Royal Holloway University of London

Department of Politics and International Relations
(Including Philosophy)

2015-2016 Course Information Booklet
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THIRD YEAR EUROPEAN STUDIES COURSES

ES3001 ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY EUROPE: INSTITUTIONS AND POLICY IN EUROPE AND THE EU (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

THIRD YEAR POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COURSES

PR3000 DISSERTATION (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)
PR3100 Politics in Action (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)
PR3150 POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY (Half course unit – Autumn Term)
PR3520 THE POLITICS OF THE INTERNET AND THE INFORMATION SOCIETY (Half course unit – Autumn Term)
PR3530 THE POLITICS OF MODERN GERMANY (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)
PR3541 RADICAL POLITICAL THOUGHT (Half course unit – Spring Term)
PR3550 THE BRITISH IN INDIA: A SOCIAL AND POLITICAL HISTORY (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)
PR3560 THE POLITICS OF TOLERATION (Half course unit – Autumn Term)
PR3570 SOCIAL JUSTICE: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE (Half course unit – Spring Term)
PR3601 CONTEMPORARY MIDDLE EAST POLITICS (Half course unit – Autumn Term)
PR3610 COMPARATIVE DEMOCRACY AND ELECTIONS (Full course unit Autumn and Spring Term)
PR3630 ISSUES IN DEMOCRATIC THEORY (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)
PR3640 ADVANCED READINGS IN GLOBAL STUDIES (Half course unit – Autumn Term)
PR3670 COMPARATIVE FOREIGN POLICY (Half course unit – Spring Term)
PR3680 YOUNG PEOPLE’S POLITICS (Half course unit – Spring Term)
PR3690 THE MAKING OF MODERN SOUTH ASIA (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring term)
PR3700 GENDERED COMMUNITIES: WOMEN AND NATIONALISM IN THE MIDDLE EAST, NORTH AFRICA AND SOUTH ASIA (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Term)
PR3710 ADVANCED SEMINAR IN BRITISH POLITICS (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)
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Dear Students,

Please read the below instructions carefully and take time to consider your courses fully before returning your option form.

**IMPORTANT:** The Department Option Form (emailed to you separately) must be returned by email only. Emails will be accepted from 9am Monday 20th April 2015. Any forms emailed prior to this date/time will not be accepted. All emails must be received by 9am Tuesday 28th 2015

Please email the completed form as a file attachment to: PIR-admin@rhul.ac.uk

Information contained in this booklet is **provisional and subject to change.** The final programme will be confirmed or updated in the Departmental Student Handbook 2014-2015 during Induction/Registration Week in September 2015.

While we make every effort to ensure that your course choices are met, we need to balance matters such as recruitment, timetabling, staff workload and class sizes against your preferences. We will do everything we can to ensure that you will be able to take your chosen courses but unfortunately we cannot guarantee that it will be possible for everyone. Insufficient demand for courses may lead to them being withdrawn. Major/minor combinations involving two Departments may be particularly constrained by timetabling problems. This is why we ask you to name 'reserve' courses on your options form. Course choices will be distributed on a first come, first served basis, so it is in your interests to return your form promptly. **Note: option forms that do not list reserves will be returned to you and will not be accepted until reserves are provided.**

At this time of the year we ask you to indicate your selection of course options for next year. The combination of courses which you can take, and the amount of choice which you can exercise, **is dependent upon your degree programme.**

The following pages contain information on the courses which are available in this Department next year, so that you can consider each course and see how it might fit in with your areas of interest.

Read through the descriptions of course options and make your selection, **making sure that courses you have selected fit in with your programme of study,** and that you have fulfilled any prerequisites.

Check that the value of your selected course combination adds up to **exactly 4 units, but that you have also listed reserve choices.**

If you are doing a joint degree or taking a course in another Department, please enter the courses you have registered for on this form as well. This does not constitute preliminary registration for courses outside the Department, but it is used to assist us in timetable planning.

**CAREFULLY COMPLETE THE PRELIMINARY OPTIONS FORM (Emailed to you separately) and return it BY E-MAIL ONLY (as a file attachment).** Paper copies will not be accepted at the office.

Finally, if you have questions or concerns about preliminary registration, please contact Dr John Mattausch, Academic Co-ordinator for PIR (j.mattausch@rhul.ac.uk), or Prof Anne Sheppard, Undergraduate Philosophy Programme Director (anne.sheppard@rhul.ac.uk).

If you require further information concerning individual courses please visit the course convenors listed in the options booklet in their office hours to discuss them in more detail.
SECOND YEAR EUROPEAN STUDIES COURSES

ES2001 EUROPEAN INTEGRATION SINCE 1945: HISTORY AND POLITICS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – Term 1 focuses on the development of European integration since the end of World War Two. The first term introduces students to concepts and theories which explain the European Union’s development. In term 2, students will learn about the politics and political institutions of the EU. Over the term, students will cover the European Commission, the Council of the EU, the European Parliament, European Court, the Democratic Deficit, the role of Euroscepticism, and the politics of European parliamentary elections.

