



Study Abroad UG Sample Module List

By Theme

Please note, generally Level 3 modules are final year classes and will usually require demonstration of prior academic learning related to the class. The relevant academic School will make a final decision on a Study Abroad applicant's suitability for a class of study.

*Modules subject to change. Students are advised that not all modules will necessarily be offered in each academic year. Also, the delivery of a module may be subject to a minimum number of enrolments as well as unforeseen circumstances (e.g. illness of a member of staff). The range and content of modules may change over time and students' choice of optional modules may also be limited due to timetabling constraints.

- **THEME: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

SEMESTER ONE: FALL	
Module Details	Description
Level 1	
PAI1006 World Politics	The module examines the development of the international system and raises questions about how and whether this system is changing in light of processes of globalisation. International relations theories of realism, idealism and critical approaches will be introduced, as well as issues of war and conflict, global inequality, poverty, climate change, race and gender.
PAI1007 Perspectives on Politics	This module aims to introduce students to the broad field of political theory and philosophy, a necessary and integral component of the study of politics generally. Taking a contemporary approach to the subject, the module stresses the vital importance of theoretical enquiry for understanding, analysing, and criticizing everyday socio-political life. Students are therefore introduced to key concepts and problems in the study of politics, including the meaning of democracy, the fraught relation between the individual and society, and the contested nature of power and political authority. In exploring these themes, students come to an appreciation of the complexities surrounding our everyday notions of democratic rule, freedom, justice, citizenship, government, and power.

ANT1003 A World on the Move: Historical and Anthropological Approaches to Globalisation	This module provides an anthropological introduction to the study of globalisation, using comparative case studies from the contemporary and the historical record, and outlining links with perspectives in the field of history. Among the issues discussed are: global and local linkages in a world of economic, cultural and political connectivity; cultural convergence and the expression of cultural difference; migration, refugees, trafficked people, tourism; diasporas, the idea of home and national borders; transnational family networks in the contemporary world; global and local regimes of power and resistance.
Level 2	
PAI2001 Politics and Policy of the European Union	This module serves as an introduction to the European Union and demonstrates how this evolving and expanding tier of European governance impacts on national political systems. The module is divided into three parts. The first part sets the scene for the study of the EU and introduces students to the evolution of the EU, the treaty base and the theories of integration. The second part explores the composition and powers of the main EU institutions (such as the Commission, the European Parliament, the Council and the Courts). It also accounts for the decision making process and the role of NGOs in the EU system. The final part focuses on the EU policy base and seeks to explain where and why the EU is active in certain policy areas. It examines a series of salient policy areas including the common agricultural policy, environmental policy, foreign and defence policy, enlargement and competition policy.
PAI2005 Modern Political Thought	This module focuses on a critical analysis of key texts and themes in the history of modern political thought. The study of the work of key thinkers in the modern era serves a range of purposes. Firstly, we can, in some instances, learn directly from these works, acquiring ideas that we can apply to our own circumstances. Secondly, through studying these texts we can learn about ourselves and our own political, ethical, and intellectual situation, through coming to a better understanding of how these works have contributed to shaping the world that we live in. Finally, through engaging with the complex arguments constructed in classic texts we can hope to learn how we might come to construct political arguments of our own. The choice of texts to be studied may vary from year to year.
PAI2011 The Politics of Deeply Divided Societies	In this module we study the politics of deeply divided societies such as Northern Ireland, South Africa under Apartheid and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The module is built around an examination of ethnic and national conflict in

	<p>terms of global politics. A range of comparative themes are studied as they relate to dimensions of conflict such as violence, civil disobedience and strategies for the management of such conflicts by state and non-state actors. Challenges to power and claims to legitimacy are key elements of our study. We also focus on prescriptions for the resolution of conflicts including partition, power-sharing and negotiations. The failure and successes of respective peace processes are also examined to draw on lessons for future conflict resolution efforts.</p>
PAI2017 International Relations	<p>This module sets out to help students understand and analyse the development of International Relations as a discipline through its theories and major issues. The key theories of international relations are examined, from Realism, through Marxism to contemporary approaches such as Post-structuralism, with a focus upon how each one criticises and responds to the others revealing its strengths and weaknesses. Within this, major issues of international relations will be explored from a theoretical and conceptual perspective, such as the balance of power, peace, international society, norms and gender. Finally, the course turns to modern challenges to the discipline of International Relations, such as International Political Economy, the spread of Globalization, and contemporary concerns with security and the War on Terror. The module therefore considers how well International Relations is responding to these challenges.</p>
PAI2043 Studying Politics	<p>Without understanding the methodology of research practice it is not possible to undertake political research effectively or critically assess the work of others. Equally, without research skills it is not possible to test our assertions, assumptions, knowledge and preconceptions about the political world. Research methods are therefore a crucial tool if we are to be able to address the important question of 'how do we know' which is critical in all fields of political studies. Consequently, this module has four aims. Firstly, to introduce students to the political research environment, incorporating both the elements and processes that underpin inquiry. Secondly, the module seeks to examine different methodologies and techniques to enable the undertaking of both original and critical research. Thirdly, to encourage candidates to develop a critical appreciation of data including both content and use. Fourthly, to promote a general awareness and working knowledge not only of the complexities of political research but also of the variety of environments in which research takes place.</p>
Level 3*	

