International Relations 2+2
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Why choose the 2+2 at the University of Liverpool?

Our story began in 1881... The University of Liverpool became one of the first civic universities. The original redbrick.

Nearly 140 years later, we are still as original as ever – offering different viewpoints and daring ideas. Unique perspectives and a city bursting with character. We are uncovering world firsts through our pioneering research and helping you to forge your own original path to success. Studying in Liverpool will provide you with an amazing, life-changing university experience that will help you to achieve your ambitions.

Internationally recognised
- Ranked 181st in the QS World University Rankings (2021)
- Ranked 101-150 in the Academic Ranking World Universities (2021)
- 20th in the UK for research power with 7 subjects ranked in the top 10 in the UK’s Research Excellence Framework (both Chemistry and Computer Science ranked #1 in the UK for 4* & 3* research THE 2014).

Benefits of studying in the UK
- Develop communication skills, flexibility, adaptability, empathy and a global outlook – attributes which are highly sought by employers
- You may not need to take an IELTS when applying for postgraduate study at some universities in the UK
- Opportunity to explore the UK and Europe.

Graduate outcomes for 2+2 students
- 87% of all 2+2 graduates in Liverpool achieved a 1st or 2:1 upon graduation
- 80% of 2+2 graduates in Liverpool who were in further study after graduating from the University of Liverpool were enrolled in QS Top 100 Universities (DHLE 2020, University of Liverpool analysis of unpublished data)
- One of the top 25 UK universities targeted by employers (High Fliers 2020).

Support services
Happy students are successful students. In order to help you achieve your ambitions, the University of Liverpool has a wide range of services to support you throughout your studies, including:
- Academic advisors
- International advice and guidance
- English Language Centre
- Careers Studio
- Student services (Health, Counselling, etc)
- Guild of Students
- Sports and Fitness Centre
- Libraries
- On-campus accommodation.

The university offers great facilities, the 24-hour library, informational Career Centre and the gym. The campus is a very friendly, passionate place with a good balance of studying and socialising.

Siqi Li
2+2 alumna in Communications and Media
International Relations at Liverpool

Studying International Relations brings a focus on power, authority, citizenship, conflict and cooperation in the world around us, it is an opportunity to engage with politics on an international scale and to think deeply about the changing world.

You will explore political ideas, systems and processes, learn to question and to challenge, how to collect data, develop knowledge, construct arguments and communicate your findings in different ways. You will examine and interpret current international trends from a historical perspective with a view to future directions and likely developments.

International Relations at the University of Liverpool sits within the Department of Politics. Politics affects all our lives and with a deeper understanding you can join in conversations that address key issues. In Liverpool, you will have the opportunity to learn from internationally recognised scholars and to hear about their cutting-edge research, examining a wide range of aspects of international relations.

Build your degree to reflect your interests
At Liverpool, you’ll get genuine diversity in the range of modules. Our programme provides you with a solid foundation whilst encouraging and guiding you to choose modules to develop your own specialist interests.

Strengthen your employability skills for a wide-range of careers
Our programme is developed with a broad range of employers and industries in mind and the extensive critical, communication and research skills our students gain have meant our recent graduates have found success in a diverse range of careers.

Learn from research-active staff
You’ll explore theory and develop an understanding of historical, current and future developments. Study at Liverpool and immerse yourself in an environment where all your lecturers are actively researching and publishing in their specialist fields, with national and international reach.

Summer Abroad
Once you arrive at the University, you’ll have the opportunity to apply for one of our exciting Summer Abroad programmes. Summer Abroad allows you to visit a new country whilst undertaking worthwhile academic study. Destinations include Australia, France and Canada. Find out more at: liverpool.ac.uk/study-abroad/outbound/what-is-study-abroad/summer/

Languages at Liverpool
At Liverpool, you can learn a new language, or further develop your language skills as an extracurricular course, on top of your degree. For more information visit liverpool.ac.uk/languages

How you are assessed
Assessment in International Relations is through a mixture of coursework, examinations, in-class tests, presentations and other innovative approaches. Final Year students can undertake a dissertation in place of two of your taught course modules. The dissertation option is a piece of independent research pursued under the direction of a supervisor.

94% of our graduates are employed or in further study in six months after graduating (DLHE 2016/17).
70% of our research is graded ‘ Internationally Excellent’ (latest REF results, 2014).

We offer summer abroad opportunities.
We offer the chance to study a language.
Invest in your future

Our graduates enjoy successful careers in a range of professions, including broadcasting, marketing and public relations, teaching in universities, colleges and schools, management, government (local, national and European), journalism and the civil service.

Many of our graduates have gone on to exciting careers including as a member of parliament, an oil broker, an assistant to the Treasury, an assistant chief constable, the secretary of the UK National Trust, a barrister, a partner in a New York-based advertising company, a Westminster-based political consultant, a features writer for The Independent and the news editor of a music weekly.

Recent employers
- Dell
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- The National Trust
- The British Council
- The Independent.

Postgraduate opportunities
International Relations and Security MA.

Qualifying you for life
Your degree will equip you with a wide range of transferable skills, which will be highly beneficial in any work-place setting. These include critical and analytical thinking, analysing evidence and constructing arguments, oral and written communication skills and time management.

A University of Liverpool graduate will also be familiar with using quantitative and qualitative data, speechwriting, and presenting. Team working is also encouraged, as is independent study, which helps foster initiative, resourcefulness and self-reliance.

STAFF PROFILE
Dr Luca Bernardi
Dr Bernardi is a lecturer in Politics and serves as the XJTLU Link Tutor and Lead Moderator. He teaches and coordinates several modules within the Department of Politics. Luca’s research focuses on mental health and politics, public opinion and public policy and mass-elite linkages. He has been running projects on the effects of COVID-19 on mental health and political engagement and his research appears in prestigious journals in political science and psychology.

Articulation route

International Relations BA (Hons)

Studying International Relations brings a focus on power, authority, citizenship, conflict and cooperation in the world around us.

Current international trends are interpreted in a historical perspective yet with a view to future directions and likely developments. Politics affects all our lives and with a deeper understanding you can join in conversations that address key issues.

Programme in detail
In your first year in Liverpool, you will expand on the foundation you’ve built at XJTLU by taking a combination of compulsory and optional modules that deal with the international political sphere. Compulsory modules will tackle topics on International organisations, Security in a globalised world, Politics of international human rights, and Foreign policy analysis.

Our optional modules will cover a broad range of regions from Europe to the Middle East, Africa and Latin America. You will gain an in-depth understanding of the institutions and policies of the international system and develop the capacity to critically evaluate events, ideas and institutions. For full module details, please see pages 06-09.

In your final year, you can specialise in your chosen area of interest by choosing from a range of modules on topics such as Identity in contemporary international politics; World politics and the world economy; Africa-China relations; Comparative peace processes and much more. Through your studies you will be able to apply your learning to questions of public concern and communicate those to specialist and non-specialist audiences. For full optional module details, see pages 06-09.
## Core modules overview

### Year Two

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aspects of media and politics POLI208</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides an appreciation of the relationship between the mass media, politicians and the public.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative politics of the Middle East and North Africa POLI219</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces the history of state-society relations since the emergence of Middle Eastern states in early 20th century.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decolonial perspectives on Italy, Africa and the Mediterranean ITAL225</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides an understanding of the transnational, interconnected histories of Italy, