



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

BA (Hons) Politics and Related Pathways

Course Code: POLTS

2023/24

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

BA (Hons) Politics and Related Pathways (POLTS)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2023/24 Undergraduate Entrants

Confirmed at October 2022

General Information

Award	Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) Politics Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) Politics with Global Development Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) Politics with Human Rights Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) Politics with International Relations
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Contained Awards

Bachelor of Arts (Politics and all Pathway Titles)
Diploma of Higher Education (Politics and all Pathway Titles)
Certificate of Higher Education (Politics only)

Awarding Body

Leeds Beckett University

Level of Qualification and Credits

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).

Course Lengths and Standard Timescales

Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below:

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

Part Time Study

Part-time delivery is usually at half the intensity of the full-time 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 part-time 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: <https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/>

Admissions enquiries may be directed to:

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

Timetable Information

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

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

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

Policies, Standards and Regulations (<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>)

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

Key Contacts

Your Course Director

Dr Robin Redhead

Your Academic Advisor

An academic advisor will be allocated to you at induction.

Your Course Administrator

The name of your Course Administrator/s will be confirmed during induction, their contact details are: PIRadmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

In Year Work Placement Information

Summary

At Level 5 students take the Active Citizenship module. This module provides students with an opportunity to engage with the practice of politics and international relations by undertaking a volunteering placement. Students gain practical experience of a professional work area related to their course of study.

Length

Students will undertake a period of volunteering amounting to 70 hours in total.

Location

The nature, format and location of the volunteering will be determined on a year-by-year basis through negotiation with the module leader.

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

- Provide a coherent and progressive programme of study in politics which centres on questions of 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.

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 e.g. 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. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. 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. Part-time students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study.

Course Structure BA (Hons) Politics

Level 4			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Politics, Ethics and Justice (40 credits)	Y	Politics, Ethics and Justice (40 credits) (<i>continued from Semester 1</i>)	Y
Political Movements and Ideologies (20 credits)	Y	Introduction to Political Economy (20 credits)	Y
World Politics (20 credits)	Y	Introduction to Governance (20 credits)	Y

Level 5			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Active Citizenship (20 credits)	Y	Active Citizenship (20 credits) (<i>continued from Semester 1</i>)	Y
The UK and the EU (20 credits)	Y	Global Inequalities (20 credits)	Y
Theories of Peace and Security (20 credits)	N	The Modern State (20 credits)	Y
International Human Rights (20 credits)	N	Political Economy of Development (20 credits)	N
Understanding Security (20 credits)	N	Debates in Human Rights (20 credits)	N
Introduction to Marx (20 credits)	N	Environment and World Politics (20 credits)	N
Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution (20 credits)	N		

Level 6			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Dissertation in Politics (40 credits)	Y	Dissertation in Politics (40 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y
Governing Globalisation (20 credits)	Y	Governing Globalisation (20 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y
Policy Making (20 credits)	Y	Advanced Surveillance (20 credits)	N
The Politics of Human Rights (20 credits)	N	British Politics (20 credits)	N
Non-Violent Resistance (20 credits)	N	International Peacekeeping (20 credits)	N
International Political Economy (20 credits)	N	Decolonising Politics (20 credits)	N
Community Development (20 credits)	N		
Rethinking Diplomacy (20 credits)	N		

Course Structure BA Hons Politics with Global Development

Level 4			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Politics, Ethics and Justice (40 credits)	Y	Politics, Ethics and Justice (40 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y
Political Movements and Ideologies (20 credits)	Y	Introduction to Political Economy (20 credits)	Y
World Politics (20 credits)	Y	Introduction to Governance (20 credits)	Y

Level 5			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Active Citizenship (20 credits)	Y	Active Citizenship (20 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y
The UK and the EU (20 credits)	Y	Global Inequalities (20 credits)	Y
Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution (20 credits)	Y	The Modern State (20 credits)	Y
		Political Economy of Development (20 credits)	Y

Level 6			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Dissertation in Global Development (40 credits)	Y	Dissertation in Global Development (40 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y
Governing Globalisation (20 credits)	Y	Governing Globalisation (20 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y
Policy Making (20 credits)	Y	Advanced Surveillance (20 credits)	N
Community Development (20 credits)	Y	International Peacekeeping (20 credits)	N
		Decolonising Politics (20 credits)	N
		British Politics (20 credits)	N

Course Structure BA Hons Politics with Human Rights

Level 4			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Politics, Ethics and Justice (40 credits)	Y	Politics, Ethics and Justice (40 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y

Political Movements and Ideologies (20 credits)	Y	Introduction to Political Economy (20 credits)	Y
World Politics (20 credits)	Y	Introduction to Governance (20 credits)	Y

Level 5			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Active Citizenship (20 credits)	Y	Active Citizenship (20 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y
The UK and the EU (20 credits)	Y	Global Inequalities (20 credits)	Y
International Human Rights (20 credits)	Y	The Modern State (20 credits)	Y
		Debates in Human Rights (20 credits)	Y

Level 6			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Dissertation in Human Rights (40 credits)	Y	Dissertation in Human Rights (40 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y
Governing Globalisation (20 credits)	Y	Governing Globalisation (20 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y
Policy Making (20 credits)	Y	International Peacekeeping (20 credits)	N
The Politics of Human Rights (20 credits)	Y	Advanced Surveillance (20 credits)	N
		Decolonising Politics (20 credits)	N
		British Politics (20 credits)	N

Course Structure BA Hons Politics with International Relations

Level 4			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Politics, Ethics and Justice (40 credits)	Y	Politics, Ethics and Justice (40 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y
Political Movements and Ideologies (20 credits)	Y	Introduction to Political Economy (20 credits)	Y
World Politics (20 credits)	Y	Introduction to Governance (20 credits)	Y

Level 5			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Active Citizenship (20 credits)	Y	Active Citizenship (20 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y
The UK and the EU (20 credits)	Y	Global Inequalities (20 credits)	Y
Understanding Security (20 credits)	Y	The Modern State (20 credits)	Y
		Environment and World Politics (20 credits)	Y

Level 6			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Dissertation in International Relations (40 credits)	Y	Dissertation in International Relations (40 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y
Governing Globalisation (20 credits)	Y	Governing Globalisation (20 credits) <i>(continued from Semester 1)</i>	Y
Policy Making (20 credits)	Y	Advanced Surveillance (20 credits)	N

Rethinking Diplomacy (20 credits)	Y	International Peacekeeping (20 credits)	N
		Decolonising Politics (20 credits)	N
		British Politics (20 credits)	N

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 pathways and 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 practical assessments.

Level 6 is assessed by coursework predominantly, with some practical assessments.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	228 hours	192 hours	146 hours
Independent Study	972 hours	938 hours	1054 hours
Placement	-	70 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.

Student Services

If you have any questions about life at University, call into our Student Services Centre at either campus or contact Student Advice directly. This team, consisting of trained officers and advisers 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. They also work on a wide range of projects throughout the year all designed to enhance your student experience and ensure you make the most of your time with us. Student Advice are located in the Student Services Centre in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus and on the ground floor of the Priestley Building at Headingley Campus. The team can also be contacted via email at studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk, telephone on 0113 812 3000, or by accessing our online chat link, available on the student homepage.

Support and Opportunities

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.