<p>PAI3026 Earth, Energy, Ethics and Economy *Prerequisites may apply. Students may need to show evidence of previous study.</p>	<p>The continuing problematic relationship between key dynamics of modern economic and social systems and the non-human world is one of the most pressing issues of the 21st century and will continue shape the political agenda both nationally and globally. This module will examine some of the key debates of the politics of sustainable development, including: green ethical and political theory; the role of the environment and nature in political theorising; the economic and policy alternatives to unsustainable development and the normative underpinnings of a sustainable society.</p>
<p>PAI3011 Middle Eastern Politics *Prerequisites may apply. Students may need to show evidence of previous study.</p>	<p>This module is built around a problem-solving approach to the study of the Middle East and politics affecting the region. It looks at the enduring issues and problems associated with the perspectives of impact of colonialism on the region and poses critical positions around these issues. Protracted conflicts, political-economy, religion, ethnicity and gender are also approached in terms of a problem-solving approach as they relate to the state and politics in the Middle East. The module identifies factors that characterise the region and are unique to its political life. The state and ideology is questioned, with the influence of imported western models and their effects on the natural system of politics that had governed the region for centuries previously. The impacts of the Arab Awakening/Arab Spring will also be examined throughout.</p>
<p>PAI3073 Security and Technology *Prerequisites may apply. Students may need to show evidence of previous study.</p>	<p>Security politics has long been associated with the development, use and regulation of new technologies, from the 'nuclear revolution' to contemporary practices of cyber-security and surveillance. This module focusses on the inter-relationships of technology and security, and seeks to develop advanced understanding of the complexities of the "technopolitics" of security. This includes both novel technologies and the mundane materialities of security (fences, walls, guns). It introduces students to the role and political significance of science and technology from different theoretical perspectives, from political realism to the contemporary 'material turn' in critical security studies. It seeks to engage students in contemporary political debates and practices that entangle science and technology and security politics which may include issues such as cyber-security, UAVs/Drones, disarmament, nuclear terrorism, critical infrastructure protection, technologies of killing, biotechnology, biometrics, surveillance, border control, food security, health and medical technologies, and technologies of (military) bodies, among others. The module incorporates both theoretical perspectives (including</p>

	IR/Security theory, and wider philosophy of technology and Science, Technology and Society approaches) and in depth empirical material.
PAI3039 Arms Control *Prerequisites may apply. Students may need to show evidence of previous study.	The module will introduce the student to arms control as a part of national security policy and strategy. The focus of the module is mainly on strategic arms control of the 20th Century and early 21st Century. The module focus is on nuclear arms control and the structures of world order. The Nuclear Non Proliferation regime will be the basis for the analysis of the arms limitation and arms reduction treaties of the 1970s to 2000s. The module will thus deal with SALT I, SALT II, with START, New START and the INF Treaty. The MBFR negotiations and CFE treaty will offer a bridge to the wider spectrum of arms control. Humanitarian arms control, biological and chemical arms control regimes and control or prohibition of space based weapons will also feature. The module will offer a classic and a critical introduction into arms control theory.

SEMESTER TWO: SPRING	
Module Details	Description
Level 1	
PAI1003 Issues in Contemporary Politics	<p>To expose students to contemporary/recent and developing political issues locally, nationally and globally. The module will change year-to-year depending on these issues and staff availability. Typically each topic/issue will be taught in 3-week blocs and each bloc either team taught or given by the same colleague.</p> <p>Indicative list of issues (not exhaustive)</p> <p>Political Economy - trade, finance, energy, resources, politics of austerity War/conflict/geopolitics - current crisis in Syria, ISIS, Ukraine-Russia-EU, Israel-Palestine Environment/Sustainability - climate change, climate justice, biodiversity loss, Political Parties and Policy-making - rise of Jeremy Corbyn, Bernie Sanders, reform of party finances, decentralisation of policy-making, innovations such as participative budgeting from around the world; Gender, women and politics – Hilary Clinton as US President/candidate, strategies for increasing women’s representation (including quotas), the women’s movement and politics Social movements and political ideas – Occupy movement, religion and politics, relevance of debates on long-standing normative political ideas – social justice, democracy, recognition</p>

