Queen’s University Belfast

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Level 3 SINGLE HONOURS OPTIONAL MODULES 2018-19

**To: Level 3 Single Honours students in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences**

Single Honours Degrees – Optional Modules outside your degree programme

One of the many attractions of Single Honours degrees offered in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences is that at Level 1 (first year), students have the opportunity to study modules beyond their chosen degree subject.

From 2017-18 the option to study an optional module (20 CATS) beyond the degree subject has been extended to Level 2 and Level 3 students for a number of programmes. The programme specification for your degree will indicate whether this option exists for you. Your Adviser of Studies will also be able to provide guidance on this.

The optional modules available to students availing of the opportunity to study a module beyond their degree subject are listed below.

When choosing optional modules, some students will opt to study something familiar to them, building possibly on previous studies; in other cases they may decide to opt for one or modules in a subject or subjects they have not had a chance to study before. The choice of optional modules normally rests with the student, subject to timetable availability, maximum enrolment numbers and any prerequisites.

If you have questions about taking an optional module beyond your chosen degree subject, do not hesitate to speak with your Adviser of Studies. And remember, you can switch optional modules up until the end of the second week of the teaching semester (i.e. Friday 5 October 2018 for Semester 1 modules; Friday 25 January 2019 for Semester 2 modules). If you are interested in several optional modules, you should consider attending classes for each of these during the first two weeks of semester to help you decide on which to enrol.

I wish you well in Level 3.

David Phinnemore

Professor David Phinnemore

Dean of Education – Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

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| **SCHOOL** | **MODULE** | **SEMESTER** | **TEACHING TIMES** | **DESCRIPTION** |
| Arts, English and Languages | DRA3010 The Theatre of Brian Friel | Autumn | Wednesday 10:00-13:00 | Brian Friel was the most acclaimed playwright from Northern Ireland and one of the most internationally acclaimed playwrights of his generation. Students taking this module will learn how Friel wrote plays that proved to be popular with audiences around the world and gained such approval from leading critics and scholars. In addition to close study of the plays and their production history in the international context, students may have the opportunity to perform the plays in the Brian Friel Theatre at Queen’s and the Lyric Theatre, Belfast. |
| Arts, English and Languages | DRA3042 Post-Conflict Drama: Performing the NI Peace Process | Autumn | Monday 14:00-15:00  Friday 10:00-12:00 | This module will investigate a selection of key canonical and contemporary works of Northern Irish drama produced over the past 30 years of the Troubles through an examination of the work of Brian Friel and Frank McGuinness, Martin Lynch, Marie Jones, Gary Mitchell and others.  It will investigate how the Troubles posed particular ideological/aesthetic challenges for playwrights.  The module will explore how different authors/theatre companies creatively and critically responded to the Troubles and will examine the complex interrelationships between theatre, politics, performance, society and the state. |
| Arts, English and Languages | DRA3056 Theory and Practice of Adaptation | Spring | Monday 14:00-15:00  Monday 15:00-18:00  Wednesday 11:00-13:00 | This module asks students to examine the process and challenges of adapting works, either within the same genre in a different time or place, or between different genres.  The class will also examine how adaptation plays an integral role in the process of translation.  Each week students will examine several versions of a play, novel, and/or film script (or watch them), looking at originals from the Greeks forward to see how adaptors have grappled with great works of different eras and cultures in an attempt to make them more accessible to contemporary audiences, while at the same time (in most cases) attempting to preserve something of their original context.  The class will also look at theoretical models of adaptation.   Ultimately, students will be asked to examine the adaptation history of a single original work in an academic essay, and will try their own hand at adaptation in presenting a treatment for a work of fiction or drama adapted from a prior work. |
| Arts, English and Languages | DRA3060 Dance Theatre *(limited spaces, approval of convenor required)* | Spring | Monday 10:00-13:00 | This course serves as an introduction to dance theatre practice and related dance theory. In weekly workshops and seminars, students will engage in an interrogation of this interdisciplinary art form through discussion and practical experimentation. Workshops will introduce students to the choreographic methods of key practitioners and will prepare students for the creation of their own dance theatre performance project. In support of the practical workshops, seminar discussions will explore relevant critical and theoretical texts and will consider developments in dance theatre practice within a socio-political and historical context. No previous dance training or experience is required. |
| Arts, English and Languages | DRA3061 Performing the Classics *(limited spaces, approval of convenor required)* | Autumn | Tuesday 10:00-13:00 | This module problematises the familiar—though often unacknowledged—presumption that ‘classic’ plays are universal and timeless; that they speak across time in a clear, pure and unchanging voice.  Turning such a presumption on its head, this course actively explores how ‘classic’ dramas resist being performed today.  Through a combination of discussion, rehearsal, production, performance, and critique, we will examine how such plays confound our attempts to animate them, offer more problems than solutions, and overturn our instincts about what ‘works’ on the stage.  In so doing, this course also gives students practical knowledge of the history of dramatic form.  The course culminates in student-directed scenes from set playtexts. Works to be studied will likely include The Oresteia (Aeschylus), The Second Shepherd’s Play, Dr Faustus (Marlowe), The Knight of the Burning Pestle (Beaumont & Fletcher), and The Way of the World (Congreve). |
| Arts, English and Languages | ENL3004 Language in the Media | Autumn | Wednesday 09:00-10:00 | This module aims to provide a strong background in English language by focusing on the print and broadcast media in Britain. It will also introduce students to some of the theoretical concepts and critical issues associated with Media studies. For students, one of the most effective ways to begin understanding the media is to analyse media texts such as newspaper articles, magazine advertisements, political speeches, television and radio interviews, talk shows in detail. Students will also look at non-verbal communication, layouts, and images to see how language interacts with other modes of communication. The course examines important media issues, such as the myth of a free press, racism, violence and commercialization and also provides important information on areas of media studies essential for analysing media discourse, i.e. media practices (the way reporters and editors work and how audiences shape and are shaped by the media). |
| Arts, English and Languages | ENL3011 Stylistics: Analysing Style in Language | Autumn | Monday 10:00-12:00 | Stylistics is the application of analytical models and methods from linguistics to rhetorical texts, including (but not limited to) fictional and persuasive texts. In this module, the students are introduced to the analytical frameworks used in contemporary Stylistics, which draw on a range of approaches from Pragmatics, Corpus Linguistics and Cognitive Psychology. The frameworks are applied to texts to demonstrate how the linguistic patterns employed lead to stylistic effects. The students will practice applying the models to a variety of texts, identifying the linguistic features that contribute towards style in language. |
| Arts, English and Languages | ENL3110 The Structure of English | Spring | Monday 13:00-15:00 | This module offers students the opportunity to explore the syntax and morphology of English. Starting from the insight that sentences have structure, and that all native speakers of English have knowledge of the rules that underlie that structure, this course focuses on the grammatical tools and theoretical concepts that allow us to investigate and describe the nature of our syntactic knowledge. Students are introduced to a basic formal framework for syntactic analysis (a simple phrase-structure model informed by modern Principles-and-Parameters Theory) and the kinds of questions and problems that such a model allows us to address, including those relating to child language acquisition and syntactic variation across different dialects of English. Throughout the course, the emphasis is placed on developing practical skills for data analysis alongside scientific skills of hypothesis formation and argumentation, and on setting the English language within the wider context of human language more generally. |
