



Module Specification

Atrocities in Global Politics

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

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Atrocities in Global Politics

Module code: UZQJSQ-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 mass atrocities - such as genocide, crimes against humanity, and human rights abuses - as well as local, national and international responses to them. In doing so, it engages with key questions, critiques, and debates surrounding justice and accountability for atrocities in global politics.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module explores atrocities in global politics through a focus on a range of theoretical concepts, such as political violence, evil, international crimes and human rights violations. Through a range of case studies, the module also examines responses to atrocities, such as criminal trials, truth commissions, memorialization and humanitarian intervention, and in doing so explores contemporary debates surrounding the idea of justice and accountability in global politics.

Outline syllabus: In this module students will:

Explore the challenges posed by atrocities in global politics

Investigate international, national and local responses to mass atrocities

Evaluate the adequacy of international, national and local response to mass atrocities

Critically engage with key debates concerning justice and accountability in global politics

Module content may include:

Evolution of Human Rights

International Criminal Law

Humanitarian Law

Intervention

Genocide

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module is delivered via a weekly lecture.

The module's pedagogy is interactive, discussion-based, and student-facing.

Students are an active part of the learning process, and will be asked to contribute ideas, questions, and critical standpoints. The learning environment is designed to promote peer-to-peer support and exchange.

While teaching and learning will be predominantly classroom based, appropriate use will be made of online resources and digital learning platforms.

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

MO1 A critical evaluation of the main ideas and concepts surrounding mass atrocities in global politics

MO2 The ability to apply the main ideas and concepts surrounding mass atrocities in global politics to case studies.

MO3 An appreciation of the adequacy of different responses to mass atrocities

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/uzqnhb-30-2.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzqnhb-30-2.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Reflective Essay (maximum 2000 words)

The reflective essay will allow students to develop a fine-grained analysis of the issues and theories that will be introduced in the module, and to critically assess the role of justice and accountability in global politics.

The format of the reflective essay may include discourse analysis, cultural reflection, critical text review or document analysis.

Students will be able to select from a range of materials to base their reflective essays on, such as political resolutions, international treaties, political speeches, or contemporary pieces of artwork.

Students will be supported in the lead-up to this assessment through a range of seminar activities (e.g. discourse analysis; cultural reflections) throughout the module, which will build the skills required to complete this piece of assessment.

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:

Reflective Piece (First Sit)

Description: Reflective Essay (written)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Reflective Piece (Resit)

Description: Reflective Essay (written)

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