

## MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Nature and Use of Research (Politics and IR)		
Module Code	UZQSTA-15-2	Level	2
For implementation from	September 2018		
UWE Credit Rating	15	ECTS Credit Rating	7.5
Faculty	Health and Applied Sciences	Field	Politics
Department	Health and Social Sciences		
Contributes towards	BA (Hons) Politics and International Relations, BA (Hons) Politics and International Relations (with Foundation Year)		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
<p><b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the nature and impact of ethics and governance processes upon the generation of knowledge research in Politics and International Relations</li> <li>formulating research questions and using appropriate research design and data collection skills.</li> <li>evaluating evidence of diverse kinds and drawing appropriate conclusions</li> <li>managing and analysing data including indexing and retrieval of qualitative data, and use of basic statistics.</li> <li>different approaches to research in political science and international relations.</li> <li>comparative methods in analysing politics and international relations.</li> <li>research design in the social sciences including exploratory research; case studies; evaluation research; action research; comparative research; negotiating access; managing field work; reflexivity and the use of self in research</li> <li>the politics of research including positivism versus interpretivism; anti-discriminatory research; participative methods; ethics, privacy and confidentiality; legal issues; context and uses of social research; and working with marginalised and 'hard to reach' groups.</li> </ul> <p><b>Approach</b></p> <p>An aspiration of this module is that students become practiced at utilizing TEL, in particular through use of</p>

common online resources (on topics such as good ethical practice, developing research questions, writing research proposals) developed by the module team, but also through the creation, dissemination and evaluation of audio/visual narrated presentation software presentations.

In scheduled classes, students will attend weekly lectures and engage in facilitated activities such as debates, problem based learning, group working, research etc.

Integral to this programme is the use of subject based as well as generic use of technologies. For instance, data analysis and modelling, are subject areas reliant on a range of contemporary technologies using public domain data sources such as Home Office crime statistics, World Health Organisation Databases.

In addition modern technologies may be incorporated by programme teams delivering the module as vehicles of learning (e.g. blogs, podcasts) and as vehicles for learning through formative assessment (e.g. online portfolios, online tests, wikis, etc.)

For each contact hour, students will spend approximately 3 hours in independent study, including preparing their assessed portfolio.

### Part 3: Assessment

Students are assessed through an e-portfolio. Formative assessment will be undertaken within seminar sessions, and using techniques from a range of online approaches including quizzes, wikis, and online discussion.

The research proposal (component B) will prepare students for a final year project, and reflect a synthesis of relevant syllabus content, and be written for subject specialists.

Component A, the narrated e-presentation, will demonstrate students' ability to communicate their ideas for the proposal to a lay audience using a combination of subject specific and transferable skills. Presentation style will be an extended "PechaKucha" approach (cf. <http://www.pechakucha.org/>) in which a fixed number of slides, with a fixed time limit per slide forces a focused, dynamic presentation (Levin, 2013). This will serve as the controlled conditions component of the module.

Levin, Michael A., and Lori T. Peterson (2013), "Use of Pecha Kucha in Marketing Students' Presentations," Marketing Education Review, 23 (1), 59-64.

Identify final timetabled piece of assessment (component and element)	Component B	
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	A:	B:
	25	75
First Sit		
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. E-portfolio part 1: Presentation of research proposal for a lay audience using presentation software with audio/video narration. (10 minutes)	100	
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. E-portfolio part 2: Research proposal (1500 words)	100	
Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)		
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. E-portfolio part 1: Presentation of research proposal for a lay audience using presentation software with audio/video narration. (10 minutes)	100	

Component B Description of each element		Element weighting (as % of component)																														
1. E-portfolio part 2: Research proposal (1500 words)		100																														
Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods																																
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to:  1) formulate questions appropriate to research in Politics and International Relations (component B) 2) understand and engage in the processes through which knowledge is generated and claims to truth are evaluated in their subject area (component B) 3) communicate information from their discipline to members of the public (component A)																															
Key Information Sets Information (KIS)	<b><u>Key Information Set - Module data</u></b>																															
Contact Hours	Number of credits for this module <div>15</div>																															
Total Assessment	<table><tr><td>Hours to be allocated</td><td>Scheduled learning and teaching study hours</td><td>Independent study hours</td><td>Placement study hours</td><td>Allocated Hours</td></tr><tr><td>150</td><td>36</td><td>114</td><td>0</td><td>150</td></tr></table>			Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours	150	36	114	0	150																			
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	150	36	114	0	150																											
<p>The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a;</p> <p><b>Written Exam:</b> Unseen or open book written exam <b>Coursework:</b> Written assignment or essay, report, dissertation, portfolio, project or in class test <b>Practical Exam:</b> Oral Assessment and/or presentation, practical skills assessment, practical exam (i.e. an exam determining mastery of a technique)</p> <table><tr><td colspan="4">Total assessment of the module:</td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="4"></td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="4">Written exam assessment percentage</td><td>0%</td></tr><tr><td colspan="4">Coursework assessment percentage</td><td>75%</td></tr><tr><td colspan="4">Practical exam assessment percentage</td><td>25%</td></tr><tr><td colspan="4"></td><td>100%</td></tr></table>			Total assessment of the module:										Written exam assessment percentage				0%	Coursework assessment percentage				75%	Practical exam assessment percentage				25%					100%
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Practical exam assessment percentage				25%																												
				100%																												
Reading List	<a href="https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/F863B756-02A3-4757-9060-17F211AE5681.html?edit">https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/F863B756-02A3-4757-9060-17F211AE5681.html?edit</a>																															

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First CAP Approval Date	28 March 2014			
Revision ASQC Approval Date	17 January 2018	Version	2	<a href="#">RIA 12464</a>