

# Philosophy, Politics and Economics BA (Hons)

## COURSE DETAILS

- A level requirements: [AAB](#)
- UCAS code: L0V0
- Study mode: Full-time
- Length: 3 years

## KEY DATES

- Apply by: [25 January 2023](#)
- Starts: 25 September 2023

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## Course overview

Philosophy, Politics and Economics unites three disciplines that are foundational to public life and policy. Nowadays, anyone hoping to understand or advance in politics has to be proficient in economics, and an understanding of the philosophical underpinnings of the various political views that jostle on the public stage has long been recognised as hugely important.

## INTRODUCTION

This degree provides the opportunity to master the overlap of these three disciplines, to come to grips with some of their specialisms, to attain a very thorough grounding in mathematical economics, and to develop skills in identifying and evaluating the principles and values that underlie debates. The combination is highly sought after by employers, who appreciate the breadth of knowledge and variety of skills that it provides.

Year one will comprise entirely of compulsory modules: four from Economics, and two each from Philosophy and Politics. In year two, you will take compulsory

modules in Economics, one compulsory Philosophy module, and choose from a range of Philosophy and Politics options, which will give you some flexibility in the direction of your studies. For your final year, you will choose between a PPE-focused work placement or dissertation, and then optional modules from each of the three subjects.

### Year in Industry

This programme can also be studied over four years, with the third year spent on a relevant, salaried work placement (UCAS code: L0V1). Visit the [BA Philosophy, Politics](#)

[and Economics with a Year in Industry](#)

course page for further information.

## **WHAT YOU'LL LEARN**

- Advanced numeracy and literacy skills
  - Creative, critical and independent thinking
  - Flexibility and adaptability
  - Efficient time and information management
  - The ability to organise and present a persuasive case
  - The ability to devise and sustain arguments, and solve problems
  - Systematic knowledge and critical understanding of key aspects of Philosophy, Politics and Economics
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# Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

## YEAR ONE

You will take compulsory modules in each of the three subjects, which will give you the

mathematical, philosophical and political foundations for the rest of your degree.

## COMPULSORY MODULES

### FOUNDATIONS IN POLITICS (POLI109)

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module provides students with a critical introduction to a number of political concepts such as power, the state, legitimacy of sovereignty and gender through engaging with political thinkers such as Weber, Dahl, Tilly, Hooks and Rousseau. It also aims to establish a grounding in a number of areas that will benefit the students in the academic study of politics. For example, essay writing, debating in seminars, and an introduction to academic research. In so doing the module develops on the skills gained at A-level to ensure students are fully prepared for degree level study in Politics. Principally this will be accomplished through interactive lectures and seminars, as well as detailed feedback on their assessments. This module provides students with the tools they require to master different forms of assessment and course work. It also lays the foundations for the development of research confident students by making them active learners with a responsibility for their own academic study.

### FOUNDATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (POLI104)

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module provides an introduction to the main schools of thought and key issues in the field of International Relations (IR). It starts by offering an outline of these schools of thought and introduces students to important thinkers and theories within them. It then moves on to applying and comparing and contrasting different theories to a range of important contemporary issues, from the persistence of war to the environment. It concludes with a discussion of possible futures.

### MATHEMATICAL ECONOMICS (ECON113)

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module introduces students to techniques of proof and mathematical methods that will be assumed elsewhere in the programme. It prepares students for the Year 2 Mathematical Economics II option, which is a prerequisite for certain Year 3 modules.

## **PHILOSOPHY TOOLKIT (PHIL105)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

Students taking this module will develop key skills which are essential for studying philosophy. Students will learn how to approach philosophical texts written in a variety of styles – how to identify arguments, how to distinguish arguments from rhetoric, and how to evaluate arguments. They will also learn how to summarise views accurately, clearly and concisely, and how to write persuasively when presenting their own analysis of the philosophical topics covered. This module also includes lectures on successful presenting, and how to conduct fruitful philosophical discussions. Students will also be advised on understanding and learning from feedback. Students will gain skills in conducting their own independent, enquiry-led research, which is facilitated by a two-hour information and research skills workshop provided by the Library.

The seminar readings cover three particularly engaging philosophical topics: animal ethics, lying and bullshit (epistemology) and aesthetics. Since the lecture content is devoted to developing the skills involved with philosophical practice, this module also features three podcasts which serve as introductions to the three seminar topics.

The module is assessed as follows: seminar participation counts for 10% of the overall grade, a 1,000-word executive summary of any two of the seminar readings counts for 30% of the module result, and a 2000-word essay counts for the remaining 60%. Feedback on the executive summary and the essay is provided online using VITAL. It specifically relates the assessed work to the marking descriptors (which are published online in advance).

Feedback on seminar participation is provided informally by the seminar leader (and by the students' peers). Students will also have the opportunity to discuss their participation by making use of their seminar leader's feedback and advice hours.

## **POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY (PHIL102)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module introduces students to the main arguments and theories in the history of Western political philosophy. Taking this module will enhance students' abilities to analyse political arguments and claims and to identify the philosophical assumptions that underlie them. The module is taught by lecture (2 x 1 hour per week in person, or pre-recorded mini-lectures available online, depending on the circumstances) and seminar (1 hour per week). Assessment is via a take home exam (2 hour equivalent, weighted at 90% of the module mark) and a 5-10 minute seminar presentation (weighted at 10% of the module mark). Seminar presentations may be recorded by students, if in-person presentation is not possible.