Course Leader – Dr Giacomo Benedetto
Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars
Assessment – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

Note: this course is a prerequisite for studying the third year course: ES3001 Issues in Contemporary Europe: Institutions and Policy in Europe and the EU

SECOND YEAR POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COURSES

PR2440 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORY (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – This course explores the key theoretical thinkers and debates in IR. These develop a variety of ways of thinking about IR, drawing on questions about the nature of power, identity and ethics in politics and what happens to these in the international realm. The course is divided into two parts. Part one explores mainstream theories, including realism, liberalism and constructivism. Part two deals with critical approaches to IR theory, including Marxism, post-structuralism, feminism and post-colonialism. The emphasis throughout the course is on reading original key thinkers. What problems and issues did these thinkers confront and how did they try to explain them? How well are their concerns and approaches reflected in current IR issues and debates? Which theories best help us understand the practice of international politics? At the end of each part of the course, there will be a special revision session where the class will watch and discuss a film.

Course Leader – Prof Sandra Halperin
Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars
Assessment – Assessed coursework (50%) End of year examination (50%) and

PR2450 INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL STUDIES (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Term)

Course Description – This course aims to provide an overview of key perspectives in the study of globalization; to outline the processes contributing to globalization in the contemporary world; to introduce the range of questions, issues and debates which shape this area of academic inquiry; to outline ways in which the study of globalization has shaped the social scientific imagination in recent years; and to provide an intellectually stimulating course which will prepare students for a critical engagement with contemporary debates on globalization.

Course Leader – Prof Chris Rumford
Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars
Assessment – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%) and

PR2480 DEMOCRACY IN BRITAIN (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – This course explores the theory and practice of modern British democratic politics. It is designed primarily to familiarise students with the ways in which British government has evolved, and how it continues to operate in an era of mass democracy. Students taking the course will gain knowledge of the ‘nuts and bolts’ of the political system, but they will also learn about why the system operates in the way it does, as well as the implications for the quality of democratic governance in Britain. The course is organised into four parts. Part I briefly introduces the emergence of Britain as a democracy and the nature of the current political system. Part II then looks in greater depth at various components of the modern democratic state, including electoral systems, referendums, Parliament and the core executive. Part III addresses the major democratic forces in modern British politics, namely the major political parties, which shape, as well as operate in, the political system. Finally, Part IV looks at some of the recent add-ons to Britain’s democratic terrain, including devolution, membership of the European Union and a more assertive judiciary. Part IV concludes with a reassessment of what democracy means in Britain today.

Course Leader – Dr Andy Chadwick
Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars
Assessment – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)
PR2490  CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THEORY (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – Underlying policy debate in contemporary states are political ideas and theories about how we should organise the state, how much people should participate in politics, whether we should redistribute wealth within the state; what human rights we should endorse, on what basis the state may punish people; whether the liberal democratic capitalist state is patriarchal or exploitative; and what our obligations are to strangers overseas. The aim of Contemporary Political Theory is to examine these key concepts and the thinkers who have developed them in political theory today. Specifically, it examines themes of political obligation; social justice (including exploitation, gender justice and global justice); punishment; democracy, community, utilitarianism; human rights; freedom and toleration; and writers including Rawls, Sandel, MacIntyre, Okin and Mill. The course aims to show how abstract ideas have practical relevance, and conversely how current debates in politics are illuminated by thinking about them theoretically.

Course Leaders – Dr Jonathan Seglow, Prof Nathan Widder

Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars

Assessment – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

PR2500  INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – This course examines the relationship between states and markets, power and wealth, in International Political Economy (IPE). It introduces students to the key concepts and theoretical debates in IPE. It tackles issues such as the globalisation of trade, finance, and production, the continued problems of development and democratic governance in the world economy, and emerging questions surrounding global flows, networks and spaces. Students are taken through the history of regimes, crises, and competing theories of political economy from the nineteenth century to the present day. Throughout the course the emphasis is on how political institutions operate in international politics to regulate the creation of wealth, and who benefits from these arrangements.

Course Leader – Prof Ben O’Loughlin

Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars

Assessment – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

PR2510  THE POLITICS OF MIGRATION AND ETHNICITY (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – This course examines the chief patterns of post–war British migration, the character and fortunes of New Commonwealth settlers, the current patterns of migration and the current political attempts to manage migration. It examines how social and political scientists have addressed issues of migration and ethnicity and considers the analytical classification of minority communities, current debates over British Muslims, and the rise of religious citizenship.

Course Leader – Dr John Mattausch

Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars

Assessment – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

PR2520  EMPIRE AND DECOLONISATION (Full Unit: Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – The course aims to introduce students to some of the key themes in understanding empire and decolonization, and the consequences of this for world politics. It encourages comparative thought across geographical locations and time zones and should lead students to apply theoretical analysis to case–studies drawn primarily from former Asian and African parts of the British empire. It is hoped that this course will stimulate reflection on the implications of both formal and informal empire for contemporary economics and political institutions. Students will be encouraged to appreciate the impact of empire and decolonization on both colonised and coloniser societies through development, migration and the creation of autonomous nation–states. The explicit aim will be to provide new insights and to provoke debate about the ways in which international political power relationships have evolved.

