



Module Specification

Topics in Political Economy

Version: 2027-28, v1.0, Approved

Contents

Module Specification	1
Part 1: Information	2
Part 2: Description	2
Part 3: Teaching and learning methods	3
Part 4: Assessment.....	4
Part 5: Contributes towards	6

Part 1: Information

Module title: Topics in Political Economy

Module code: UMETAH-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2027-28

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Business and Law

School: CBL Bristol Business School

Partner institutions: None

Field: Economics

Module type:

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This interdisciplinary module explores the intricate relationship between political economy, social justice, race, ethics, and sustainability. We delve into the ethical dimensions of economic systems, their impact on sustainability, and the ways in which race and justice intersect with economic structures. By critically examining these topics, students gain a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities for creating a more equitable and sustainable world.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module enables students to understand the ethical dimensions of economic decision-making through an interdisciplinary lens. It delves into the analysis of environmental implications of economic policies while also recognising the role of race in shaping economic structures. The module equips students to become advocates for social justice within economic systems.

Outline syllabus: 1. Introduction to Heterodox Economics: this covers the critique of neoclassical economics and discuss historical context and emergence of heterodox schools.

2. Political economy foundations covering power dynamics in economic systems, institutions, class struggle, and social reproduction, intersectionality, and economic justice.

3. Radical Approaches to Macroeconomics including feminist critiques of macroeconomic models.

4. Labour and Capital

5. Globalisation and Trade covering dependency theory, unequal exchange, Fair trade, and global justice.

6. Financialisation and Crisis

7. Ecological Economics including limits to growth, environmental justice, degrowth and sustainable alternatives.

8. Policy Alternatives such as UBI (Universal Basic Income), participatory planning and socialising finance and production.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module will be delivered through lectures and seminars. Lectures will provide foundational knowledge while seminars will investigate and practise lecture material, involving tutorials, group presentations, and practical classes.

The module will utilise 3Ps (Prepare, Participate and Practise) framework in learning and teaching.

To prepare students need to undertake background reading of the materials.

Students would need to participate in the lively seminars and lectures voicing their

opinions and findings.

Students can practise and reinforce their learning through problem sets. Problem sets will enable students to problem solve through selected exercises relating to the material. As part of practice, it is also expected that students will undertake independent study to complements the formal teaching.

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

MO1 Explain and evaluate the contribution of political economy for understanding contemporary contexts.

MO2 Evaluate discourses in political economy based on scholarly literature.

MO3 Analyse arguments of political economy critically, considering contemporary economic transformation.

MO4 Apply insights from political economy to address real world economic problems.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/umetah-30-3.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/umetah-30-3.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The summative assessment consists of of a written course work and an end of semester exercise.

Task 1: Written Essay (50%)

A 1,500-word scholarly essay on a preassigned topic/scenario along with full reference list.

Task 2: Reflection (50%)

1,000-word reflective log on core topics and issues discussed during the term. Throughout the term formative feedback opportunities will be available in seminars and lectures where students will be encouraged to express and present their views and experiences on topical issues addressed in the sessions.

Assessment tasks:**Written Assignment (First Sit)**

Description: 1,500-written essay.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Reflective Piece (First Sit)

Description: 1,000-word reflective log on materials presented during the module.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: 1,500-written essay.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Reflective Piece (Resit)

Description: 1,000-word reflective log on materials presented during the module.

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Economics {Foundation}[Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2024-25

Economics {Dual} [Taylors] BA (Hons) 2025-26

Economics [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26