## **PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS (ECON123)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module complements and builds on Principles of Microeconomics and provides a foundation for further studies in macroeconomics. It introduces concepts and theories of economics which help understand changes in the macroeconomic environment and enables students to explain and analyse the formulation of government macroeconomic policy.

## **PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS (ECON121)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The module acquaints the student with a foundation in neo-classical microeconomics. The module equips students with the knowledge and mathematical tools to approach fundamental problems in microeconomic analysis. Students are introduced to the importance of theoretical models and their role. The module is supported by a customized textbook. Students who engage fully with this course will receive a solid foundation in microeconomics, which forms the foundation of all future courses in microeconomics and related subjects.

## **STATISTICS FOR ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS (ECON112)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

The aim of this module is to give students an understanding of how statistics operates in Business and Economics. This module serves both as a foundation for further study and as a broadly based introduction to statistics. It is practically based and will teach the foundations of statistical analysis including calculating and presenting statistics from sample data and inferential techniques for making inferences about variable parameters from these as well as a good understanding of probability and variables as probability distributions.

*Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.*

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## **YEAR TWO**

You will take four compulsory modules in Economics, and either **PHIL271** or **PHIL272**.

The remaining 45 credits will be taken from a range of options.

In semester one, you will be required to:

- take one of the following: **POLI257, POLI215, POLI225, POLI231, POLI235, POLI239**
- take a maximum of one of the following: **PHIL212, PHIL239, SOTA260**.

In semester two, you will be required to:

- take one of the following: **POLI200, POLI208, POLI209, POLI237, POLI253**
  - take a maximum of one of the following: **PHIL219, PHIL276, PHIL274**.
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## **COMPULSORY MODULES**

### **MACROECONOMICS I (ECON223)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The module provides training in the principal methodologies, theories and techniques of modern macroeconomic analysis. It is designed to introduce classic macroeconomic issues such as growth, inflation, unemployment, interest rates, exchange rates, technological progress, and budget deficits. The course will provide a unified framework to address these issues and to study the impact of different policies, such as monetary and fiscal policies, on the aggregate behaviour of individuals. These analytical tools will be used to understand the recent experience of the United States and other countries and to address how current policy initiatives affect their macroeconomic performance.

## **MACROECONOMICS II (ECON224)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

The aim of this module is to further extend the study of macroeconomic theory at the intermediate level by analysing business-cycle fluctuations in closed and open economies using the real business cycle model and also the new Keynesian model that are based on microeconomic foundation. On completion of this module, students should be able to: (1) discuss the microfoundation of modern macroeconomic models; (2) explain the implications of macroeconomic disturbances and fiscal policies using the real business cycle model; (3) contrast the different implications of monetary policies in the real business cycle model and in the new Keynesian model; and (4) analyse business cycles in the open economy.

## **MICROECONOMICS 1 (ECON221)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

Introduction to the functions of individual decision-makers, both consumers and producers. Students will learn the major principles of microeconomics including consumer theory, producer theory, and general equilibrium. Perhaps more importantly, students will also learn how to apply these principles to a wide variety of real world situations in both personal and professional lives.

## **MICROECONOMICS 2 (ECON222)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module aims to introduce students to three topics in microeconomic theory: game theory, asymmetric information and welfare economics.

## **OPTIONAL MODULES**

### **ASPECTS OF MEDIA AND POLITICS (POLI208)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

The module covers the media's relationship to politics, with a particular (but not exclusive) focus on Britain. It touches on the political, economic, moral and legal contexts in which journalists cover politics, and looks at how subsequent coverage relates to citizen's attitudes and to democratic politics. The module deals with a range of key topics, such as 'the economy', 'climate change' and 'Europe'. Students should, as a result, get a rounded appreciation of the media's role in contemporary society and politics. The module is delivered via a standard lecture and tutorial format.

### **BRITISH PARTY POLITICS (POLI239)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module aims to develop students' knowledge of British political parties and the party system within which they operate. It explores questions and issues surrounding party structure and organisation, electoral strategy, party ideology and the socio-historical contexts which lead to the rise of certain types of parties rather than others.

### **BRITISH POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES (POLI237)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module analyses the major ideologies in British politics and explores how ideas have brought about change in British politics and society since 1945.

### **BUSINESS ETHICS (PHIL271)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module deals with business ethics and the social responsibility of business organizations. It is designed to inform decision-making about ethical challenges arising in business. It will help students identify and manage difficult ethical dilemmas they are likely to encounter in their future career. It is not intended to convert sinners into saints, to preach ethical truths, or to convey the wisdom of moral philosophers. However, it will develop students' analytical skills in ethical reasoning and provide them with a substantive framework to deal with ethical challenges. The module is taught by lecture (2 x 1 hour lectures per week) and workshops (2 during the semester, 2 hours each). Assessment is via case study analysis (40%) and an open book examination (60%). There will also be formative tests during the term. This module is identical to PHIL272, except that it runs in Semester 1.

### **BUSINESS ETHICS (PHIL272)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module deals with business ethics and the social responsibility of business organizations. It is designed to inform decision-making about ethical challenges arising in business. It will help students identify and manage difficult ethical dilemmas they are likely to encounter in their future career. It is not intended to convert sinners into saints, to preach ethical truths, or to convey the wisdom of moral philosophers. However, it will develop students' analytical skills in ethical reasoning and provide them with a substantive framework to deal with ethical challenges. The module is taught by lecture (2 x 1 hour lectures per week, or a set of recorded mini-lectures available online if necessary) and workshops (2 during the semester, 2 hours each, which may occur online if necessary). Assessment is via case study analysis (40%) and an open book examination (60%). There will also be formative tests during the term. This module is identical to PHIL271, except that it runs in Semester 2.