Course Leader – Dr Antara Datta and Dr Julia Gallagher

Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars

Assessment – Assessed coursework (60%) and two–hour exam (40%)

PR2540  POLITICAL BEHAVIOUR (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – As the primary mechanism with which to implement the principle of popular sovereignty, electoral participation has received attention of academics, policy makers and the media alike. This course focusses on the various ways in which individuals directly or indirectly influence political choices at various levels of the political system. It examines the relationship between voters and political parties, and considers the theory and practice of how electors decide whether to vote (or not) and whom to vote for. However, voting in elections is only one way in which citizens can try to influence policy outcomes. In this course more direct forms of political action, such as participation in protests and social movements, are also addressed. The course contains both a theoretical and an empirical component. Students will be
encouraged to assess the evidence for competing explanations of political behaviour through readings drawn from research on countries across Western Europe and North America. Besides an understanding of the main theories and main questions in the field of political behaviour, the course will provide students with a thorough understanding of how to conduct systematic empirical research and critically appraise it.

**Course Leader** – Dr Kaat Smets

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

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**PR2550 WAR AND SECURITY IN WORLD POLITICS (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)**

**Course Description** – This course provides comprehensive overview for second year undergraduate students of the subject of Security Studies as a sub–field of International Relations. The course will cover both classical approaches to Security Studies as well as more contemporary debates in the field. This course is theoretical in that it examines the debates amongst Security Studies scholars (traditionalists vs. critical approaches) against the relief of contemporary international relations.

**Course Leader** – Dr Michelle Bentley

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

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**PR2560 MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)**

**Course Description** – This course will introduce students to major political thinkers from the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, whose ideas continue to underpin contemporary debates about the nature of freedom, human rights, value pluralism, popular sovereignty, state legitimacy, and the modern condition. It aims to introduce them to the themes, argumentative strategies, and critical interpretations of these thinkers, and to help them develop the skills to critically assess these interpretations against the texts themselves. It also aims to show how study of these thinkers illuminates contemporary debates even where these debates no longer make reference to them.

**Course Leader** – Dr Michael Bacon

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

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**PR2580 INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)**

**Course Description** – Students will tackle a number of contemporary debates on international organisations that are central to public debate: the meaning and forms of international organisations, issues of authority, power and legitimacy; how states and non-state actors (particularly INGOs and Business) have shaped the nature and scope of international cooperation and the effects that participation in international institutions has upon policy-making, styles of governance and institutional configuration at the national and sub-national levels. We will also examine the role of hegemonic powers, in particular the impact of the United States over the post-war and post-Cold War eras and the implications of the rise of new powers such as Brazil, China and India upon international organisations.

A key question that the course will examine is the extent to which these challenges are leading to a shift away from an international system characterized by the notion of state sovereignty and the control of policy development and implementation by the central political authority of the nation-state, to a diffusion of power and competencies. It will examine the diffusion of competencies ‘horizontally’ to private actors such as INGOs and Transnational Corporations and ‘vertically’ to regional and international organisations. The module will critically assess the analytical leverage that can be attained about these questions through the application of IR theory: realist, liberal and constructivist approaches. It will also focus on approaches drawn from political science theory, notably the literatures on multi-level governance, public policy theories, neo-Marxism and ‘new’ institutionalism.

**Course Leader** – Dr Tom Dyson

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – End of year examination (40%) and assessed coursework (60%)

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**PR2590 THE POLITICS OF HUMAN RIGHTS (Full unit course – Autumn and Spring Terms)**

**Course Description** – This course aims to introduce students to the historical origins, key concepts and current debates in the modern study of human rights. It will cover a range of topics including humanitarian intervention, genocide, transitional justice, terrorism, economic rights and the promotion of human rights by non-governmental organizations and utilizing “new media”. It will give students a broad overview of the field and provide a foundation in the fundamentals integral for further study in specific areas. In addition to the theoretical origins of human rights, attention will be paid to current policy debates and efforts to measure the impact of various human rights mechanisms.
PR2600  INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL COMMUNICATION (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – The purpose of this course is to provide students with a broad overview of how citizens, politicians and the media interact across Western democracies during both electoral and governing periods. The first part of the course will focus on the production and consumption of political news, while the second part will address election campaigns and their effects as well as focusing on contemporary debates in political communication, including ethical issues. While the course will cover key aspects of political communication in the United Kingdom, the focus will be mostly comparative.

Course Leader – Dr Cristian Vaccari
Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars
Assessment – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)
the fate of the Cartesian concern with certainty through the sceptical naturalism of Hume and Kant’s attempt to rescue the idea of metaphysics through to the contemporary revival of interest in scepticism.

