



Module Specification

Global Political Economy

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Global Political Economy

Module code: UZQJSR-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 provides an understanding of the ideas and methods underlying the study of Global Political Economy. It shows how Political Economy can be used as an analytical perspective to examine real world processes of (de-)globalisation and regionalisation and their impact on state as well as non-state actors.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The aim of this module is to introduce students to the variety of ways in which the interaction of politics and economics matters at a national, regional and global level, as well as to the tools that political economy brings to the study of the international system.

Students will explore a range of concepts and theories pertaining to state and non-state actors and be able to apply a political economy analysis to themes and issues studied in other modules of the Programme.

Outline syllabus: The module covers four main themes in the study of the Global Political Economy:

Theorising the global political economy: Introduction to the major contending approaches used to understand and explain the interactions between international politics and economics, and the importance of differences between theoretical approaches to the understanding of the global system.

Structures and actors in the global political economy: Analysis of the main factors (state, state associations and non-state) which produce and shape outcomes in the global system, and the structures in which these actors are located, including questions about the performance, convergence and divergence of country-specific markets.

Institutions of the international political economy: Survey of the main intergovernmental actors (IGOs) with special reference to the World Trade Organisation and the International Monetary Fund, the major non-state political economic organisations as well as the major role played by commercial non-state actors (transnational and multinational corporations).

Issues in the global political economy: Showing how political economy can be used to analyse real world processes of de-globalization and regionalization and their impact on selected issue areas (e.g., financial crises, global environmental change, the digital economy). Identifying the challenges to an emerging system of multi-level

governance and how the various actors studied in different components of the module do interact.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module is organised round a series of lectures which set the framework for students' own interrogation of the relevant literature.

Seminar groups will be used to help students focus on particular data-based study materials (charts, graphs, tables) within the overall subject field of the module. This includes the analysis, evaluation and critical interpretation of statistical data to facilitate employability.

Seminars will be organised around small group work, tutor guided debates within groups and individual presentations.

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

MO1 Demonstrate knowledge of, differentiate between, and assess the validity of the main theoretical approaches to the study of international political economic phenomena in the global system.

MO2 Explain and compare different modes of interaction between states, non-state actors and markets globally and regionally, and evaluate their consequences.

MO3 Construct clear and persuasive arguments using a wide range of factual and scholarly material relating to the dynamics of a global political economy.

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

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Critical Text Review (maximum 2000 words):

This assessment requires a student to write a 2000 word review essay of one academic journal article chosen from a list that will be provided at the beginning of an academic year.

This assessment will provide students with an opportunity to further develop their skills in advancing a clear and persuasive argument. Students will be encouraged to deploy critical analysis in order to develop and support the argument. 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.

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:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Critical Text Review

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Critical Text Review

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