### **COMPARATIVE POLITICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA (POLI215)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

After years of authoritarian stasis, the tectonic plates of Middle East politics began to shift with the "Arab Spring" of 2011. Much media analysis reduces political explanation of the region's politics to a single variable (Islam) or its impact on Europe (refugees, terrorism). This module will provide students with the tools to analyse the region's politics in its richness. Students will critically engage with key concepts and debates in the study of Middle East comparative politics. These include the role of oil and the "rentier-state", democratisation and authoritarian resilience, and the role of religion in politics.

### **DEMOCRATISATION AND POLITICAL CHANGE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA (POLI235)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module examines struggles for democracy across history from a comparative perspective, focusing on contemporary Southeast Asia. It challenges students to reflect on why a particular variety of democracy, representative government (or 'polyarchy'), has become one of the dominant political systems in the modern world. It explores the circumstances under which dictatorship gives way to representative government, and the conditions under which representative systems have the best chance of surviving. We will examine the prospects for democracy in Southeast Asia, asking whether the region will follow the examples of Europe and Latin America or whether new hybrid political systems might consolidate themselves. The course focuses on three major approaches to questions of democratisation: modernisation theory; the social forces tradition; and transition theory. These rival theories provide the framework for an exploration of global trends ('waves of democracy', and 'reverse waves' of democratic breakdown) and recent Southeast Asian developments. The course assists in the development of student skills, specifically in conducting case studies and performing straightforward statistical analyses using a spreadsheet.

### **INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS (POLI225)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The international system has no central authority that makes and enforces laws, yet it is not totally anarchic. A large number of international organisations allows states to co-operate in areas as diverse as the economy, international security, or the protection of the environment. The aim of this module is to enable students to systematically study international organisations. We focus on key questions: How do international organisations become (and remain) legitimate? Are they independent from their member-states? What inequalities and hierarchies do they transform or reproduce? Through a series of empirical examples – such as the United Nations, the WTO, the World Bank – students will be able to systematically analyse the role and functions of international organisations in global politics.

## **INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (POLI209)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

International (or Global) Political Economy (IPE/GPE) is a sub-discipline of International Relations. This module examines the interplay between politics and economics and the way this relationship is influenced by domestic and international forces. It examines the social underpinnings of economic transactions, the political frameworks that shape economic activity at national, regional and global levels, and the economic imperatives that impinge upon political decision-makers. During the module, you will be introduced to influential perspectives, theories and ideas that have been advanced to explain and anticipate events and developments in political economy. The module covers the most important issue-areas in international political economy and examines recent developments, including the global financial crisis of 2008, challenges to the western liberal order, and the impact of the ecological crisis on global political economy. Firms, individuals, markets, societies, social classes, and states are all important elements of IPE. Theories differ in the way they deal with these elements and the relative significance they accord to each of them. The tension between the elements, resulting in cooperation and conflict, is a major feature in the theory and practice of IPE.

## **KNOWLEDGE AND EPISTEMIC JUSTICE (PHIL212)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

Taking this module will introduce students to some topics in contemporary epistemology. These will include some traditional questions about knowledge, and some of the main views that have been held about them. The module will also cover contemporary topics such as expertise, bias, epistemic justice, scientific knowledge, ignorance and fake news. Because these topics are relatively new, students will have the opportunity to engage with new and cutting-edge research in these areas. They will also have the opportunity to reflect on their own practices, especially on how they access information online.

This module is cognate with politics and economics, as well as with the philosophy of mathematics, and is required for students taking Mathematics and Philosophy. It is taught via 11 one-hour lectures and 11 one-hour seminars. There are online quizzes and short writing tasks associated with each lecture, which together are worth 10% of the module mark. During term-time students write an essay, which counts for 30% of the mark. A seen two-hour examination contributes the remaining 60%.

## **LIBERTY, JUSTICE AND THE GOOD SOCIETY (PHIL219)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module familiarises students with some of the main issues, theories and arguments in contemporary political philosophy. Taking this module will enhance your abilities to analyse political arguments and theories and to identify the philosophical assumptions that underly political claims regarding such controversial issues as justice, freedom and equality. Thus the module is highly appropriate to students studying politics, economics and other disciplines where identifying and assessing the assumptions and ideologies underlying claims and policies is important. The module is taught by lecture (1 hour per week) and seminar (1 hour per week). Assessment is via a 2 hour exam (comprising 60% of the module mark) and a 2,000 word essay (30% of the module mark). Students also take it in turns to give one 5-10 minute seminar presentation that provides the remaining 10% of the module mark.

## **MORAL PHILOSOPHY: THEORY AND PRACTICE (PHIL239)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module familiarises students with some of the main issues, theories and arguments in contemporary normative and applied ethics. Taking this module will enhance their abilities to analyse ethical arguments and theories and to identify the philosophical assumptions that underly controversial ethical claims. The module is taught by lecture (1 hour per week) and 5 seminar session (2-hour bi-weekly). Assessment is via a 3,500 word essay (75% of the module mark) and a number of class and after class tasks worth 1000 words (10%). Students also give one 10-15 minute seminar presentation that provides the remaining 15% of the module mark.