**Course Leader** – Dr Neil Gascoigne

**Assessment** – Essay, 2,000–2,500 words (50%); Examination: 2 hours (50%)

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**PY2005 PHILOSOPHY AND THE ARTS** *(Half course unit – Autumn Term)*

**Course Description** – The course will expose students to current philosophical debates in aesthetics, including questions about the nature and value of art; the roles of intention, imagination and interpretation; and the emotional and ethical responses they provoke. Although theoretically informed, each weekly presentation will be grounded in a discussion of one or more artistic or cultural objects, be it a play, poem, musical composition, film or one of the myriad other forms of creative expression.

**Course Leaders** – TBD

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Essay, 3,000–3,500 words (100%)

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**PY2006 MODERN FRENCH PHILOSOPHY** *(Full unit course – Autumn and Spring Terms)*

**Course Description** – The aim of this course is to introduce you to the central ethical, metaphysical, phenomenological concerns of the 20th and 21st century French philosophical tradition. We will look at a major work by four central figures in the tradition, focusing on the way these thinkers enter into dialogue with each other. The course aims to develop you knowledge and appreciation of the importance and continuing relevance of the tradition, and some of the key movements within it, such as the existentialist, post-structuralist, and postmodernist movements. It also aims to develop your abilities to interpret philosophical texts, and critically evaluate philosophical arguments.

**Course Leaders** – TBD

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Coursework only: Assignments: 2x 1500 words (50%); Final Essay 3,500 – 4,000 words (50%)

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**PY2102 PRACTICAL ETHICS** *(Half course unit – Autumn Term)*

**Course Description** – The aim of this course is to allow students to develop their abilities to apply theoretical ethical considerations to practical ethical situations. Relating knowledge to real world situations is a crucial part of practising philosophy. On this course, we will look at a number of different ethical issues such as abortion, euthanasia, the rights of animals, what rights the state has to contain the behaviour of its citizens, the rights to free speech, the relationship between justice and punishment, and our responsibilities to the environment. Each week, we shall address a different issue, looking at two influential papers on the subject, and determining how successful the argument of each is in analysing the ethical issue at stake. We will look at on the abilities of various ethical theories to adequately characterise our concrete ethical life, and what this characterisation says about us as ethical individuals.

**Course Leader** – TBD

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Essay 2000 words (50%); Examination: 2 hours (50%)

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**PY2104 VARIETIES OF SCEPTICISM** *(Full unit course – Autumn and Spring Terms)*

**Course Description** – What is knowledge? Is it possible for us to acquire it? If so, how do we do so? This course approaches these questions by looking at the history of attempts to show that we perhaps don’t in fact have knowledge—the history of scepticism. Starting with the Ancient Greek concern with knowledge of how to live the Good Life, the first sceptics aimed to show that the search for such knowledge actually stood in the way of the very path to happiness it promised. The Ancient sceptical arguments were rediscovered in the Sixteenth Century and along with the emergence of modern science led to both a new conception of knowledge and of sceptical doubt to accompany it. This course traces the fate of the Cartesian concern with certainty through the sceptical naturalism of Hume and Kant’s attempt to rescue the idea of metaphysics through the ordinary language response of Wittgenstein and Austin through to the contemporary revival of interest in scepticism.

**Course Leader** – Dr Neil Gascoigne

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – Essays. 2 x 1500 words (50%); Examination: 3 hours (50%)
CL2654 BODY AND SOUL IN ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY (Full unit course – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course description: - This course aims to develop students' understanding of ancient philosophical arguments, ability to evaluate them as arguments both in their own terms and in comparison with rival positions, and awareness of the importance of assessing against their cultural background positions that have been adopted by a particular thinker. The content will deal with philosophical issues relating to body, soul and mind in Presocratic thought and in selected texts of Plato (Phaedo, Republic 4 and 10, Timaeus), Aristotle (De anima), the Hellenistic philosophers (Stoics and Epicureans) and Plotinus. Topics covered will include the relationship between body and soul, the immortality of the soul, parts/faculties of the soul, the concept of a world soul and the Neoplatonic view of soul as a metaphysical hypostasis.

Course leader: - Prof. Anne Sheppard
Course delivery: - Weekly lectures and seminars
Assessment: - Essay 2,500 – 3,000 words (20%); Exam: 3 hours (80%)
THIRD YEAR EUROPEAN STUDIES COURSES

ES3001  ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY EUROPE: INSTITUTIONS AND POLICY IN EUROPE AND THE EU
(Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – This course concentrates on those issues dominating the European agenda and the attitudes of the major players in the European Union towards integration. Among the topics for consideration are the role of political institutions across Europe, as well economic and monetary union, the euro zone crisis, the construction of the single market, European social and environmental policies, the agricultural policy, the EU budget, enlargement, institutional reform, and common foreign and security policy. Students will be encouraged to compare political institutions at national level, such as the role of parliaments to those at the EU level.

