	Core(Y/N)	Semester 2	Core(Y/N)
Politics, Ethics & Justice	Y	Politics, Ethics & Justice	Y
Political Movements & Ideologies	Y	Introduction to Political Economy	Y
World Politics	Y	Introduction to Governance	Y

#### Level 5

Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Active Citizenship	Y	Active Citizenship	Y
The UK and the EU	Y	Global Inequalities	Y
Theories of Peace & Security	Y	The Modern State	Y
		Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution	Y

**Level 6**

Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Dissertation in Peace Studies	Y	Dissertation in Peace Studies	Y
Policy Making	Y	Governing Globalisation	Y
Non-Violent Resistance	Y	Optional Modules	
		Advance Surveillance	N
		International Peacekeeping	N
		Decolonising Politics	N
		British Politics	N

NB - All option modules are indicative.

**Course Structure BA Hons Politics with Human Rights****Level 4**

Semester 1	Core(Y/N)	Semester 2	Core(Y/N)
Politics, Ethics & Justice	Y	Politics, Ethics & Justice	Y
Political Movements & Ideologies	Y	Introduction to Political Economy	Y
World Politics	Y	Introduction to Governance	Y

**Level 5**

Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Active Citizenship	Y	Active Citizenship	Y
The UK and the EU	Y	Global Inequalities	Y
International Human Rights	Y	The Modern State	Y
		Debates in Human Rights	Y

**Level 6**

Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Dissertation in Human Rights	Y	Dissertation in Human Rights	Y
Policy Making	Y	Governing Globalisation	Y
The Politics of Human Rights	Y	Optional Modules	
		International Peacekeeping	N
		Advanced Surveillance	N
		Decolonising Politics	N
		British Politics	N

NB - All option modules are indicative.

**Course Structure BA Hons Politics with International Relations****Level 4**

Semester 1	Core(Y/N)	Semester 2	Core(Y/N)
Politics, Ethics & Justice	Y	Politics, Ethics & Justice	Y
Political Movements & Ideologies	Y	Introduction to Political Economy	Y
World Politics	Y	Introduction to Governance	Y

**Level 5**

Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Active Citizenship	Y	Active Citizenship	Y
The UK and the EU	Y	Global Inequalities	Y
Understanding Security	Y	The Modern State	Y
		Environment and World Politics	Y

## Level 6

Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Dissertation in International Relations	Y	Dissertation in International Relations	Y
Policy Making	Y	Governing Globalisation	Y
Rethinking Diplomacy	Y	Optional Modules	
		Advanced Surveillance	N
		International Peacekeeping	N
		Decolonising Politics	N
		British Politics	N

NB - All option modules are indicative.

## Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities by Level

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

### Assessment

Level 4 is assessed by coursework predominantly, with some examinations and practical assessments.  
Level 5 is assessed by coursework predominantly, with some examinations and practical assessments.  
Level 6 is assessed by coursework predominantly, with some examinations and practical assessments.

### Workload

Overall Workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	228 hours	250 hours	183 hours
Independent Study	972 hours	845 hours	1017 hours
Volunteering	hours	70 hours	hours

## Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

If you have any questions about life at our University in general, call into or contact the Student Advice Hub on either campus. This team, consisting of recent graduates and permanent staff, are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. There is a Student Advice Hub on the ground floor of the Rose Bowl at City Campus and one in Campus Central at Headingley. You can also find the team in the Gateway in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus. Email enquiries may be directed to [studentadvicehub@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:studentadvicehub@leedsbeckett.ac.uk).

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.