



Module Specification

Politics, States and Resistance

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Politics, States and Resistance

Module code: UZQSYE-30-1

Level: Level 4

For implementation from: 2025-26

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

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: Politics, States, and Resistance introduces ideas, concepts, and issues, focusing on state institutions and resistance through empirical approaches central to the study of politics.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The module introduces students to core ideas, concepts, and analytical frameworks, fostering an understanding of power relations in a range of

political systems. Students will engage with a range of topics such as the structure of the state and the operation of political institutions as well as how these structures are challenged and changed. Through this, the module develops critical thinking skills, empowering students to question assumptions and construct reasoned arguments. Ultimately, it prepares learners to participate in informed political discourse and contribute to democratic processes and societal change.

Outline syllabus: The module offers an exploration of key political concepts, ideas, and practices. Students will engage with foundational ideas such as the state, power, democracy, and legitimacy, examining how these concepts shape political structures and societal organization. The module also delves into the politics of resistance, exploring how movements and actors challenge authority and create change. Key topics may include forms of government, political institutions, civil society, and dissent and repression. The interplay of power, ideology, nationalism, globalization, democracy, and authoritarianism in shaping political systems and resistance is examined, with real-world applications provided through cross-country case studies. This approach equips students with the tools to analyse and understand the nature of state authority and how it can be challenged.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module will mix lecture content and seminar activities, typically in a lectorial format, to allow students to both learn about, and actively participate in, issues related to governance and the challenges to it. Students will be encouraged to actively participate in the learning process by contributing ideas, questions, and critical standpoints. The learning environment is designed to promote peer-to-peer support and exchange, providing students with a critical perspective on politics and contestation.

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

MO1 Demonstrate a basic understanding of the major theoretical concepts and empirical approaches to Politics

MO2 The ability to locate, evaluate and use relevant literature central to the study of Politics

MO3 The ability to construct clear and persuasive arguments and communicate those in a set format

MO4 Reflect on forms and methods of political contestation

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 234 hours

Face-to-face learning = 66 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzqsye-30-1.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzqsye-30-1.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Task 1 – Written Assignment (1500 words).

Students will write a 1500 word assignment that directly engages with literature related to the material covered in the first part of the module. This task is intended to develop students' ability to assess the strengths and weaknesses of academic literature, and to do so in a way that goes beyond generative AI summaries. This may involve a range of approaches (as will be detailed on the assessment brief) such as considering the quality of evidence that the author(s) put forward, and/or reviewing the strengths and weaknesses (limitations) of the position the author argues.

Task 2 – Choice of Assessment (1500 word written assignment or 10 minute presentation).

This assessment requires students to draw on relevant case studies and debates

covered in the module in the format of a set task that will be able to be delivered in either a written or oral format (this will be detailed on the assessment brief so students have a clear idea of what format best suits them, and the choice will be theirs). Students will explore a historic or contemporary case study of resistance and apply relevant concepts and debates covered in the module. This may be combined with reflections on the student's learning and understanding of goals and actions of various political actors.

Assessment tasks:**Choice of Assessment (First Sit)**

Description: Set exercise in written form (1500 words) or 10 minute oral presentation (as will be stated on assessment brief).

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Written assignment (1500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Written assignment (1500 words)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Choice of Assessment (Resit)

Description: Set exercise in written form (1500 words) or 10 minute oral presentation (as will be stated on assessment brief).

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:

Politics And International Relations {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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