Course Leaders – Dr Giacomo Benedetto

Course Delivery – There will be one lecture and one tutorial per week. Both are compulsory.

Prerequisite – ES2001 European Integration Since 1945: History and Politics of the European Union

Assessment – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

THIRD YEAR POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COURSES

PR3000  DISSERTATION (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – In the third year of your degree course you are required to write a Dissertation of between 7,000–10,000 words in length. This Dissertation is equivalent to one full Course Unit. It is an opportunity for you to examine, in greater depth, an area of interest to you. Each student will have a member of staff to act as a supervisor. The role of the supervisor is to help and guide you with your Dissertation. A series of Dissertation workshops is held during the first five weeks of the Autumn term, attendance at which is compulsory.

Course Leader – TBD

Course Delivery – Dissertation workshops and individual supervision.

PR3100  Politics in Action (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – Whilst a University degree opens many doors to careers, the experience and skills enhanced during a placement provide an extra dimension to the qualification. The Politics in Action placement scheme is a third year undergraduate, assessed, full unit course module. It has a novel structure which combines participation in a workplace environment for one day a week during term time (and three days a week for each term’s reading week) with scholarly reflection on the nature of the organizational, professional, and policy contexts of the placement.

Course Leader – Dr Tom Dyson

Course Delivery – Work Placement/Internship with

Assessment – Coursework; Presentation (15%); 2500 word blog; (25%) 3,500 – 4,000 word Final Report (60%)

PR3150  POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY (Half course unit – Autumn Term)

Course Description – This course aims to provide an overview of current debates in political sociology. It raises questions about the ability of the social sciences to account for and interpret contemporary political and social transformation, and aims to understand the changing relationships between state, society and the individual in a globalizing world.

Course Leader – Prof Chris Rumford

Course Delivery – Weekly lecture/seminar

Assessment – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

PR3520  THE POLITICS OF THE INTERNET AND THE INFORMATION SOCIETY (Half course unit – Autumn Term)

Course Description – This course provides a detailed examination of the use and impact of the Internet and other information and communication technologies in global, state, party and civil societal structures. It focuses on a number of important contemporary debates about the role and influence of network technologies on the values, processes and outcomes of: global governance institutions; public bureaucracies; representative institutions including political parties and legislatures; pressure groups and social movements. It also examines persistent and controversial policy problems thrown up by ‘information age’ ICTs, specifically: the digital divide; privacy and surveillance; intellectual property issues; and the power of the new media sector in domestic and global economies.
**Course Leader** – Professor Dr Andrew Chadwick  
**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars  
**Assessment** – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)  

**PR3530** THE POLITICS OF MODERN GERMANY (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)  
**Course Description** – This course focuses on understanding the emergence of the Federal Republic of Germany since 1949. It begins by examining the post–war development of the two Germanys under the conditions of the Cold War. It then deals with the re–unification process marked by the fall of the Berlin Wall, and looks at its impact upon the Federal Republic. In the second term, the course will turn to contemporary issues in German politics, dealing with such issues as the Euro Crisis, the impact of immigration on German politics and Germany’s role in foreign and security policy. to investigate the main domestic and international challenges facing the German model since unification.  
**Course Leaders** – Dr Alister Miskimmon / Dr Jonathan Sloam  
**Course Delivery** – 2 hour weekly seminars  
**Assessment** – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)  

**PR3541** RADICAL POLITICAL THOUGHT (Half course unit – Spring Term)  
**Course Description** – Details to follow  
**Course Delivery** – 2 hour weekly seminars  
**Assessment** – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)  

**PR3550** THE BRITISH IN INDIA: A SOCIAL AND POLITICAL HISTORY (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)  
**Course Description** – This course begins with the arrival of the British, in 1608, in Gujarat, west India. We examine why and how the British came, how they lived and conducted themselves and their business during the 17th century, how they began their rise to power in the 18th century, the relationship of the British to the Native States, British rule before and after the Mutiny/Uprising, the growth of Bombay, the life and campaigning of Gujarat’s most famous son. Gandhi, and the nationalist struggles in west India. We examine competing explanations for how the British were, with very few forces, able to conquer and rule India, and we consider the comparative technological development of the two countries. We conclude by looking at how Gujarat fared after Independence, ending in 2002 with the Godhra massacre. By the end of the course, students should: be familiar with British–Gujarati history and its chief dynamics; have a grounded understanding of the interplay of economic and socio–political formations, identity and cultural conflict; understand the dynamics and character of past and present–day Indian migratory movements. A feature of this course is the use of original accounts written by Britishers living in India; these are all available on the Course’s Moodle site in PDF files, or on the Web.  
**Course Leader** – Dr John Mattausch  
**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars  
**Assessment** – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)  