## **PHILOSOPHY OF RACE (PHIL274)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module considers issues of race and racism from a philosophical perspective. Given the philosophical breadth of the topic, this module will cover a wide range of philosophical approaches. These include aesthetics, phenomenology, critical theory, politics, epistemology, language, metaphysics and science. Students will be introduced to these topics in lectures. These lectures provide background context to understanding the topics. Students then read prescribed readings and do independent research in preparation for seminars. This will help students learn how to engage in constructive debate on controversial social topics

At mid-term students will submit an opinion piece in the form of a blogpost. At the end of term students will submit an essay.

Students taking this module will improve their skills in reading and writing philosophy. Students will gain skill in explaining complex information in a concise manner to an audience, in practising the intellectual virtues associated with philosophy, in conducting their own independent research and in critically discussing important social ideas.

## **POLITICS IN ACTION (POLI200)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module provides an opportunity for students to gain credit from experience acquired in a placement, usually off campus, and outside their immediate academic context, in a setting that matches their academic and possible career/industry interests. During this placement students will have the chance to develop materials and/or undertake tasks within a practical or vocational context; to apply academic knowledge from their degree, and to develop their personal and employability skills within a working environment. Students will also be encouraged to critically reflect on their time on their placement, and tie their experiences into a broader theoretical understanding of what constitutes 'politics'.

### **PROFESSIONAL AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT (SOTA260)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The module aims to prepare students for a smooth transition into a work placement year and, more broadly, to develop lifelong skills, attitudes and behaviours and support students in their continuing professional development. This will help students lead flexible, fulfilling careers working as a professional in their field, and enable them to contribute meaningfully to society.

### **SECURITY IN A GLOBALISED WORLD (POLI231)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

Understanding security in international relations and how it is challenged by contemporary globalisation.

### **USES, MISUSES AND ABUSES OF LANGUAGE (PHIL276)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module will introduce students to key concepts and figures in the project of understanding natural language. Students will examine how philosophers have attempted to understand meaning, reference and communication. Students will be introduced to the distinction between semantics and pragmatics and to speech-act theory. They will learn to apply these conceptual and theoretical tools to contemporary debates around freedom of speech and censorship by the semantics and pragmatics of slurs, hate speech, dog whistles and pornographic speech. They will consider feminist perspectives on language. Students taking this module will understand the central concepts in philosophy of language and how questions in the philosophy of language can intersect with issues in philosophy of mind, ethics, political philosophy and feminist theory, and they will be able to apply this understanding to real world cases. The module is taught by lecture (1h each week for the first 6 weeks) and workshops (2h per week). Assessment is via a 750 word essay (comprising 15% of the module's mark) and a 2500 word essay (comprising 85% of the module mark).

### **GENDER AND FEMINIST POLITICS: CORE CONCEPTS AND THEORIES (POLI257)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module will introduce core concepts in contemporary gender politics – including feminist theoretical understandings of power, agency, institutions, citizenship and the state. Gender and feminist politics will be explored more deeply by engaging with intersecting identities and current theories of the concept ‘woman’. Concepts will be illustrated with real world, contemporary case studies (for example, gender based violence and reproductive rights) and also consider non-traditional forms of political engagement including activist organising. The module will encourage students to critically engage with topics through popular culture, media sources, films, books and pod casts and reflection on their own experience. Research and presentation skills will be developed through coursework assessment.

*Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.*

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## **YEAR THREE**

In your final year, you must complete either a work placement (**HASS300**) or a research project (**HASS301**). The rest of your modules are chosen from a range of options.

In semester one, you will be required to:

- take up to two of the following (but not both **ECON233** and **ECON217**): **ECON233, ECON217, ECON322, ECON325, ECON335, ECON342, ECON362**
- take up to two of the following: **PHIL302, PHIL316, PHIL367**
- take up to two of the following: **POLI322, POLI319, POLI326, POLI327, POLI354.**

In semester two, you will be required to:

- take up to two of the following: **ECON306, ECON315, ECON343, ECON333**
  - take up to two of the following: **PHIL312, PHIL365, PHIL311, PHIL366**
  - take up to two of the following: **POLI349, POLI310, POLI314, POLI323, POLI345.**
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## **OPTIONAL MODULES**

### **ADVANCED MACROECONOMICS (ECON343)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module is designed for Economics students who wish to advance further their understanding of modern macroeconomic analysis. The module considers a number of macroeconomics topics at a more advanced level and in greater depth. Why do countries grow? What are the sources of recessions and booms? Why is there unemployment and what determines its extent? What are the sources of inflation? How do government policies affect output, unemployment, inflation and growth?

### **ADVANCED MICROECONOMICS (ECON342)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This is a third year advanced module in microeconomic theory focussed on the study of asymmetric information environments. In the seminar/tutorial students will be expected to present and discuss additional material as well as solve exercises.

### **AESTHETICS (PHIL316)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The module intends to familiarise students with central themes of aesthetics and art theory, especially questions about aesthetic judgement, aesthetic experience and aesthetic value. They will be able to strengthen their understanding of the history of philosophy, as well as the connection between theory and artistic practice. The module is taught by lecture (1 hour per week) and seminar (1 hour per week). Assessment is via a 3,000 word essay (85% of the module mark) and one 10-15 minute presentation (delivered during seminars, or recorded if on-line only teaching) that provides the remaining 15% of the module mark.

