



## **Module Specification**

### **Policy Making in Britain**

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** Policy Making in Britain

**Module code:** UZQNGP-30-3

**Level:** Level 6

**For implementation from:** 2023-24

**UWE credit rating:** 30

**ECTS credit rating:** 15

**Faculty:** Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

**Department:** HAS Dept 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:** Not applicable

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** See learning outcomes.

**Outline syllabus:** The Course will incorporate at least some of the following:

What is public policy and policy-making?

Approaches to the study of policy-making and models of the policy process

Theoretical models and explanations

The British political and policy-making system, including parliament, government, bureaucracies, pressure groups and local government

Government and governance

The territorial dimension: Europe, regions and local governance

Case studies

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** The module combines lectures, seminars and independent study. Lectures establish the structure of the course, provide information about key topics, and highlight important issues for debate and further discussion. Seminars draw on a variety of teaching/learning approaches (for example student presentations, small group work and general class discussion) to examine the topics highlighted in lectures in greater depth. Workshops or a virtual discussion board will be used to facilitate discussion and group interaction on contemporary policy issues, utilising current information and materials.

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

**MO1** Evaluate the various processes, institutions and policy actors at work in the initiation, formulation and application of public policy in the UK

**MO2** Identify a variety of approaches to the study of public policy-making

**MO3** Analyse and evaluate various theoretical explanations of policy-making through their application to discrete policy areas, in the central, local, EU or international context

**MO4** Gather information from a wide variety of sources, both printed and electronic, including academic works, government publications, and the press and media

**MO5** Present a policy-analysis case study that incorporates the formulation of a research question, a critical appraisal of a discrete policy area, and the application of theories of policy-making. The case-study essay will demonstrate an ability to synthesise material, communicate this in a coherent form, write clearly and concisely, and use appropriate presentational formats (such as tables, charts, footnotes)

**Hours to be allocated:** 300

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 300

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

## **Part 4: Assessment**

**Assessment strategy:** Case Study Literature Search and Review

This piece of assessment requires a student negotiate a case study title on a contemporary policy issue of their choice with the module leader. They then develop skills in obtaining information from academic sources, official government parliamentary papers, and private organisations. A summary of one source of each of these types is reviewed (total 1500 words), and its relevance to the essay considered. This assessment will provide students with the opportunity to further develop their skills in gathering information and writing concise and informative

summaries on different types of source material

### Case-Study Essay

This assessment requires students to write an essay (2000 words) on the question negotiated with the module leader for the literature review (above). It is designed to get students to apply the concepts and ideas about policy analysis presented in lectures and seminars to a particular contemporary policy issue of their choice. It will provide students with an opportunity to further develop their skills in advancing a clear and persuasive argument, using critical policy analysis. Students also will be able to enhance their research skills, independent study, and the ability to communicating complex ideas in a long essay.

### Exam

This piece of assessment will require a student to answer two unseen exam questions in two hours. The exam is designed to test both students' knowledge regarding the topics examined in this module and their essaywriting abilities. The exam is designed to assess students' ability to offer clearly written and expressed critical analysis under specific time constraints.

### **Assessment tasks:**

#### **Case Study** (First Sit)

Description: Case Study Essay (2000 words)

Weighting: 34 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

#### **Set Exercise** (First Sit)

Description: Literature Search and Review (1500 words)

Weighting: 26 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO4, MO5

**Examination** (First Sit)

Description: Examination (2 hours)

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3

**Case Study** (Resit)

Description: Case study (2000 words)

Weighting: 34 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

**Set Exercise** (Resit)

Description: Literature Search and Review (1500 words)

Weighting: 26 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO4, MO5

**Examination** (Resit)

Description: Final examination (2 hours)

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3

**Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