**PR3560** THE POLITICS OF TOLERATION (Half course unit – Autumn Term)  
**Course Description** – Toleration is about not interfering with other people’s freedom when you believe what they are doing is wrong. In contemporary societies marked by different cultures, religions, ideologies and convictions, toleration is an indispensable virtue for citizens. This course explores the political theory of toleration, examining its key concepts and the practical controversies associated with it. Topics covered include; the harm paradigm - J.S. Mill’s *On Liberty*; the offence paradigm; freedom of expression (including ‘hate speech’); freedom of association and illiberal minorities; the headscarves debate; freedom of religious conscience; the right to cultural survival; the justification of paternalism; and international toleration (human rights and cultural relativism).  
**Course Leader** – Dr Jonathan Seglow  
**Course Delivery** – Two hour weekly lecture/seminar  
**Assessment** – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%, including 10% Moodle participation mark)  

**PR3570** SOCIAL JUSTICE: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE (Half course unit – Spring Term)  
**Course Description** – The idea of social justice concerns the fair distribution in society of benefits (like income, wealth, health, education and jobs) and burdens (like tax, pollution, illness and hunger). Political theorists debate how these
should be distributed, using ideas such as equality, meritocracy, desert, need and utility. This course explores these debates. The first half considers the fundamental ideas of social justice; the second half is more applied.

**Course Leader** – Dr Jonathan Seglow
**Course Delivery** – Two hour weekly lecture/seminar
**Assessment** – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%-%, including 10% Moodle participation mark)

PR3601 CONTEMPORARY MIDDLE EAST POLITICS (Half course unit – Autumn Term)

**Course Description** – The course surveys political systems, movements, conflicts and trends in the contemporary Middle East. It explores the international and regional context of current problems and conditions, including the process of state formation, variations in regime consolidation and state–society relations, regional rivalries and conflicts, the Islamist challenge, the political economy of development, and democracy and civil society.

**Course Leader** – Prof Sandra Halperin
**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars
**Assessment** – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

PR3610 COMPARATIVE DEMOCRACY AND ELECTIONS (Full course unit Autumn and Spring Term)

**Course Description** – This course examines the different ways in which democracy has taken root around the world, how it is locally understood and practiced, and the factors that have shaped its development. Drawing on in–depth case studies and comparative analysis it critically examines how institutions, historical legacies, the social and economic context, and the relationship between voters and political parties shape democratic politics in different and sometimes hostile environments. In doing so it not only addresses issues about the sources of democratic survival and breakdown, but should lead students to question the universality of Western notions of Liberal Democracy, and to appreciate the global diversity of democratic experiences as they are practiced on the ground.

**Course Leader** – Dr Oliver Heath
**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars
**Assessment** – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

PR3630 ISSUES IN DEMOCRATIC THEORY (Full course unit Autumn and Spring Terms)

**Course Description** – This course introduces students to theoretical issues concerning democratic government. Modern political thought is characterised by an uneasy relationship with democracy. Whilst the values of freedom and equality are widely related – and often thought naturally to entail – democratic government, many political theorists have identified various problems that democracy poses to individual freedom. The course will examine both the theoretical underpinnings of democracy and the issues and controversies arising from it. Topics include: forms of democracy; the relationship between democracy and other values such as freedom and equality; the role of participation; multiculturalism and group rights; and global democracy.

**Course Leader** – Dr Michael Bacon
**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars
**Assessment** – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (35%)

PR3660 ADVANCED READINGS IN GLOBAL STUDIES (Half course unit – Autumn Term)

**Course Description** – The course aims to provide an opportunity for students to study in detail key issues in global studies and key approaches to the study of globalization; to evaluate critically contending perspectives on globalization; to prepare students for a critical engagement with contemporary debates on the meaning and dynamics of globalization; and, to introduce students to cutting–edge thinking in Global Studies.

**Course Leader** – Professor Chris Rumford
**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars
**Assessment** – End of year examination (65%) and assessed coursework (35%)

PR3670 COMPARATIVE FOREIGN POLICY (Half course unit – Spring Term)

**Course Description** – Students will study the core concepts associated with foreign policy analysis (eg national interest, policy making processes, negotiation, etc) as well as the foreign policies of key selected states with a clear empirical emphasis on the post–Cold War period. The states selected are will include the UK, Germany, the Soviet Union/Russia, and India. Students will examine the influences on foreign policy in these different national contexts (for example, as public opinion) and through different case studies (such as recent Russian intervention in the Ukraine). The course will
also explore how foreign policy is implemented through various policy instruments such as trade, diplomacy and military force.