### **ALTERNATIVE PERSPECTIVES IN ECONOMICS (ECON250)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

Since the financial crash there seems to have been a growing interest in economic ideas that challenge orthodox views. This unit provides an introduction to alternative ideas in economics. It provides the students with a knowledge of the debates between the different schools of thought, and also leads to a deeper understanding of mainstream views, and of the discipline of economics as a whole.

### **CLASSICAL CHINESE PHILOSOPHY (PHIL367)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module will introduce students to ideas formulated during the classical period of Chinese philosophy. The focus will be on the dialectic between the Daoist and Confucian schools. The module will help students to understand the ways in which Chinese philosophers approached topics that are also discussed in the Western traditions. It will also enable students to understand what is distinctive about the Chinese approaches. There will be one lecture and one seminar per week. Assessment is by examination (60%), essay (30%) and assessed seminar presentation (10%).

### **CONSERVATIVE THINKERS (POLI327)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module analyses the ideology of the Conservative Party historically through discussions of the ideas of key thinkers from the 1930s to the present day.

### **CREATIVE SECTOR ECONOMICS (ECON362)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The creative sector of the economy rivals the financial services sector in size in the UK. This module first provides context for the sector in both the UK and globally. It then explores the application and development of economic theory in a sector which is often characterised by 'non-standard' markets (i.e. markets where neoclassical microeconomic assumptions may not hold) such as: Insubstitutability of labour for capital; superstar labour markets; intangible property of copyrights; fundamental measures of economic 'value'; demand under utility models influenced by taste formation and differing levels of public sector influence. It is applied by examining a variety of creative industries, including fine arts, music, broadcasting, movies and others.

### **DIGITAL INQUIRY PROJECT (PHIL311)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

Students will choose a topic of special interest related to their programme of study and conduct an independent research project upon it in consultation with an allocated supervisor. The module is distinctive because the final project output is to be presented as if to a specified target external audience (such as sixth-form students, policy groups or the general public), and use a digital platform (eg website, vlog, animation, podcast). The module thus offers students opportunities to integrate their philosophical skills, knowledge and understanding with applied skills of digital communication relevant in arenas beyond the academic setting.

Students do not need digital skills beyond those they will have already acquired as final year students of Philosophy to take this module. Training is offered via a suite of learning materials as relevant to an individual's chosen mode of presentation and through scheduled supervised workshops. Advice and support are provided. Students will have the opportunity to offer peer feedback on each other's outputs before final submission.

Formal assessment is threefold:

- a) Research Report (1500 words; 40%). The student, before embarking on the module, will have identified a question or problem which they wish to research and address. The Research Report offers a summary of this, arguments put forward and conclusions drawn. It also confirms the proposed audience and output format.
- b) Digital Inquiry Project (40%). Guidance is supplied on appropriate size/length, which will vary according to platform, but be such that the project communicates the findings of the Report in a manner appropriate to the audience and digital format.
- c) Reflective Commentary (500 words, 20%). This gives students the opportunity to reflect critically on the process, identifying challenges, how these were addressed and explaining presentational decisions made.

### **FRONTIERS OF ETHICS (PHIL302)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module familiarises students with some of the main theories and arguments in debates about issues that raise problems for traditional ethics. These include the treatment of disability, the issue of humanitarian intervention and other matters of global concern, such as international justice, and issues raised by what some call the 'environmental crisis'. The module is taught by lecture (1 hour per week) and seminar (1 hour per week). Assessment is via a 3,500 word essay (comprising 90% of the module mark) due in the January assessment period. Students will have the opportunity to receive formative feedback on a draft essay plan towards the end of the autumn term. Students will also give one 10-15 minute seminar presentation that provides the remaining 10% of the module mark.

### **GAME THEORETICAL APPROACHES TO MICROECONOMICS (ECON322)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The objective of this module is to provide an introduction to Game Theory. This is the study of strategic interactions i.e. situations where outcomes depend not only on our own actions but also on how others react to our actions. This module complements those in core macro and microeconomics and offers more insight into strategic business decisions and competitive behaviour in general. In particular, we will use game theory to study market competition, auctions, bargaining, signalling, etc.

### **GENDER AND GLOBAL POLITICS (POLI349)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module provides alternative perspectives on global politics, drawing on feminist theory and gender analysis, with a focus on conflict and peace, and the implications for global politics and International Relations (IR). The module will engage with theoretical concerns (how are women affected differently by conflict and peace, how do we engage feminist methodologies) to practical concerns (conflict, security, participation, sexual violence, human rights). Theories and concepts will be illustrated with relevant global case studies and examples. The module aims to encourage engaged, critical reflection on feminist approaches to our understanding of issues in world politics.

### **INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATION (ECON333)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

Industrial organisation is concerned with the economic analysis of firms and industries, with a particular focus on how well consumers (society) are being served by particular industry structures and firm actions. The module incorporates debate between alternative schools of thought. The coursework is based on an industry case study selected by each student, which they research and which develops skills of independent research, writing, analysis and critical appraisal. In particular students are asked to evaluate which school of thought provides the most plausible interpretation of firm strategies and market outcomes. The examination is predominantly essay-based, with one optional mathematically-based question for students who are interested in more technical analysis.

### **INTERNATIONAL TRADE (ECON335)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module aims to develop a good understanding of the main trade theories, their assumptions, implications, applications and limitations, and provide essential skills to students to engage in an analytical discussion of the impact of trade patterns, trade policies of government, foreign direct investment and World Trade Organisation on the economies of both developing and developed countries.

