



## **Module Specification**

### Foreign Policy

Version: 2026-27, v1.0, 14 Jun 2024

#### **Contents**

<b>Module Specification .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Part 1: Information .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Part 2: Description .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Part 3: Teaching and learning methods .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Part 4: Assessment.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Part 5: Contributes towards .....</b>	<b>5</b>

## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Foreign Policy

**Module code:** UZQJSP-15-2

**Level:** Level 5

**For implementation from:** 2026-27

**UWE credit rating:** 15

**ECTS credit rating:** 7.5

**College:** College of Health, Science & Society

**School:** CHSS School 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:** This module explores theories of foreign policy-making and through a focus on applied case studies, examines the role of different actors on the foreign policy-making process.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** The aims of this module are to equip students with an appreciation of how foreign policy is made, who makes it, why they make it in a

certain way, and why certain methods/concerns are not always accounted for as much as others (such as gender, human rights, inequality, legacies of exploitation etc.).

By learning 'how the sausage is made' to borrow an old phrase, students on this module are equipped to understand and analyse how human action in the foreign policy space takes place in, and shapes, an increasingly multipolar (or multiplex) world.

Students are shown how to critique this with methodological tools such as Foreign Policy Analysis, Policy Analysis, and a range of other theoretical tools native to Politics and International Relations (such as Realism, Liberalism, Constructivism, Discourse Analysis etc.).

Centred on real world issues, this is a practical module that seeks to instil a professional appreciation of how foreign policy is made at different levels of government. It therefore equips students with transferable skills that they can apply in the professional workplace, such as policy analysis and oral presentation skills.

**Outline syllabus:** The module is designed to go inside the minds of policymakers to understand why they pursued certain foreign policy packages at certain times, and in certain cases, and explore the impact of those decisions.

In order for this to work, a flexible approach will be taken to delivery. This may incorporate extended analysis for all (or part) of the module on one single foreign policy actor focusing on the effects of their actions on the global system (for example the United States, China or the European Union).

The syllabus may also take a comparative approach that surveys and compares different actors. This may incorporate comparing different approaches to a common issue, such as terrorism, illegal drugs, human trafficking, migration, nuclear proliferation, new forms of warfare/technology, commercial standards and regulation, regional/geopolitical issues, and colonial/postcolonial legacies.

### Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

**Teaching and learning methods:** Sessions will be delivered in lectorial format. Discussions will be focused on different sources such as primary sources (e.g. policy papers, declassified archival papers, speeches) and secondary sources (such as journal articles, books etc. – chosen for their analysis/critique of policy). A flexible, and often flipped, teaching approach allows for each issue to be explored through discussion, group work and practical activities such as simulations and role play scenarios.

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

**MO1** Analyse foreign policy making in a simulated professional setting.

**MO2** Pursue an independent reading and research strategy.

**MO3** Identify the factors and personalities driving foreign policy decision making.

**Hours to be allocated:** 150

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours

Face-to-face learning = 36 hours

Total = 0

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzqnjp-30-2.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzqnjp-30-2.html>

### Part 4: Assessment

**Assessment strategy:** Presentation (12.5 minutes)

Each student will deliver a live presentation on one of the issues/factors covered in the module. The presentation will be based on individual research conducted by the

student to interpret their chosen question/scenario, and source evidence that underlines an answer to it.

The presentation will be delivered in a panel format. For example, an academic or policy conference panel. This format allows students to simulate what it is like to present their ideas in a professional context, such as a conference or when making a briefing to a professional audience (such as when working in a government department).

Opportunities for formative input and feedback will be built into the delivery of the module. The input and feedback will help develop topic and assessment understanding, target future reading, and enable students to engage more critically with the contents of the module.

**Assessment tasks:****Presentation (First Sit)**

Description: Presentation (12.5 minutes)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

**Presentation (Resit)**

Description: Presentation (12.5 minutes)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Politics And International Relations {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2024-25

Politics And International Relations [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26