**Course Leader** – Dr James Sloam

**Course Delivery** – Weekly lectures and seminars

**Assessment** – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (40%) tutorial assessment (10%)
Course Leader – Dr Nicholas Allen
Course Delivery – Weekly seminars
Assessment – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

PR3720 ADVANCED SEMINAR IN BRITISH POLITICS (Half course unit – Autumn Term)
Course Description – Please see description for PR3710 above. This half-unit will cover topics on the British prime ministership
Course Leader – Dr Nicholas Allen
Course Delivery – Weekly seminars
Assessment – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

PR3730 ADVANCED SEMINAR IN BRITISH POLITICS (Half course unit – Spring Term)
Course Description – Please see description for PR3710 above. This half-unit will cover topics on the Labour party in opposition.
Course Leader – Dr Nicholas Allen
Course Delivery – Weekly seminars
Assessment – End of year examination (50%) and assessed coursework (50%)

PR3760 THE POLITICS OF AFRICA (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)
Course Description – The course provides an introduction to the key themes of African politics, both within the continent and in its international relations. There are three parts. The first gives an overview of colonial and post-colonial politics across the continent, and an introduction to the key theoretical approaches to the study of African politics. The second explores the themes of tradition and modernity within domestic politics and the politics of conflict. The third focuses on external intervention in Africa, exploring the ways in which liberal actors have constructed and intervened in Africa.
Course Leader – Dr Julia Gallagher
Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars
Assessment – Final examination (40%), assessed course work (60%)

PR3771 DEFENCE IN THE POST-COLD WAR WORLD (Half course unit – Spring Term)
Course Description: This course analyses the content and sources of change in defence policy during the post-Cold War era. It will focus on changes to the objectives of defence policy, military capabilities, force structures and doctrines of the world’s major military powers (the US, Britain, France, Germany, China and Russia). In so doing, it will analyse the extent to which these reforms have helped the state concerned to meet its central security challenges. In addition, the module will explore the embedding of defence policies within regional and international institutions and the sources of defence cooperation. It will also analyse the role and implications of non-state actors in defence, notably private military companies and NGOs. The module will be informed by the insights of political science and I/R approaches to the sources of military change
Course Leader – Dr Tom Dyson
Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars
Assessment – Final examination (50%), assessed course work (50%)

PR3790 WAR AND ITS AFTERMATH (Half course unit – Spring Term)
Course Description – This course will explore war and its aftermath, focusing on the various efforts to intervene in conflict and seek redress for mass atrocities. The first half of the course will focus on the issues that arise during conflict. It will look at contemporary trends in modern war, the decision to intervene, and the complicated role of international actors during conflict, such as those that provide humanitarian assistance. The second half of the course will address the various ways international and local actors have tried to address legacies of war crimes and mass atrocities after weapons have been laid to rest—criminal tribunals, truth and reconciliation commissions, and state apologies.
Course Leader – Dr Lara Nettelfield
Course Delivery – Weekly seminars
Assessment – Coursework (100%)
PR3810  VISUAL POLITICS (Half course unit – Spring Term)

Course Description – There is an urgent need for critical examination of the role of visual media in politics. Many argue that ‘the power of images’ has policymakers, journalists and citizens spellbound. For others, thanks to media technologies it has never been easier for ordinary people to create, disseminate, play with and contest political images. This course examines the role of visual materials and practices in politics and international relations. Students will become familiar with research traditions in the discipline of Politics and IR that engage with visual media, how they conceptualise and conduct research, and the limitations of those traditions. The first half of the course covers core problems and theories and the second half covers methods and case studies. The course is comparative, examining how visual media have operated in different historical eras of politics and across policy issue areas. Assessment by way of traditional essay and online visual story (via Storify) will enable students to demonstrate their understanding of the course content.

Course Leader – Prof Ben O’Loughlin
Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars
Assessment – Coursework (100%)

PR3820  GLOBAL CRIME (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

This course examines the rise and governance of global crime in the context of world politics. It analyzes crimes and their impact as well as it presents political solutions envisaged by the international community. The course also shows how crime policies emerge, are established and are diffused by states and non-state actors. The course has three parts: First, it deals with basic questions like ‘What is global crime?’. In the second part, substantive areas of global crimes are presented. The final part summarizes the seminar and provides an outlook to the essays. The course should enable you to know which sorts of global crimes exist, how they affect societies, how governments and the international community try to fight them and which difficulties arise. Related to these course objectives are other skills: particularly a better understanding of issue-specific and political factors involved in governance, improved analytical abilities, improved argumentation and articulation skills, advanced presentation skills, and advanced research skills.

Course Leader – Dr Anja P. Jakobi
Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars
Assessment – Final examination (40%), assessed course work (60%)

PR3840  TERRORISM AND COUNTERTERRORISM (Half course unit – Spring Term)

Course Description – This course explores the related issues of terrorism and counterterrorism. It examines what terrorism is, the history of terrorism, and the motivational trends in terrorist behaviour, especially the emergence of the so-called ‘new’ terrorism. Students will study why terrorists choose to carry out acts of violence and why they employ the tactics that they do. It also assesses how states seek to deal with terrorism, looking at different methods/theories of counterterrorism as well as the ethical issues involved: should civil rights be curtailed in the name of counterterrorism, is the torture of terrorist suspects permissible, should we use drones?