**INTRODUCTORY ECONOMETRICS FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS (ECON233)****Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module introduces students to basic econometrics and its application to problem solving and decision making within an economics and business context. Initially, students will be shown the concepts and theory (nontechnical) behind the econometric techniques followed by examples of their application to real data sets. Subsequently, students will have the opportunity in tutorials to apply taught learnings from class to analyse and interpret econometric analysis outputs from real economics and business applications.

**LABOUR THINKERS (POLI326)****Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module analyses the ideology of the Labour Party historically through discussions of the ideas of key thinkers from the 1920s to the present day.

**MEDIA, POLITICS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (POLI345)****Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

The module will look at the manner in which a range of media engage with climate change and energy security, and the political and social implications that follow. Students should achieve an understanding the context of coverage (including the science, the surrounding political environment, and journalistic practice). They should also be able to understand the principal features of coverage (and their impact), and the political implications that follow. The module will be delivered via lectures, workshop-tutorials, and online tutorials. It will be assessed by exam, short essay and a student's performance in a presentation undertaken in a group alongside other students.

**PHILOSOPHICAL APPROACHES TO CONFLICT (PHIL365)****Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module gives students the opportunity to explore selected areas of conflict in social, political and legal domains. When rights or interests clash, or seem to clash, what philosophical issues are at stake? How should the state adjudicate? Key themes include rights, freedoms and responses to oppression. The module seeks to help students develop a philosophical manner of thought that will enable them to refine their views on other similar issues of public importance, often controversial in nature, which they might encounter later in life. Representative areas for inquiry include questions such as 'Does the state have the right to display religious symbols in classrooms?' and 'How far should midwives be allowed to opt out of assisting with abortions?', and topics such as freedom and the media, the ethics of immigration, forms of oppression within society, and sexual harassment.

There are no lectures for this module; it is based on student-led research and applied learning, facilitated by the tutor in weekly two-hour workshops. Some content is sensitive, and discussions are carefully moderated to respect this. The assessment asks students to integrate their academic skills with analysis of 'real-world' scenarios. There are three research-based applied components: a presentation (15% + submitted materials 5%), case study (2000 words, 45%), and an opinion piece (1000 words, 35%). The opinion piece is published electronically as a course wiki for peer comment prior to formal submission.

Samples and in-class support will be provided.

## **PHILOSOPHY OF THE FUTURE (PHIL312)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

The course focuses on the philosophical implications of likely (or possible) future technological developments.

The universe is billions of years old, there are billions of stars in our galaxy and billions of galaxies, and thanks to recent discoveries it now seems likely that most stars have planets. Yet so far we have seen no sign of intelligent life elsewhere in the universe. What is the significance of this 'great silence'? Advances in medical technology will soon make possible significant 'improvements' to our bodies and minds. How serious are the ethical objections to human enhancement? If teleportation technology were available many of the all too familiar problems associated with ordinary modes of transportation could be avoided.

But is teleportation actually survivable? Computers are advancing all the time, and some say that super-intelligent machines are inevitable. Are they right, and if so, what are the implications? Will it prove possible to upload ourselves into computer-sustained virtual paradises, as some transhumanists hope? Is it likely, as some have argued, that we are in fact living our lives in virtual worlds? If so, how should we conceive of these worlds? Are they as real as the real world? If we could achieve immortality, either through bio-enhancement or uploading, would it be something we could coherently desire? Is time travel really possible? Some quantum physicists maintain that the universe is continually branching. What are the implications for how we think of our lives if they are right about this?

Many of these scenarios and issues have been anticipated in science fiction. While some ('hard') sci-fi authors seek scientific plausibility, i.e. they do their best to stick within the known laws of physics, they generally pay far less attention to metaphysical and ethical issues. Yet in working out how we should respond to what the future may bring, metaphysical and ethical considerations are of paramount importance. It is with these that this course will be dealing.

The module is taught by a combination of lectures and seminars. Assessment consists of a seminar presentation (10%), an essay on a relevant topic (2,000 words, 30%) and a take-home exam (60% approx. equivalent to a 2 hour exam).

### **PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS AND ECONOMICS DISSERTATION (HASS301)**

**Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session**

Students can choose their own research topic at the interface of two or more of the constituent disciplines of PPE. This allows them the opportunity to pursue their own particular interests in depth via reading and private study under expert supervision. All students will have the opportunity to participate in the Philosophy Dissertation Showcase, the Dissertation 'Boot Camp', and training in how to write a dissertation.

### **PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS AND ECONOMICS IN THE WORKPLACE (HASS300)**

**Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session**

This module is an opportunity for students to develop their transferable skills for the workplace beyond University by undertaking a placement (unpaid) in a professional setting (educational, business, industry, governmental) that relates to Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

### **POLITICAL BROADCASTING (RADIO) (POLI339)**

**Credits: 30 / Semester: whole session**

This module will involve students producing and presenting a weekly politics and current affairs programme (The Politics Hour). Over the course of a full academic year, students will work in programme teams to plan and present regular one hour broadcasts and linked web and social media content. Within each team, students will rotate key roles (as researchers, reporters, presenters, producers, editors and social media managers). There will be no formal teaching. Instead, students will 'learn by doing' by participating in weekly editorial meeting, in the production of each show and in structured peer feedback and self reflection exercises. The learning process aims to replicate a 'real world' broadcasting environment and this approach will be reflected in the use of 'authentic' assessment tasks. Students will be required to produce a range of audio and written outputs and will also be assessed, in part, on their ability to work successfully in teams. Reflective learning will also require students to engage in ongoing review of professional, mainstream radio broadcasts and to undertake recommended reading to support the development of their broadcasting skills. The module will be particularly suited to students keen to pursue a career in political journalism. However, it will furnish all participants with a wide-range of transferable skills designed to enhance their employability, including communication, team-working and problem-solving skills, by facilitating the application of academic subject knowledge gained on the degree programme as a whole in a 'real world' and 'real time' context.