| Arts, English and Languages | ENG3011 Marvels, Monsters and Miracles in Anglo-Saxon England | Spring | Thursday 16:00-17:00 | The very nature of marvels insists on their subjectivity: they are defined by the experience of their viewer.  To marvel from the Latin mirari or to wonder from the Germanic wundar is to be filled with awe, surprise, admiration or astonishment.  When we try to generalise about the meaning of marvels and the use of wonder in the Middle Ages, we are confronted with multiplicity.  How do we read marvels? What’s their role in medieval texts?  Are monsters and miracles to be read as marvels?  One of the most critical tools for discussing the nature of difference that is central to the marvellous is the idea of the ‘Other’ which offers both psychological and political means of analysing the experience of wonder.  The Anglo-Saxons were fascinated by the idea of encounters with strangeness and difference – a fascination that expressed itself in a rich and diverse range of textual, artistic and geographical representations of such imaginings.  Difference was considered both marvellous and monstrous; terrifying and fascinating; disgusting and desirable.  This module examines the perceptions of the marvellous and monstrous in the literature of the Anglo-Saxons.  It investigates the nature of those phenomena which the Anglo-Saxons experienced as marvels, how they interpreted their experiences of astonishment and how they recreated them for others.  It analyses the importance of ‘marvellous difference’ in defining ethnic, racial, religious, class and gender identities, as represented in different genres including historiography (i.e. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle), travel narratives (Wonders of the East, Alexander’s Letter to Aristotle etc), hagiography (i.e. The Life of St Christopher) and other literary texts including Beowulf, Judith, Genesis B.  Texts in Latin, Old Norse and Middle English may be used for comparative purposes.  Modern English translations will be provided for all the texts.  Students are also expected to be able to engage with texts in Old English. |
| Arts, English and Languages | ENG3020 Women's Writing 1700-1820 | Spring | Monday 10:00-11:00 | This module considers how women writers have been constrained by but have also exploited literary traditions and traces the indexes of conformity and subversion in their writing by placing them in contexts of prevailing discourses on femininity. In order to situate women's writing of this period, we will also examine constructions of femininity in visual art and conduct writings. Key texts will include fiction by Eliza Haywood, Mary Wollstonecroft Jane Austen, poetry by Aphra Behn, Anne Finch, Anna Laetitia Barbauld and labouring women poets such as Mary Leapor and Ann Yearsley, the 'Turkish Embassy' letters of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu and scandal memoirs by Margaret Leeson. |
| Arts, English and Languages | ENG3060 Contemporary Irish and Scottish Fiction  Devolutionary Identities | Autumn | Thursday 10:00-13:00 or  Thursday 14:00-17:00 | The past decades have not only seen an increasing interest in the historical, political and economic crosscurrents between Scotland and Ireland, but they have also witnessed a remarkable literary renaissance on both sides of the Irish Sea. This course explores the transformed literary landscape of Irish and Scottish fiction since the 1980s in relation to the (d)evolutionary processes of cultural and social change in today’s Atlantic archipelago, concerning in particular the Irish Republic’s economic boom in the 1990s (commonly referred to as the ‘Celtic Tiger’), the Peace Process in Northern Ireland, and the movement towards the reconstitution of the Scottish Parliament. We will examine how these changes and the issues that they raise are reflected in an indicative selection of Irish, Northern Irish, and Scottish novels, focusing on the relationship between the formal and stylistic experiments often found in these writings and the concepts of identity, society, the nation, history, and gender that they draw on, resist, and/or give rise to. In this respect, we will pay due attention to ideas about the role of literature, gender, sexuality, class, race, and religion in the (re)construction of national identity; questions of power, authority and authenticity, and the impact of globalization on cultural production; the politics of place and the rural/urban divide; revisions and representations of history, and issues of trauma and memory; the literary use of non-standard English; narrative tropes, techniques, and typographic experiments.  This course aims to establish a comparative framework in order to trace the shared concerns and noteworthy differences that characterise and constitute a significant part of the contemporary Irish and Scottish literary scene. It is designed to introduce students to dominant critical and literary paradigms as well as key debates in Irish and Scottish Studies raised by postcolonialism, postmodernism, (post-) nationalism, gender studies, and feminism. To that end, literary texts will be read alongside theoretical and cultural perspectives in both fields, copies of which will be provided in a course reader. |
| Arts, English and Languages | ENG3069 Televising the Victorians | Autumn | Tuesday 09:00-11:00 | This module aims to raise questions about the relation between works of fiction set in the Victorian period, and made-for-TV reappropriations of these texts. It considers the way that we ‘read’ the Victorian period through visual image, and the impact of technologies of the visual on the written word. It introduces different theoretical approaches to film, and explains, by means of example, the differences between cinema and television. It explores connection between cinematic practice (montage, the shot, editing, sound, space and mise-en-scène) and notions of writing. It will ask questions about the nature of genre, spectatorship, and issues of ideology and effect. The module will concentrate on identifying the range of different resources required to understand the flow of images on the TV screen, and will examine how ‘adaptation’ is conceptualised, particularly the ways in which the comparison of book and film is haunted by notions of faithfulness and the ‘original’ primacy of the literary work. |
| Arts, English and Languages | ENG3090 Restoration to Regency in Contemporary Fiction | Spring | Tuesday 13:00-14:00 | This module examines contemporary (twenty-first century) novels set during the period 1660-1820: from the Restoration of Charles II to the Regency era popularly associated with Jane Austen. These works form part of the boom in ‘historical fiction’, a branch of the novel genre that dates at least as far back as Walter Scott’s Waverley (1814) but which has gained renewed popularity and prestige in recent years. By examining narratives set during a specific time-period, the module assesses the strengths and limitations of historical fiction, the reasons for its cultural and commercial purchase, its relationship to the past and to our contemporary moment, and the usefulness of the term ‘historical fiction’ itself. ‘Historical fiction’ encompasses a variety of modes, sub-genres and aesthetic categories, and the module addresses examples of ‘popular’, mass-market fiction and ‘literary’ (highbrow) fiction; intersections with other novelistic forms (such as crime, mystery and fantasy fiction); and the place within historical fiction of literary adaptations (of Austen’s novels especially). Historical fiction often returns to familiar motifs and historical events – such as the Napoleonic Wars or the decade of the 1660s, which saw the return of the monarchy, the spread of plague and the Great Fire of London. At the same time, contemporary writers have also revisited this period in order to recover marginalised voices: to reclaim, and re-imagine, historical identities in relation to gender, sexuality, race and class. Among other elements, we will consider narratives that focus on servants and slaves, and that explore such topics as crime and the city; social hierarchy and the status of women; empire and national identity; fact, fiction and historical ‘truth’. Via a dual focus on history and the present, the module will thus ask what contemporary fiction tells us about our understanding of the past, and about our own contemporary concerns, anxieties, and obsessions. |
| Arts, English and Languages | ENG3185 Writing Africa: The Colonial Past to Colonial Present | Spring | Tuesday 10:00-12:30  Wednesday 10:00-12:30 | This module provides an overview of Anglophone prose fiction from and about the African continent, from the late 19th century to the present. Beginning with texts written at the height of British imperial power, the course charts imperial decline and decolonisation through literary eyes. Coming to focus on the African novel in English, students will study major concepts and debates in colonial and postcolonial studies and, by interrogating globalisation and the ‘colonial present’, will reflect critically on postcolonial theory itself.  This course is structured around five themes: 1) Adventure, Exploration, Empire 2) Imperial Decline 3) Decolonisation: The Rise of the African Novel 4) Gender, Trauma, Conflict 5) Postcolonialism or Neo-imperialism. |