Course Leader – Dr Michelle Bentley
Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars
Assessment – Final Exam (50%); coursework (50%)

THIRD YEAR PHILOSOPHY COURSES

PY3001  DISSERTATION IN PHILOSOPHY (Full course unit – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – The dissertation is compulsory for all Philosophy students who are not taking a dissertation or similar piece of extended work in their combined subject. It presents the opportunity to demonstrate your skills as independent learners by embarking upon a substantial (8-10000 words), significant piece of written work. Ordinarily, the dissertation topic will derive from a course already taken, or one the student has committed to take in their final year.

Course Leader – Dr Neil Gascoigne
Assessment – Dissertation, 8,000-10,000 words (100%)

PY3002  MODERN EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY 1: FROM HUSSERL TO HEIDEGGER (Half course unit – Autumn Term)

Course Description – This course introduces students to the work of two of the defining figures in modern philosophy. The aim is to enable students to grasp the key ideas in phenomenology and of Heidegger’s interrogation of the notion of ‘being’. Moreover, the point is to show what consequences these ideas have for key political, social and other issues in
the modern world.

Course Leader – TBD

Assessment – Critical Commentary, 500-1,000 words (10%); Essay 1,000-1,500 words (40%); Essay 1,500-2,000 words (50%)

PY3003 MODERN EUROPEAN PHILOSOPHY 2: POSTSTRUCTURALISM AND ITS CRITICS (Half course unit – Spring Term)

Course Description – Following on from PY3002, this course introduces students to key developments in European Philosophy after the Second World War, which form the basis of contemporary debates in both philosophy and other subjects. The course will be run on the basis of independent study, guided by the course staff.

Course Leader – TBD

Assessment – Essay 3,500-4,000 Words (100%)

PY3006 MODERN FRENCH PHILOSOPHY (Full unit course – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – The aim of this course is to introduce you to the central ethical, metaphysical, phenomenological concerns of the 20th and 21st century French philosophical tradition. We will look at a major work by four central figures in the tradition, focusing on the way these thinkers enter into dialogue with each other. The course aims to develop you knowledge and appreciation of the importance and continuing relevance of the tradition, and some of the key movements within it, such as the existentialist, post-structuralist, and postmodernist movements. It also aims to develop your abilities to interpret philosophical texts, and critically evaluate philosophical arguments.

Course Leaders – TBD

Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars

Assessment – Coursework only: Essay 2 x 3,500 – 4,000 words (100%)

PY2104 VARIETIES OF SCEPTICISM (Full unit course – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description – What is knowledge? Is it possible for us to acquire it? If so, how do we do so? This course approaches these questions by looking at the history of attempts to show that we perhaps don’t in fact have knowledge—the history of scepticism. Starting with the Ancient Greek concern with knowledge of how to live the Good Life, the first sceptics aimed to show that the search for such knowledge actually stood in the way of the very path to happiness it promised. The Ancient sceptical arguments were rediscovered in the Sixteenth Century and along with the emergence of modern science led to both a new conception of knowledge and of sceptical doubt to accompany it. This course traces the fate of the Cartesian concern with certainty through the sceptical naturalism of Hume and Kant’s attempt to rescue the idea of metaphysics through the ordinary language response of Wittgenstein and Austin through to the contemporary revival of interest in scepticism. Note that students who took PY2104 at Stage 2 cannot take this course.

Course Leader – Dr Neil Gascoigne

Course Delivery – Weekly lectures and seminars

Assessment – Coursework only: Essay 2 x 1500 words (50%); Examination: 3 hours (50%)

CL3654 BODY AND SOUL IN ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY (Full unit course – Autumn and Spring Terms)

Course Description: - This course aims to develop students' understanding of ancient philosophical arguments, ability to evaluate them as arguments both in their own terms and in comparison with rival positions, and awareness of the importance of assessing against their cultural background positions that have been adopted by a particular thinker. The content will deal with philosophical issues relating to body, soul and mind in Presocratic thought and in selected texts of Plato (Phaedo, Republic 4 and 10, Timaeus), Aristotle (De anima), the Hellenistic philosophers (Stoics and Epicureans) and Plotinus. Topics covered will include the relationship between body and soul, the immortality of the soul, parts/faculties of the soul, the concept of a world soul and the Neoplatonic view of soul as a metaphysical hypostasis.

Course Leader: - Prof. Anne Sheppard

Course delivery:- Weekly lectures and seminars

Assessment: - Essay 2,500-3,000 words (20%); Exam: 3 hours (80%)
THIRD YEAR PPE COURSE

PE3000 Advanced Seminar and Dissertation in Politics, Philosophy and Economics (Full unit course - Autumn and Spring Terms)
Course description: This is a compulsory dissertation course for all third year PPE students and comprises a series of advanced research seminars to go alongside students developing their dissertations with individual supervisors. The first term will consist of seminars run led by staff from politics, philosophy and economics, while in the second term seminars will be student led on the topics of individual student dissertations, with students being responsible for setting readings and leading discussion. Peer review will be an important component in the second term.
Course leader: TBC
Course delivery: Weekly seminars
Assessment: Organisation and management of second term seminar designed and led by the student (25%, with assessment informed by peer review), and a research dissertation of 10,000 words (75%)