### **POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT (POLI314)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

What are the institutional prerequisites of economic development? Global development institutions such as the World Bank or UNDP have proposed the concept of "good governance" as an answer to this question. This module critically engages with this concept by juxtaposing it with various historical institutionalist accounts of the state, including the East Asian developmental state, Africa's failed states, and the Middle Eastern rentier state. Students engage with key debates about the role of the state, democracy, corruption and the "resource curse" in economic development.

### **POLITICS OF PARTICIPATION AND CIVIC SPACE (POLI354)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module will begin with theories of social movement and collective action and then examine different types of collective action as well as their nature, role and impact. This module will then focus on civil society, its actors and their relations with other actors such as funders and public institutions. The module will draw on examples from different periods, countries, and areas of activity and bring theory and empirical cases together. The module will include compulsory placement in a civil society organization.

### **PUBLIC POLICY: AN ADVANCED INTRODUCTION (POLI310)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module explores the theories, ideas and concepts that underpin the development of contemporary public policies.

## **THE ECONOMICS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (ECON306)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This is an introductory module to the economics of international development. It introduces students to conceptual and methodological issues within international development and provides a solid grounding in various models of economic growth and development. It builds an understanding of various contemporary issues in this area and develops critical and analytical skills in analysing the problems of developing countries. From this perspective, it is designed to prepare students for a master's course in international development or to simply bring a critical understanding of issues of developing countries to their chosen field of work.

## **THE MEDIA, THE INTERNET AND POLITICAL SCIENCE (POLI319)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

The module will cover a range of contemporary mass media and their role in the power structures of British society. Students should achieve an understanding of the mechanisms by which power is (or is not) exerted through and by the mass media; which models of power distribution are most plausible in this context; and which case studies best exemplify the mechanism at work (including mediation of protest; political mobilisation via the web; public relations and spin practices; and the phone hacking affair). The module will be delivered via lectures and workshops, and will be assessed by exam, short essay and a student's performance in a presentation undertaken in a group alongside other students.

## **THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF RHETORIC IN BRITISH POLITICS (POLI323)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This is the first substantive module in the UK to examine the rhetoric of British political parties at Undergraduate level. It roots its theories and methods in the classical schools of rhetorical analysis, alongside developing a more contemporary understanding of discourse analysis. This module will enable students to think critically about the political message, how it is constructed, and delivered to a range of audiences.

## **COMPARATIVE VOTING BEHAVIOUR (POLI322)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module discusses classic and current topics of electoral politics from an international comparative perspective. It adopts a heterodox approach to voting behaviour, simultaneously covering rational, socio-structural and psychological explanations. Sessions are structured thematically, with cases of specific countries and parties being used as illustration. Attention to the effect of context is therefore drawn upon in relation with the different topics covered in each session. Among the themes covered by the module are class voting, issues and economic voting, ideology, partisanship, leaders and campaigns, and the impact of gender, religion, ethnic background, national identity and age on voters' behaviour in Western democracies and beyond. The module will also cover the electoral support of non-mainstream parties, including the radical left, the radical right and Green parties. The focus of the module is both theoretical and empirical. Each week, a particular topic will be introduced in a lecture and this topic will be explored further by analysing real survey data during the PC sessions using SPSS. Quantitative training is therefore provided covering different types of univariate and bivariate analysis. The module is highly recommended for students interested in elections and voters, as well as those who have taken modules with a focus on data analysis in the past. Previous statistical training is not required to take this module.

### **ECONOMICS OF DIVERSITY & INCLUSION (ECON217)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1**

This module provides a thorough introduction to the economics of diversity and inclusion. In this module, we will explore how diversity and inclusion promote economic growth within a firm and in the broader economy. While many disciplines treat diversity as a qualitative issue, this module will use the theoretical and empirical tools developed by economists to examine the impact of diversity and inclusion. A key facet of this module will be examining the barriers that exist within firms and society to fostering inclusion for different groups. By combining theory with empirical techniques and results, students will learn how to critically examine data, participate in economic debates, and analyse policy.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICIES (ECON315)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module introduces the main insights of environmental and ecological economics and discusses the development of sustainability policies. The interrelated nature of environmental, social, and economic systems is analysed together with the main theories and tools used to address some of the main sustainability constraints of the 21st century. The analysis of the mutual dependencies existing between the human and the ecological systems, together with the limits imposed by the natural resources constraints allows students to gain a critical understanding of the socio-environmental implications of economic activities.

Given the increasing demand for professionals able to use interdisciplinary perspectives for the resolution of real-world problems, the module will complement and integrate the critical abilities developed during the previous years of studies towards this aim.