| Arts, English and Languages | ENG3330 Irish Gothic | Spring | Tuesday 12:00-13:00 | This module explores Ireland’s unique contribution to the Gothic through an extraordinary range of texts that encompasses classics of the genre (such as Bram Stoker’s Dracula) alongside lesser-known writers such as Gerald Griffin and James Clarence Mangan. Whilst the reading for the module exemplifies the formal diversity of the genre, particular emphasis is placed on the accelerating use of the short story as a literary vehicle for terror (notably in the work of Sheridan Le Fanu and Elizabeth Bowen). The module pursues several interrelated lines of intellectual inquiry: the longstanding perception of Ireland as a site of Gothic horror; the role of Gaelic folklore and myth in creating supernatural terror; the reception and development of Gothic themes in Irish writing; and current critical debates in the field. In tracing the widespread prevalence of Gothic motifs and themes, the module seeks to delineate the contours of a distinctive aesthetic, and reflects on questions of colonial and gender politics, as well as dilemmas of national and sexual identities as they appear in the dark glass of Irish Gothic writing. |
| Arts, English and Languages | MUS3055 Politics in Popular Song from the French Revolution to Punk | Autumn | Tuesday 10:00-11:00 | This module will look at how music and song have functioned as vehicles for promoting political ideas or as reflectors of cultural philosophies or developments. Themes include: The expression of democracy in the Enlightenment; “Utility songs” in 19th-century revolutionary movements; Berlin Cabaret communication techniques; Eisler’s political song theory; song in Opera of our Time and Epic Theatre; American Civil Rights protest song; politics of folk; the 1960s, youth and counter culture; postmodernism, gender-crossing and pop as artifice; late-1970s punk rock; protest pop in the Thatcher years; techno from Kraftwerk to the Love Parade; 1990s hedonism and rejection of ideology. |
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| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | ANT3027 Human-Animal Relations: An Anthropological Perspective | Spring | Monday 11:00-13:00 | Anthropology is 'the study of Man', but this module sets out to explore the boundaries of 'humanity'. The focus is on human relationships with animals in different societies and cultures around the world. We shall look at useful animals, at harmful animals, and at symbolic animals. We shall also look at animals as objects (which are exploited in myriad ways) and at animals as persons (with which humans enter into intimate relations). These themes will be examined by means of a number of detailed ethnographic case studies of human-animal relations in different societies. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | ANT3029 Material Culture and Visual Media | Spring | Tuesday 09:00-11:00 | This module provides an introduction to anthropological perspectives on visual media and material culture and examines cultural, economic and political processes through the perspective of arts and aesthetics.  The production of artefacts and visual media is examined as a social process, and the module analysis preocesses of production, mediation and aestheticisation, and explores the wider socio-historical and political contexts in which this takes place.  The module focusses on visual representation, artistic production, museum practice and popular film, and critically discusses anthropological theories of visual and material culture. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | ANT3148 Migration, Mobilities and Borders | Spring | Tuesday 12:00-14:00 | Migration, forced displacement and the establishment of diasporic communities are considered significant processes of social transformation in the world today; and anthropologists have valuable insights and critical perspectives to offer to the understanding of such socio-political and cultural phenomena. The module allows for a close engagement with the anthropological study of migration, displacement and diasporas by examining a diverse range of topics including: migration, identity and multiculturalism; states and borders; ethnicity, nationalism and racism; conflict, displacement and refugees; migration, gender and sexuality; transnational politics and human rights; migration and international development; diasporic cultures and art. Themes are discussed with reference to ethnographic case studies from all around the world in order to unpack the theoretical, methodological and ethical approaches that anthropology brings to the study of migration. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | ANT3151 Ireland and Britain: People, Identity, Nations | Spring | Wednesday 11:00-13:00 | This course will examine anthropological and other social scientific research on Ireland and Britain with particular reference to issues of identity and social belonging. In doing so the course will examine key theoretical issues in relation to identity and the politics  of nationalism and unionism in the context of changing constitutional arrangements including  the  Irish peace process, Brexit and debates about Scottish Independence. The course will concentrate, though not exclusively, on Scotland and Ireland as case studies and examine their relationship to British and Irish identities. But the course will be interested in the relationship of locality, such as rural and urban, as well as to other key identity markers, such as class, gender, cultural performance, and the production of national stereotypes. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | ANT3150 In Gods We Trust: The New Science of Religion | Autumn | Tuesday 14:00-16:00 | Drawing on new scientific advances, this religion course examines foundational questions about the nature of religious belief and practice.  The course is based on the idea that religion is a naturalistic phenomenon — meaning it can be studied and better understood using the tools of science. Religious belief and practice emerge naturally from the structure of human psychology, and have an important impact on the structure of societies, the way groups relate to each other, and the ability of human beings to cooperate effectively.  Topics to be covered will include traditional and contemporary theories of religion, with a special emphasis on cultural evolutionary models, as well as how scientific and humanistic scholarship can benefit from mutual engagement.   The module will have an emphasis on contemporary issues in the study and practice of religion (e.g. new scientific theories of religion, the current debates between atheists and theists, and the role of religion in violent conflicts). |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | ETH3009 Popular Music and Cultures | Autumn | Friday 11:00-13:00 | Definitions of 'the popular', theories of mass culture, youth and subcultures, pleasure, analysis, ethnographies of popular music making, popular music in the non-western world, ethnomusicological analysis of popular music. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3010 The Second World War in Europe | Spring | Tuesday 15:00-17:00 | This course explores the Second World War in Europe between 1939 and 1945.  It focuses on the prelude, trajectory and consequences of the conflict, paying due attention to the rise of  the authoritarian regimes, the response of the Western democracies, the military campaigns in the  European theatre, the social and cultural dimensions of the war, the reorganisation of Europe from the spring of 1945, and the war's legacy down to the present day.  The reigning controversies in the historiography of the war will be illuminated through a rigorous study of relevant scholarly literature as well as frequent references to the experiences of ordinary individuals from both sides of the struggle. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3011 The Peasants’ Revolt 1381 | Spring | Thursday 11:00-12:00 | This course will examine the causes and repercussions of the Peasants’ Revolt of 1381. This was a significant uprising by the peasantry (and others) within medieval England, though its roots and consequences are the subject of much debate. The fourteenth century as a whole was a period of much social and economic upheaval, dominated by famine, plague, war and heresy. Students will explore the Peasants’ Revolt by situating it within the wider contexts of medieval society, such as lord-peasant relations, the Black Death, the decline of serfdom, the Hundred Years War, the growing repression of the Wycliffite or Lollard heresy, the kingship of Richard II, and revolts across Europe in the late-fourteenth century. A variety of primary sources will be examined in depth, such as court rolls, laws, chronicles, literature and tax records, in order to gain a detailed insight into the nature of revolt. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3012 Working Class Communities in the UK 1900-1970 | Autumn | Friday 10:00-11:00 | The course examines the nature and history of urban working class community in Britain and Northern Ireland from 1900 to 1970. It takes a history from below approach to the study of these communities. The focus of the course will be on everyday life and, as such, students will encounter a range of primary sources that can best be studied using an interdisciplinary approach. These sources will include film, novels, autobiographies, oral history and more traditional historical materials. Themes to be addressed will include poverty and affluence, family relations, leisure and work, housing and the changing nature of working class community, gender, and youth. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3018 Popular Culture in England 1500-1700 | Autumn | Monday 09:00-10:00 | Exploration of the cultural world of ordinary people in early modern Europe; the forms of popular culture; the relationship between elite and popular culture; the methodology historians have developed in order to study popular culture. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3022 The Origins of Protestantism | Spring | Monday 16:00-17:00 | The module will examine the rise of Protestantism in the early modern period (1517-1740), from the onset of the Reformation in Germany and Switzerland to the spread of the movement throughout Europe and America to the eve of the mainstream Enlightenment. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3033 That Vast Catastrophe | Spring | Tuesday 09:00-10:00 | To understand the most terrible historical moment in modern Irish history.  This single-semester module is concerned with one of the great climacteric episodes in Irish history.  The demographic, economic, social and political events of the period 1845-49 will be studied in detail.  Considerable attention will also be paid to the decades preceding the Great Famine, in an attempt to answer the question: "was the Great Famine inevitable?"  Similarly, consideration will be given to the longer-term economic, social and political consequences of the Great Famine.  This is a tutorial-led module and will employ a purpose-designed tutorial handbook. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3039 The Soviet Union 1921-1991 | Autumn | Tuesday 16:00-17:00 | The political, social, economic and international conditions leading to Bolshevik success after 1917; the nature of the Soviet state as evolving under Lenin ; the evolution of Stalin's personal rule and the Stalinist system; the nature and limits of de-stalinization under Kruschchev. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3060 Kings and Saints in Early Ireland | Autumn | Monday 15:00-16:00 | Thematic survey of the introduction of Christianity and the establishment and growth of a Christian church in Ireland, c500-800, focusing on interactions between lay and ecclesiastical institutions and the development of the cults of Patrick, Brigid and Colmcille. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3065 Presbyterians in Ulster, 1690-1840 | Autumn | Monday 12:00-13:00 | In this module you will study the religious, political, social, and economic history of the Presbyterian community in the north of Ireland from the late seventeenth century to 1840 through engagement with an extensive range of primary sources. Major themes include: the definition and identity of Presbyterianism in Ulster; the changing social and economic profile of Presbyterian society; the relationship of Presbyterians to the state and the established church; emigration to colonial America; the contribution of Ulster Presbyterians to the development of the ‘Scottish Enlightenment’; the persistence and importance of conservative theologies; Presbyterian leadership in political reform and radicalism, especially the United Irishmen and the 1798 rebellion; political and religious change after 1800. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3071 The Rise of Christianity 2: The Conversion of the Roman Empire | Autumn | Tuesday 09:00-10:00 | A study of the growth of the Christian community within the Roman world from the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem (AD 70) to the death of Constantine the Great (AD 337).  Students will assess the variety and character of early Christian teaching; the appearance and definition of heresies; the literary interaction between the upholders of Roman religion and Christians; the nature and extent of persecution within the Roman empire; the conversion of Constantine the Great (c. AD 312) and its significance for the Roman empire. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3073 The Irish Revolution 1917-1921 | Autumn | Monday 10:00-11:00 | The module will explore revolutionary politics in Ireland between 1916 and 1921.  Key themes will include the rise of Sinn Fein following the Easter Rising, the establishment of Dail Eireann, the Irish Volunteers' military campaign and the British government's response to these political and military challenges.  The course will make use of a wide range of local and thematic studies to investigate controversial questions relating to the Irish revolution: what factors motivated republicans, how important was sectarianism in revolutionary violence, why did some areas of the country see little fighting and how important a factor was the north? |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3079 Kings, Courts and Culture in Carolingian Europe | Autumn | Wednesday 10:00-12:00 | This module focuses on the pivotal role played by the Carolingians in the intellectual and cultural formation of Europe. To this period, historians traditionally ascribe the following developments: the growth in the production of manuscripts, proliferation of scriptoria and preservation of classical writings. Key topics will be the royal patronage of artistic and literary activity; the vigorous use of Roman and Christian ideology, ritual and imagery; the growing interest in logic in the Carolingian schools; and the appearance of important scholars, philosophers and poets, most famously John Scottus Eriugena. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3099 Religion and Empire | Spring | Friday 11:00-12:00 | Christian missions are often seen as old fashioned, but for long they were at the forefront of modernity. They carried modernity overseas and brought back fresh ideas which helped shape new societies. This course  investigates when and how Christian overseas expansion happened; how missionaries related to empire and indigenous peoples; why and how Africans or Asians chose to convert; what they did with the Christianity with which they were confronted; and how missionary activities contributed to the elaboration of new ideas of race, class and scientific knowledge at home. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3109 Age of Anxiety: Irish Culture and Society in Interwar European Context | Spring | Monday 14:00-15:00 | This comparative history module explores culture and society in southern Ireland and Europe during the interwar period. In Ireland, this was a period shaped by the aftermath of war and revolution and efforts to establish an independent Irish state. Throughout Europe, and in Ireland, this was a period characterised by social and political change and public unease as the impact of the Great War, the rise of new ideologies such as fascism and communism, and the onset of radical social, cultural and technological changes challenged traditional society. Focusing on debates about gender, sexuality, health and welfare, morality, technology, the media and the role of the state, this module will examine the extent to which Irish society was shaped by concerns and influences prevalent throughout interwar Europe. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3119 ‘There Ain’t No Black in the Union Jack?’: Race and Immigration in post-war Britain | Spring | Wednesday 10:00-11:00 | This course develops a module previously taught at Level 1 HIS 1002 in order for key themes to be examined in greater detail and with more subtlety and depth.  The module will encompass strands of political, cultural and social history and will cover themes including early legislation towards immigrants; the impact of Powellism; the moral panic over mugging; the rise of black politics; the emergence of reggae music; rioting in the 1980s. Particular emphasis will be paid to representations of race across a range of contexts, and the module will make extensive use of both the historiography and primary source material. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3120 The British Republic: Culture, Religion and War 1649-1660 | Autumn | Monday 12:00-13:00 | This course will provide a structured analysis of the history of the British republic, 1649-1660. Focusing on cultural, religious and military developments, it will describe life in a period of radical and sometimes complex constitutional experiment. The course will begin with a broad survey of the period in weeks 1 and 2 before moving to more detailed case studies. These case studies will focus on problems in the cultural, religious and military history of the period, focusing on the difficulty of imagining, establishing, defending, and exporting a British protestant republican ideal in a revolutionary age. It is hoped that this course will also include 2 guest lectures from Professor Paul Lim, Vanderbilt University, in an arrangement I will reciprocate with him, by audio-visual method. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3127 Thatcher’s Britain | Autumn | Friday 13:00-15:00 | An examination of the Thatcher era (1979-1990) from political, cultural, social, intellectual and international perspectives. The module will also consider the longer-term, post-1945, development of Thatcherism and its legacy in the 1990s. Topics to be considered include: race and national identity; Britain and the wider world; devolution and local government; economics; party and identity politics; urban unrest; and debates over the nuclear deterrent. