



Module Specification

From Terror to Trauma: Politics in the Aftermath of Violence

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Part 1: Information

Module title: From Terror to Trauma: Politics in the Aftermath of Violence

Module code: UZQY6J-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept of Social Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Field: Politics

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: The module provides an overview of the policy responses to, and the long term effect of, mass atrocities and political violence in post-conflict and post-authoritarian scenarios.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes.

Outline syllabus: The module has a holistic, global perspective dealing with three main aspects: (1) what causes political violence, (2) policy responses in the wake of mass atrocities, (3) and how the memory of trauma shapes individuals and groups in post-conflict societies. Topics may or may not include areas such as: the theoretical and ideological debates about violence; the nature vs. nurture dilemma; different theories of revolutionary action; the relationship between violence and democracy; terrorism and state terrorism; case studies of radicalization; the notion of collective trauma; post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD); the politics of memory, the challenges of transitional justice and peacebuilding; truth commissions and the challenge of political reconciliation; the value of reparations and social forgiveness; an analysis of different memorials to acts of terrorism.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: See Learning Outcomes and Assessment Strategy.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Demonstrate knowledge and critical analysis of historical and current political issues relating to political violence and its aftermath

MO2 Critically evaluate the major dynamics affecting the ways in which individuals and societies remember a violent past

MO3 Demonstrate a critical awareness of the topics of state and subversive forms of terror, gross violations of human rights and collective trauma

MO4 Critically assess, with the aid of theoretical frameworks, the idea of political reconciliation

MO5 Demonstrate a capacity to identify possible sources of conflict and design strategies towards political reconciliation

MO6 Develop problem-solving skills based on case-study scenarios

MO7 Effectively communicate complex arguments supported by appropriate evidence in a dynamic simulation environment

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 117 hours

Face-to-face learning = 33 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzqy6j-15-3.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzqy6j-15-3.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The Module outcomes will be assessed by two parts (A and B) and a resit version of component A, slightly modified to meet the resit context:

Individual Presentation (10 minutes): Part A

This piece of assessment requires the students to submit an individual presentation (submitted through Blackboard) based on a hypothetical post-conflict or post-authoritarian scenario, where fictitious individuals and groups are forced to reckon with the consequences of widespread political violence (terrorism and state terrorism) by deciding for or against the implementation of measures towards accountability and the restoration of the democratic rule of law. Students will be assessed based on (1) their knowledge of the literature, (2) the capacity to identify the interests and objectives of different groups in a conflict resolution scenario, and (3) their ability to communicate such objectives in a clear way. All three criteria will be strongly connected to the topics and the theories discussed during the module and the individual presentation will be recorded for external examination. The assessment format will provide students with an opportunity to further develop their skills in analyzing conflict-bound scenarios, identifying the sources and root-causes of conflict between different actors in a given context and exercising problem-

resolution skills. Students will be encouraged to deploy critical analysis in order to develop and support their position in the presentation and they will be able to enhance their communication skills, articulating complex ideas orally within a set time limit.

Cultural Reflection (Part B)

This piece of assessment requires a student to write an essay analysing the political impact of cultural artefact that portrays the realities of terrorism, political violence and responses to terrorism and violence. The students will be able to choose from a set list of items currently held by the library (such as films, novels, and TV shows) which will be provided at the beginning of the academic year. The list will include items such as the novels *Confessions of a Terrorist: A Novel* by Richard Jackson, *Country of My Skull* by Antjie Krog, the documentary *The Road to Guantánamo*, by Michael Winterbottom and Mat Whitecross, the films *Che: Part One* by Steven Soderbergh and *Bloody Sunday* by Paul Greengrass and the TV series *Homeland*. This piece of assessment will provide students with an opportunity to further develop their skills in advancing a clear and persuasive argument and understanding the value of popular culture in affecting the way we look at the topics of political violence, terrorism and counter-terrorism. Students will be encouraged to deploy critical analysis in order to develop and support the argument and to investigate the popular cultural representations of a series of theoretical themes (for example, the root causes of and justifications for political violence, ethical concerns about counter-terrorism, different theories of revolutionary action, the problem of reconciliation). In addition students will be able to enhance their research skills, independent study, and a skill of clearly articulating and communicating complex ideas in writing and within a set word limit.

Assessment tasks:

Presentation (First Sit)

Description: Individual Presentation (10 minutes)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Cultural reflection (1500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Presentation (Resit)

Description: Individual Presentation (10 minutes)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6, MO7

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Cultural Reflection (1500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Politics and International Relations [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Politics And International Relations [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Politics And International Relations {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Politics And International Relations {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA
(Hons) 2019-20

Politics And International Relations [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20

Politics And International Relations [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19