### **HEALTH CARE, ECONOMICS AND JUSTICE (PHIL366)**

**Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2**

This module covers the main normative issues surrounding the delivery of health care in modern societies. It discusses the purpose of health care, the notions of health and disease, just allocation of medical resources, issues of inequity in health dispositions, and problems of prioritising and rationing in health care. It acquaints students with the main theories of health care justice and also covers problems in public health and global health inequalities. After successfully taking the module, students will be able to explain the main moral and economic problems in the provision and allocation of health care resources. They will have sufficient knowledge of underlying philosophical debates and theories in these areas to engage critically with recent public debates about the just and economically viable provision for health care needs.

The module will be delivered by 8 x 2-hour seminar groups and two 2-hour workshops.

Modes of summative assessments are i) a group presentation (weighted at 15% of the module mark); ii) a brief argument (up to 500 words) in relation to the group presentation, in the style of a "Letter to the Editor" (15%); iii) a 2000-words essay (70%).

*Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.*

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**HOW YOU'LL LEARN**

In studying Philosophy, you will learn how to defend your views with reasoned arguments, and to assess the arguments of others. Argumentative skills are learned through attending lectures and reading philosophical texts, developed by group seminar discussions, and formally assessed through essays and exams. You will complete modules to the value of 120 credits per year, from a wide range of options available. Most modules employ a blend of lectures, seminars and online support materials. You will learn by reading and studying outside class time, by attending and participating in classes, by doing coursework and, for dissertations, via one-to-one meetings with a supervisor. There is also scope, both formally in the placement module and informally, for you to develop practical skills by volunteering.

**HOW YOU'RE ASSESSED**

Philosophy employs a mixture of modes of assessment: exams and coursework in many different varieties including essays, oral presentations, dissertations, exercises, and supported independent work (eg in the placement module).

**LIVERPOOL HALLMARKS**

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

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# Careers and employability

As a student in the School of the Arts, you will be supported to maximise your employability from day one. The School has its own placements and employability officer, and you will have the opportunity to undertake a work placement or a year in industry as part of your programme.

## **3 IN 4 PHILOSOPHY STUDENTS FIND THEIR MAIN ACTIVITY AFTER GRADUATION MEANINGFUL.**

*Graduate Outcomes, 2018-19.*

Graduates in Philosophy, Politics and Economics obtain work in such fields as advertising, the financial sector, the arts, broadcasting, commerce, the Civil Service, computing, journalism, marketing, politics, law, management, and teaching. You have the opportunity during your degree to

undertake a placement with an appropriate partner so that you can apply your academic learning to practical contexts and develop a range of skills attractive to future employers.

## **PREPARING YOU FOR FUTURE SUCCESS**

At Liverpool, our goal is to support you to build your intellectual, social, and cultural capital so that you graduate as a socially-conscious global citizen who is prepared for future success. We achieve this by:

- Embedding employability within your curriculum, through the modules you take and the opportunities to gain real-world experience offered by many of our courses.
- Providing you with opportunities to gain experience and develop connections with people and organisations, including

student and graduate employers as well as our global alumni.

- Providing you with the latest tools and skills to thrive in a competitive world, including access to Handshake, a platform which allows you to create your personalised job shortlist and apply with ease.
  - Supporting you through our peer-to-peer led [Careers Studio](#), where our career coaches provide you with tailored advice and support.
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# Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

## TUITION FEES

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support. [Learn more about tuition fees, funding and student finance.](#)

<b>UK fees</b> Also applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland	
Full-time place, per year	£9,250
Year in industry fee	£1,850
Year abroad fee	£1,385

<b>International fees</b>	
Full-time place, per year	£21,450

*Fees stated are for the 2023-24 academic year.*

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## ADDITIONAL COSTS

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

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## SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

We offer a range of scholarships and bursaries to help cover tuition fees and help with living expenses while at university.

[Scholarships and bursaries you can apply for from the United Kingdom](#)

Select your country or region for more scholarships and bursaries.

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# Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

<b>Your qualification</b>	<b>Requirements</b> <a href="#">About our typical entry requirements</a>
A levels	AAB Please note: this programme requires an A level in Mathematics at grade A. You may automatically qualify for reduced entry requirements through our <a href="#">contextual offers scheme</a> .
GCSE	GCSE Mathematics at grade 5/C and GCSE English at grade 4/C required.
Subject requirements	Including A in Mathematics. Only one of General Studies, Critical Thinking and Citizenship will be accepted.
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma	DDD plus A level Maths at grade A. BTEC qualifications must be in a Business related subject.
International Baccalaureate	35 including 6 in higher level Maths, with no score less than 4
Irish Leaving Certificate	H1,H1,H2,H2,H2,H3 including H1 in Maths
Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher	AAB including A in Maths

Your qualification	<b>Requirements</b> <a href="#">About our typical entry requirements</a>
Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced	Grade A with A levels grade AB (including A in Maths)
Access	45 level 3 credits at Distinction including 15 level 3 credits in Maths
International qualifications	<div data-bbox="1002 685 1441 822" style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">           Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.         </div> <p>Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our direct entry requirements. Although there is no direct Foundation Certificate route to this course, completing a Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the <a href="#">University of Liverpool International College</a>, can guarantee you a place on a number of similar courses which may interest you.</p>

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## ALTERNATIVE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, [contact us](#) for advice
  - Aged 20+ and without formal qualifications? The one-year [Go Higher diploma](#) qualifies you to apply for University of Liverpool arts, humanities and social sciences programmes
  - [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.
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**THE ORIGINAL**

**REDBRICK**