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3128 Sin Cities? Everyday Life in the Modern Metropolis | Autumn | Wednesday 10:00-11:00 | What, when and - perhaps most importantly - where was modernity? Were cities merely the inactive sites or containers of emerging economic, social and cultural processes, or was urbanity a fundamental part of what it meant to be living in a ‘modern age’? ‘Sin Cities’ explores these questions through the study of metropolitan centres in the Western world between c.1880-1939. You will be taken through urban life in places such as London, New York, Paris and Berlin – and the pleasures, anxieties and identities that they came to represent.   The course begins with the late-nineteenth century growth of both academic and popular belief in the idea that cities were now somehow different to what had come before – new, shocking, and possibly the end (or maybe the beginning?) of Western society. Following lectures and tutorials range widely across a diverse field of analytical approaches and topics, including: sexuality sub-cultures; shopping and entertainment; miscegenation and ‘slumming’; prostitution and ‘sexual danger’; and the rise of urban sociology. We will end the module by debating the importance of the ‘urban variable’, and its value as a distinct category of historical analysis. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3129 The Ancient City | Spring | Tuesday 10:00-11:00 | This module considers the ancient Greco-Roman city as a dynamic form of settlement, from its origins in archaic Greece to its demise (or transformation) in the late antique West. Our readings will include ancient discussions of the political and economic roles of cities and of urban architecture and design, as well as depictions in prose and poetry of everyday life in imperial Rome and classical Athens. We will also examine the material remains of these two ancient “mega-cities” and of the smaller but well-preserved cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum. We will attempt to formulate our own definition(s) of the ancient city, and we will trace changes in the organization and uses of urban space, and in ancient writers’ conceptions of the political, social, economic, and religious roles of cities, over the course of classical antiquity. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3130 Pop and Protest in US History | Autumn | Monday 13:00-14:00 | In this module, we will examine critical approaches to the study of American popular culture in the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Pop culture has served many purposes in American history, and in this course, we’ll examine how different kinds of pop culture—music, fiction, television, film, advertisements, and poetry, to name a few—have been used in the recent past as resistance, or as a means of protesting the contemporary status quo. In particular, we will explore the following questions: Who has produced resistant pop culture in different eras of American history, and with what intentions? How did these cultural producers construct these texts to specific ends? Who has consumed this pop culture in the past, and how did they make sense of the message? What accounts for the changes in protest pop culture over time? As we explore these questions, we’ll also analyse our current culture, and each of you will produce your own protest pop cultural text in accordance with the themes, questions, and types of protest we will discuss this semester. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3131 From Slavery to “Say Her Name”: Black Women in America | Autumn | Thursday 10:00-11:00 | This course is designed to explore the varied range of experiences of Black women from the earliest times in colonial America in freedom and enslavement until the Civil War formally abolished slavery and continuing in the Nadir and up through the Civil Rights and Black Power movements to the current Black Lives Matter struggle. As many scholars have pointed out, the Black community has never been monolithic and is characterized by much diversity of thought and expression.  Some of the richness of the African American experience has been influenced by the time period, region, work, class, religion, identity, and other crucial factors. This course will enable students to explore African American women in all their depth and complexity as cultural creators, leaders, mothers, daughters, educators, workers, friends, feminists, wives, and healers. In this course, we will operate under the premise which historian Deborah Gray White maintained in her classic study, Ar’n’t I a Woman?  In this landmark study, White pointed out that from the earliest times, the experiences of African American women have been very different from those of Black men although they shared the same race. Similarly, although like white women, they suffered from sexism; they suffered the additional force that racism exerted.  Thus, African American women have been burdened by the double oppression of racism and sexism. Throughout the course of the semester, by way of lectures, readings, films, and insightful discussion, we will survey these unique challenges that African American women prevailed through from slavery through emancipation and during the long quest for citizenship and attainment of rights. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3132 Twentieth-Century China | Autumn | Monday 10:00-12:00 | This module examines the last century for the most populous country in the world. During that period China experienced far-reaching changes and after a long submission period to the Western powers reaffirmed its central role on the global stage. In terms of political structures, there was a move from empire to republic, and then from a right wing to a left wing mono party rule. In that regard, the century can be split into before and after World War Two, when the leadership of the country was first in the hands of the Chinese Nationalist Party led by Sun Yatsen and then Chiang Kaishek, and since 1949 by the Chinese Communist Party led by Mao Zedong, then Deng Xiaoping and his successors. The twentieth century for China also witnessed epochal changes regarding society and culture, including the New Cultural Movement, the May Four Movement, the emancipation of women, and opposition to Confucian values. The course also presents the intricate foreign policy, which passed from a tributary system, to Japanese occupation, to a central player of the Cold War in Asia, and to a central player in the globalized world of today. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | HIS3133 Paths to Independence and Decolonisation in India and East Africa | Spring | Tuesday 11:00-12:00 | This module explores different, yet interconnected, paths towards independence in India and East Africa. On the surface the Independence movements in India, Kenya and Tanzania have little in common. India became independent in 1947, Tanzania in 1961 and Kenya in 1963. Leaving aside the partition of British India into what is today India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, independence for the subcontinent was already being discussed since about the First World War, whereas Kenya saw the emergence of a strong majority national movement only after the Second World War. However, there existed cultural and political connections between the Indian Subcontinent and East Africa which played a significant role in the struggle for independence in these regions. This course aims at illuminating the circulation of political ideas and the way in which they acquired specific meaning in local contexts. Moreover, the course highlights the importance of South-South connections in the making of the modern nation-state in Asia and Africa. Students will be expected to engage with a range of interdisciplinary sources such as governmental reports, political tracts, film documentaries, oral testimony and fiction. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3004 Contemporary Critical Theory | Spring | Tuesday 14:00-16:00 | This module provides a framework for understanding contemporary critical theory by exploring some key thinkers in the minor canon (e.g. Spinoza, Hume, and Nietzsche) before turning to exploration of contemporary debates and positions such as the critical theory of the Frankfurt School, post-structuralism, and radical liberalism. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3005 The Politics of Irish Literature | Autumn | Monday 12:00-13:00 | This module examines Irish political and cultural debates and battles about identity, society, the past and the future, as revealed through written sources (novels, plays, polemical literature, history-writing, journalism) from the eighteenth century to the present day. Literature has had, and continues to have, an important role in manifesting and influencing political consciousness in Ireland.  This module considers the production of a range of Irish writing, and the importance that texts had in both reflecting and shaping historical awareness, political thought, and identity. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3008 Women and Politics | Autumn | Thursday 15.00-17:00 | This module discusses the relationship between women and politics in the contemporary period. It approaches the topic from three perspectives – feminist political thought; women and nationalism; and women’s political representation.  