



Module Specification

From Plato to Nato

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Part 1: Information

Module title: From Plato to Nato

Module code: UZQRV9-30-0

Level: Level 3

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: Throughout the module, students are introduced to tools that can be used to interpret and understand the world they are in - such as political and international theory and basic political science methods, along with logical and ethical analysis on the nature of the self and society.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes.

Outline syllabus: Half of the module will focus on the foundations of Western philosophical thought, focusing primarily on theories of knowledge, the self, and the foundations of the political state. Lectures and discussions will be based in a series of classical philosophical texts from the Greek tradition that will introduce students to concepts such as ethics, knowledge, the soul, justice, education, beauty, politics, and the state.

The other half of the module explores the key components of the contemporary political and international order. The lectures and discussions examine the state, the international system, and the contemporary issues facing both such as climate change, terrorism, poverty, war and peace, culture and religion, security (and others).

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: A total of 66 hours comprised of weekly lectures and discussions via a lectorial format that is flexible week-on-week depending on the subject at hand. Regardless of the shape of the lectorial, there will always be a taught element via lecturing, and always a flipped and/or discussion based element.

Over three hours of contact time per week the key issues are addressed and unpacked by the lecturer and subsequently discussed and debated. Students will also be expected to have read a set reading prior to arriving in class. This approach is suited to the foundational nature of this module and maximises face-to-face contact time to ensure students understand, and appreciate, the core issues in politics and philosophy that will form the foundations of their onward study.

The timetabled hours incorporate student led debates and flipped classroom elements, allowing students to develop their interpersonal and academic skills. This mixed method of delivery will enable students to actively engage with philosophical and political material and encourage them to articulate concepts and ideas amongst their peers. This style of learning will leave students well prepared for the transition to a standard degree course.

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

MO1 Identify the key issues and debates that dominate political science and international relations

MO2 Communicate clearly in writing

MO3 Analyse and interpret key philosophical texts

MO4 Present material in a scholarly format

MO5 Use philosophical ideas and concepts to analyse issues in politics and society

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 234 hours

Face-to-face learning = 66 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzgrv9-30-0.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzgrv9-30-0.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The assessments for this module have been designed to meet the learning outcomes of the module, to test a range of skills, and embed a foundational understanding of politics, international relations and philosophy.

The Essay in term 1 is designed to allow students to exhibit their understanding of philosophical texts through using key concepts in relation to contemporary examples. This will not only enable students to exhibit their knowledge of key texts and classical philosophical concepts, but equally allow them to utilize these tools to understand contemporary ethical and political examples. Moreover, completing this assignment

will give students an additional opportunity to develop essay skills, which is a fundamental asset in their academic track at UWE and constitutes an important part of the portfolio of first year assessments as it allows the development of a sustained argument and evidence of critical thinking.

The online examination (with a 24 hour submission window) tests the content drawn from the Politics and International Relations half of this module. This broad, but focussed, test of knowledge allows the students to demonstrate their knowledge recall and their understanding of the foundational concepts covered. The format of the examination suits the foundational level more than an essay-based exam as setting a larger number of shorter-answer questions, all of which must be answered, underlines to the students the importance of coverage of the widest range of material, as all of the taught content is important to be recalled to give the students the foundations they need to progress.

Assessment tasks:**Examination (First Sit)**

Description: Online Examination (24 hours)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO4

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Essay 2000 words

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Examination (Resit)

Description: Online Examination (24 hours)

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO4

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Essay 2000 words

Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

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

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2023-24

Sociology with Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2023-24

Sociology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2023-24

Criminology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Criminology with Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Sociology with Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Politics And International Relations {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Sociology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Psychology with Criminology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2023-24

Psychology with Criminology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23