	<p>etc. to these issues; role of trades unions, workplace democracy, workers' rights etc.</p> <p>Migration and refugees – normative, empirical and political-policy explanations of and responses to flows of people across borders, current Syrian one for example, but also other case studies</p> <p>Leadership and citizenship- examples of political leadership and citizenship in formal electoral politics and civil society from around the world</p>
PAI1009 Comparative Politics	<p>The purpose of this course is to explore key themes in British and Irish Politics in a comparative perspective. The aim is to enable students to understand current politics by comparing Britain, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland to each other and also to other developed democracies. The course opens with two lectures that lay out the ideas behind comparison as a tool of understanding. Subsequent topics include: party systems, electoral systems, government formation, inter-party competition, intra-party competition and devolution.</p>
Level 2	
PAI2055 Security and Terrorism	<p>This module explores contemporary approaches to the study of security and terrorism. It will examine changes in definitions of security and terrorism, the evolution of approaches to the study of security and terrorism. Students will be familiarised with the main “threats” to state and human security; the changing nature of war and other organised violence; and areas of security policy and practice including arms control, alliance formation, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, among others. Students will also explore domestic and transnational non-state terrorism, state terrorism, and counter-terrorism policy and practice.</p>
PAI2056 International Organisations	<p>This module on International Organizations offers an introduction into the multilateral global security architecture. The core focus of the module is collective security. The module IO thus will deal with international law, collective security, regimes in international security and International security organizations. The United Nations system forms the core of the study. Peacekeeping, peace enforcement, peace building and the ‘outsourcing’ of core collective security tasks to regional players will dominate the sessions of the module. Core military interventions by international organizations will be analyzed. The module thus will deal with military interventions by the UN, NATO, CIS/CSTO, EU and core security and mediation tasks by the CIS, SCO and OSCE. The new policy agenda of energy security will be tackled by studying resource control: The NPT regime, the IAEA and oil and gas regimes thus will be scrutinized at the end of the semester. The</p>

	major aim of the module is to outline the 'institutionalized' world order of today – with its hierarchies, cleavages and contradictions. The module is wedded to a strategic studies approach to IR.
PAI2018 American Politics	This survey course introduces students to the American political system, current debates on democracy in America and its role in the world. The first section of the module, examines the basic institutions of the American political system, its origins, development and evolving dynamics. Particular emphasis is placed on the US Constitution, federalism and the system of checks and balances, as well as the three branches of government: the Presidency, Congress and the Supreme Court. The second section constitutes a more normative engagement with issues relating to the contemporary nature of American democracy, examining in particular controversies surrounding the electoral process and the role of socioeconomic inequality and race in shaping political outcomes.
Level 3*	
SOC3048 Global Risk Society *Prerequisites may apply. Students may need to show	The purpose of this module is to examine from a sociological perspective some of the major trends that are transforming social relations on a global scale. As world leaders become increasingly comfortable in referring to a 'global society', we question the nature of what is being created and how this is being achieved. By applying concepts from political sociology in particular, this course will provide insights into the relations of power behind these trends and the new forms of social participation that they have provoked.
PAI3038 US Foreign Policy *Prerequisites may apply. Students may need to show evidence of previous study.	Understanding the nature and sources of the world's pre-eminent superpower is indispensable in analysing global security arrangements and the liberal international system. Using international relations theoretical perspectives and approaches in security studies, this module introduces students to a number of themes and debates concerning the central role of the United States in the international system and the contemporary global order. More specifically, it critically engages students with US foreign policy during the Cold War, US grand strategy, the purposes of US global military presence and its influence in the contemporary liberal global order, the "Pax Americana", and other pertinent issues, placing these in historical context from the Cold War up until the current challenge of the rise of China. The course uses various historical cases to elucidate central dynamics in US foreign policy, from US involvement in Latin America during the Cold War to US counter-terrorism strategies in the War on Terror. In this sense,

	the course is designed to provide substantive content regarding US foreign policy and its dynamics as well as critically evaluate the role of US power in the international system.
<p>PAI3012 The Global Political Economy of Energy</p> <p>*Prerequisites may apply. Students may need to show evidence of previous study.</p>	<p>This module examines the role of natural resources in modern societies, with a particular focus on energy resources and how they have shaped international politics and economics. Specific topics include: the transition from coal to oil and the emerging role of the multinational energy corporations in international politics; the link between natural resources and development in the Global South; the nature and consequences of the 'resource curse'; the geo-strategic implications of contestation over natural resources; a range of case studies, which may include the following: post-colonial petro-states in the Gulf of Guinea; the politics of land in Africa; the global impact of the US shale revolution; energy and authoritarianism in Russia and Venezuela; and the future of fossil fuels and the capitalist world order.</p>

*** Modules may require demonstration of prior learning**