The course encourages students to make comparisons in political thought and practice. It emphasises the relationship between women and politics in established democracies in Europe, North America and Australia and New Zealand, though other country cases are also addressed. Lectures cover radical and liberal feminism, the women’s liberation movement, political parties and gender quotas, nationalist conflicts and gender, and women in parliament. Students taking this module are encouraged to read widely and to take an active part in class and tutorial discussions. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3011 Middle Eastern Politics | Autumn | Tuesday 10:00-11:00 | 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. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3012 The Global Political Economy of Energy | Spring | Wednesday 10:00-12:00 | 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. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3014 Scotland and N Ireland: Points of Political Comparison | Spring | Wednesday 09:00-10:00 | This module concerns the comparative analysis of key political themes and issues relating to both Scotland and Northern Ireland including devolution and the constitution; religion and ethnicity; questions of national and cultural identity; possible future relationships. The module examines such subjects in their historical and contemporary contexts. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3025 Contemporary Political Philosophy | Spring | Tuesday 12:00-13:00 | This module examines problems in contemporary normative political philosophy. Topics may vary from year to year, but will typically include questions about the interpretation of values such as freedom, equality, and welfare, principles of distributive justice, equal respect and social recognition, pluralism, toleration, and democracy. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3026 Earth, Energy, Ethics and Economy: The Politics of Unsustainability | Autumn | Wednesday 09:00-11:00 | 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. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3027 European Cultural Identities | Spring | Tuesday 11:00-12:00 | An examination of the range of concepts related to the notion of identity in modern and contemporary Europe. The module offers an interdisciplinary survey of the construction of identity in localities, regions, and states of Western Europe, with a particular emphasis on the role of identity in cultural integration and diversity. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3038 US Foreign Policy | Spring | Monday 13:00-14:00 | 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. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3039 Arms Control | Autumn | Monday 10:00-12:00 | 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. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3044 War, Visual Culture and Surveillance | Spring | Monday 11:00-12:00 | This module will examine the different ways that war and conflict are produced and represented across both historical and contemporary visual culture. It will examine specific examples of how war and conflict are represented in visual art (e.g. photography, photojournalism, museums and memorials), but also how visual technologies enable conflicts and reconcile citizens to permanent war (e.g. Surveillance, drone warfare). It will draw on interdisciplinary research in Visual Culture, International Relations, Cultural Studies and War Studies, and ask students to reflect on their own assumptions about, and engagements with, how war and visuality intersect. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3056 The Far Right in Western Europe and North America | Spring | Monday 09:00-11:00 | Right-wing extremist parties have experienced success in elections in a number of countries in Western Europe over the last two or three decades. This phenomenon has attracted widespread attention, both in the media and in academic circles, sparking a number of frequently asked questions: why have these parties suddenly become electorally successful? What exactly do they stand for? What kind of people vote for them? Why do people vote for them? Why have they experienced more success in some countries than in others? Should we be worried about their rise? And what can we, or mainstream political parties, do to counter their rise? This module aims to examine all these questions. It begins by introducing students to the theoretical perspectives and key bodies of literature on the nature of right wing extremism in contemporary Europe, and it explores the complex conceptual, analytical and terminological debates surrounding this subject of enquiry. It places particular emphasis on the politics of the far right in France, Germany and the United Kingdom after 1945. It engages in empirical investigations into the ideology and the electoral base of different right-wing extremist parties across Western Europe and, in so doing, it also examines the question of why some right-wing extremist parties have been electorally more successful than others. It finishes by exploring the impact that right-wing extremist parties have had on public debate, policy-making and party competition over the last 30 years and by considering how mainstream parties have attempted to counter the rise and growing influence of the parties of the extreme right. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3057 Ethics, Power and International Politics | Spring | Thursday 11:00-12:00 | International politics is all about interactions between different subjects, whether these subjects are individuals (such as refugees, activists and terrorists), cities (such as London and New York), civil society groups (charities and NGOs), networks (such as Al Quaeda), states (large and small), regional bodies (the EU or NATO) or international institutions (such as the UN or IMF). These various actors are formed and gain their identities and interests through these interactions. However, such contacts also throw up issues and questions of power and ethics, as agents seek to control, conduct, manage and change their relationships and each other: Who is silenced by these exchanges, and denied a political voice? How are interactions managed to form and impose identities on agents, such as those of ‘passive victim’, ‘evil terrorist’, ‘benign aid donor’, ‘conquering saviour’? How are such identities and relationships being contested, changed or resisted? In what ways do they depend upon histories, memories and narratives of the past? What strategies and techniques are used to control the movement, communication and networking of groups? Can ethics ever be separated from politics and power in these interactions, or are they always intertwined?   This module seeks to engage these questions by getting beyond the traditional and reductive notions of power and ethics in International Relations, which have tended to focus on states, their dominance of, and residual responsibilities towards, each other. Rather than seeing politics as about pre-formed states interacting in set ways, this module treats international politics as a matter of contesting and developing relationships of ethics and power. It engages critical literature from poststructural, postcolonial and feminist approaches to help explore how identities, agents and relationships are formed, how power is exercised, and what moral and ethical issues emerge from this. Though theoretically informed, the module will contain a strong empirical focus, examining specific cases, places and spaces where power is exercised, ethics are claimed and identities formed. Such specific empirical cases will form the basis for both the group presentations and the final essay. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3059 National and Ethnic Minorities in European Politics | Spring | Wednesday 12:00-13:00 | Often trapped between the competing logics of nation and state, minority groups in Europe have played an important role in the twentieth century's bloodiest tragedies and have been targeted in many conflicts. However, contemporary Europe offers a substantial institutional approach to put minority issues on an entirely novel footing. This course looks at the role of minority groups in Europe addressing their competing claims over political representation, economic resources and cultural rights that persist throughout the Union. The course will examine minority issues from a comparative perspective to shed light on challenges that face specifically postcommunist European societies and will address issues pertaining to recognition of minority rights in the ‘older’ EU member states.   We start with the analyses of the origins of minority rights, the establishment of the European minority rights regime, and the relationship between national minorities and majorities in contemporary Europe. The module will engage with issues on European minority rights agenda moving beyond the perspective of nation-state, and will focus upon the impact of both, social processes domestically and geopolitical considerations regionally to enhance understanding of complicated relationship between the human rights and non-discrimination agendas globally. It engages literature on postcommunist Europeanisation, minority rights regime and accommodation of rights of migrants during the complex path of building European institutions. Taking its starting point in theoretical debates of post-cold War minority protection in Europe, the module is focused empirically on European cases, East and West, where tensions between groups have been identified and examined in terms of ethnic and/or national identities. By contrasting the issue relevant for national minorities throughout Europe the course will allow greater understanding of consequences going in hand with the recognition of national minority rights for European societies with growing numbers of old and new minority communities. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3063 Politics of the Global Economy | Autumn | Tuesday 11:00-12:00  Friday 11:00-12:00 | This module examines how politics conceived as relations between governments and with and between various socio-economic interests and groups shapes the global economy and the power relations it represents. Various issues addressed in the module include: how to think about power and authority in the global economy; contrasting national models of capitalism; the United States as a global economic hegemon in the post 9/11 era; the political economy of the rise of BRIC; the Doha Round of trade talks; Credit Crunch (causes, implications and responses); the geo-politics of currency rivalry; the global governance of oil; and a new global economic order to replace the old order? |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3064 Northern Ireland: A Case Study | Autumn | Wednesday 11:00-12:00 | This module will explore the dynamics of the Northern Ireland conflict with reference to its wider political context, and examine the peace process with consideration of its international and comparative dimensions. Accordingly, it will consider the Northern Ireland problem as a residue of the historic conflict between Britain and Ireland, and a failure to resolve political relationships in these islands. The module will reflect on how these relationships have evolved in recent decades, and how international factors have played an ultimately positive part in this. For example, it will examine the role of European integration in facilitating a more co-operative relationship between London and Dublin over Northern Ireland, and how the White House was able to overcome unionist suspicions of Irish-American interference to play a highly constructive supporting role in the peace process. It will also attempt to evaluate critically the success of the peace process, both in terms of relations between the two communities in Northern Ireland, and more broadly between Britain and Ireland. Finally, the module will consider debates as to whether the Northern Ireland peace process and Good Friday Agreement provide a “model” for ending conflict in regions such as the Basque country, or an influence on developments such as the creation of a power-sharing constitution in Iraq.          The provisional lecture schedule will be as follows:   1. Introduction and administration  2. The historical roots of the Northern Ireland problem  3. Partition and the failure to resolve British-Irish political relations  4. The dynamics of the Northern Ireland problem  5. The dynamics of the peace process: reflection of a changing balance of power?  6. Europe and the Northern Ireland problem: restructuring British-Irish relations  7. The US and the Northern Ireland problem: from malign influence to honest broker?  8. Evaluating the peace process: “benign apartheid” or accommodation as a means to reconciliation?  9. The Good Friday Agreement: historical significance and potential for evolution in a changing British-Irish space  10. Assessing the “exportability” of the Northern Ireland “model”: lessons for other conflict regions?  11. Summary and conclusions |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3067 Challenges to Contemporary Party Politics | Autumn | Thursday 13:00-15:00 | This module focuses on two themes: party system change and the contemporary challenges that affect political parties. Why and how do new parties emerge? Why do old parties survive crises and new party challenges? Who joins political parties and how can we explain the decline in party membership? How can parties and their representatives be more representative of society at large? Should parties be funded through our taxes or private money? Do political parties make a difference in terms of public policy? These are some of the questions that will be addressed in this module. The module is comparative in nature, with a focus on European and North American countries, but discussions of other cases are welcome.  Assessment is designed to hone the students’ presentation, writing, critical and knowledge-transfer skills: students make a presentation that is partly assessed through student peer evaluation, write a case-study report and a book review, and write a policy paper in which they advise a (fictional) political party on addressing a contemporary challenge (representation of women and minorities, party finance, or membership). Past students on this module have enjoyed the presentations and the advantages of peer assessment (making the presentation to the whole class, more focus on content and making a good presentation, and getting to exercise their critical skills through marking), as well as the relaxed style of the seminars and the ability to write a policy paper instead of an academic essay. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PAI3073 Security and Technology | Autumn | Tuesday 13:00-14:00 | 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 IR/Security theory, and wider philosophy of technology and Science, Technology and Society approaches) and in depth empirical material. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PHL3001 Issues in the Philosophy of Science | Autumn | Tuesday 15:00-16:00 | This will be an exploration of fundamental philosophical issues raised by the practice of science. It will cover issues in scientific methodology, scientific knowledge, the language of science, the relation between scientific theories and reality, the rationality of science and progress and the relation between science and society. By examining these issues we shall attempt to solve the demarcation problem: is there a principled way to distinguish legitimate scientific enterprises from pseudo-sciences? Is the special status of science in our society justified? Or is the practice of science just one human activity among the others? Other questions we shall attempt to answer are whether the practice of science is truly objective and immune from the influence of culture and ideology, and what the relation between science and philosophy should be. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PHL3013 Topics in Epistemology | Autumn | Monday 14:00-15:00 | This module explores some of the major topics in contemporary epistemology, especially the epistemology of testimony, and contextualism and its rivals. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PHL3034 Philosophical Theology | Spring | Thursday 13:00-16:00 | This module will provide a systematic, philosophical approach to understanding and engaging with a number of topics in Christian Theology.  Topics to be discussed will include divine eternity and God’s relationship to time, divine foreknowledge and human freedom, theological anthropology, and Christology.  In pursuing these topics we will engage both with historical and contemporary sources. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PHL3064 Applied Ethics | Autumn | Tuesday 10:00-11:00  Thursday 15:00-16:00 | This module explores some of the major issues in contemporary applied ethics. The precise themes discussed may vary from year to year, but examples of topics which may be discussed include: the badness of death, the wrongness of killing, abortion, euthanasia, population ethics, genetic engineering, climate ethics, and intergenerational justice. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PHL3068 Philosophy for Children | Spring | Thursday 09:00-11:00  Friday 09:00-11:00 | This module introduces students to the principles and practice of philosophy for children.  At the beginning of the module, students undertake an intensive two-day training course where they consider what makes a good philosophical stimulus, how to structure a philosophy for children enquiry, and how to use their philosophical expertise to develop suitable learning resources for children.  On successful completion of this training course, they will be assigned a placement in a local primary school where they will be expected to facilitate 8x1hour philosophical enquiries.  As part of the module, they will also be expected to attend a number of seminars where they will consider the philosophical underpinnings of the Socratic method of enquiry that is at the heart of philosophy for children and compare it with other styles of doing philosophy. |
| History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics | PHL3069 Practical Philosophy | Spring | Tuesday 16:00-17:00 | This module gives students the opportunity to combine theories from different parts of philosophy to work out what to do in real world situations. It is structured around a series of problems or cases, with the problems to be addressed determined in part by the students taking the module. Each week students will be provided with a detailed description of of the challenge faced, and of the philosophical theories that could be relevant for determining how to proceed. The theories to be discussed will vary depending on what problems looked at, but could come from any area of philosophy. Students will work collaboratively to come up with recommendations about how to respond to these problems that are philosophically informed. They will also reflect on how useful philosophy is in addressing these types of problem. |
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| Law | LAW3056 Contemporary Issues in British and Irish Human Rights | Spring | Thursday 14:00-16:00 | This module will allow students to explore in some depth a variety of issues that raise important and difficult questions in the UK and/or Ireland concerning the extent to which certain claims should be legally protected as human rights claims. It will build on knowledge and skills already transferred to students through their Constitutional Law in Context and Rights and Accountability modules. The content of the module will vary from year to year depending on the issues that are most topical at the time and the staff available to teach on the module, but it is likely that in most years at least two or three weeks of teaching will be devoted to each of the following: (a) the prevention of terrorism, (b) the right to freedom from Torture, (c) the right to education, (d) the right to freedom of expression, and (e) the right to fair trial. The focus will be on how legislative and judicial institutions the UK and Ireland and the European jurisprudence have addressed these matters, with particular emphasis on case law. |
| Law | LAW3073 Sentencing | Autumn | Tuesday 10:00-11:00  Tuesday 12:00-13:00 | • Theories of Punishment  • Sentencing and Human Rights  • Pre-Sentence Decisions  • The Sentencing Process  • Custodial Sentences  • Non-Custodial Sentences  • Sentencing the Young Offender |
| Law | LAW3101 Global Business Law and Regulation | Autumn | Monday 14:00-16:00 | The role of law and regulation in the global economy shifted significantly over the past decades, This shift has been described as a shift to a modern regulatory state or to regulatory capitalism which is based on a complex mix of private and public regulation. This module focuses on the role of law and regulation in the area of global business and introduces students to key theoretical issues and practical problems affecting the operation of business in the global economy. Students will gain a detailed understanding and knowledge of the motives and drivers behind global business law and regulation, the dynamics of regulatory change and the problems, flaws, and challenges of global business law and regulation.   Contents include: • Key terms: regulation, governance, regulatory governance • Globalisation and objectives of global business regulation • Explaining regulation: theoretical approaches to (business) law and regulation • The role and power of lawmakers, regulators, firms and other actors in regulating business • The early Regulatory State, the modern Regulatory State, and Regulatory Capitalism • Good Regulatory Governance: From Better to Smarter Regulation and Law-making • Rules, Implementation, Compliance, and Enforcement • Public and private regulation of global business and finance • Transparency, accountability and regulation in the area of global business law • The international institutional regime for global business and finance: forum shifting and regulatory competition • Globalisation, international harmonisation: regulatory competition vs regulatory cooperation • The European Union as a Regulatory State in global business regulation • The British Regulatory State and its role in global business regulation • Regulation in selected areas and regulating industries |
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| Social Sciences, Education and Social Work | SPY3014 Disability and Society | Autumn | Thursday 10:00-13:00 | This module examines the different positions of disabled and non-disabled men and women in Britain and Ireland in relation to social rights and public services. Students will consider how social protection systems, (social security and labour market policies) and other social policies produce these different outcomes. Students will also examine institutional responses to existing forms of disability discrimination, disadvantage and inequality. Students will be introduced to the social model of disability and consider its implications for policy and practice. |
| Social Sciences, Education and Social Work | SPY3019 Gender, Family and Social Policy: Comparative Perspective | Spring | Monday 10:00-13:00 | The module aims to explore the critical study of the gendered distribution of welfare. It reviews the welfare systems and institutions in the UK and elsewhere, and assesses their capacity to meet the welfare needs of women in diverse circumstances. The module also considers the position of women in relation to welfare states, as citizens, workers, carers and clients from international and comparative perspective. |
| Social Sciences, Education and Social Work | CRM3007 Criminology Beyond Borders | Spring | Tuesday 11:00-13:00 | This module will touch upon some supranational criminological issues in contemporary societies. It aims to consider how crime and justice unfolds outside the remit of the sovereign state. In particular, it will cover the following topics:  -Crime and Justice Beyond the state: Globalization, and state sovereignty, challenges for crime and justice. -Transnational threats: from the emergence of international crime, to contemporary issues such as terrorism, migration and organised transnational crime as current international threats.  -War and its framing: crime, justice or new forms of war; and responses to conflicts.  --International Policing: the raise of Interpol, Europol and Frontex; their role and functions; data mining and technology; drones as policing tools; the continuum between war and the re-structuring of the security sector. -International Criminal Courts and the crimes of Genocide, Crimes against Humanity; War Crimes; Rape as a Weapon of War. |
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| Institute of Theology | THE3009  Old Testament Prophetic Texts | Autumn | Tuesday 09:00-11:00 | This module will look at a selection of Old Testament prophetic texts from a historical, literary, and theological perspective. With the help of set texts from one or several prophetic books it will explore the interpretative issues arising from them. It will attempt to situate the prophetic oracles in their presumed original historical context, as well as in their current literary and canonical contexts and trace the impact of these on the meaning of the prophetic word. |
| Institute of Theology | THE3014  Gospel of John | Autumn | INTENSIVE MODULE  Thursday 09:00-11:00  WK 2 INTENSIVE  2nd – 6th October  Mon-Fri 09:00-13:00 | Following some orientation and a general introduction to both John’s Gospel and to this popular intensive module, students encounter the Fourth Gospel and its main theological themes chiefly through an exciting 20-hour interactive and intensive session, where interpretation of texts from John dovetails with the book’s distinctive theology (10 hours each). Engagement with the Fourth Gospel in this intensive session allows students to experience this rich text in a sustained and satisfying way. The session is validated through a class test (week 3: 40%). On this foundation students build in the remainder of the module, in two ways: first, by delivering short presentations on texts from John (week 7: 20%); and second, by writing topical assignments (week 11: 40%). |
| Institute of Theology | THE3043  Trends in Modern Theology | Autumn | Thursday 12:00-14:00 | A study of theological trends in the modern era with special reference to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. |
| Institute of Theology | THE3054  Current Issues in the Philosophy of Religion | Autumn | Monday 09:00-11:00 | 'Opentheism' and the contemporary reappraisal of the attributes of God; the development of reformed epistemology; a post-holocaust consideration of the problem of evil; the relationship between science and religion; the rationality of religious belief; and reflection on the being of God in contemporary philosophical theology. |
| Institute of Theology | THE3068  Reconciliation Studies 1 | Autumn | Monday 12:00-13:00  Monday 14:00-15:00 | The module aims to explore key local and worldwide affairs to create a fuller, more systemic understanding of the complex dynamics involved in reconciliation. It will consider the basic concepts, principles and models of reconciliation and their use in the resolution of specific ethnic conflicts.  Continual deliberation will be given to the churches' and the Christian's role in the promotion of reconciliation highlighting both the necessities and difficulties involved.  It seeks to emphasis the practical significance of these areas of knowledge, relating them where possible to real situations. |
| Institute of Theology | THE3005 Thinking and Singing: an introduction to the wisdom and lyrical books of the Old Testament | Spring | Monday 09:00-11:00 | This module will provide an introduction to the books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs. These books differ noticeably in content and style from all the other books of the Old Testament and even from one another. They are the principal representatives in the Old Testament of what is now known as wisdom and lyrical literature. “Wisdom” applies to Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes, and “lyrical” relates to Psalms and Song of Songs.  The modules will involve a broader study of the themes found within these books, as well as a close reading of selected passages. Students will also be introduced to the various critical methods by which these books have been approached in the past two hundred years. |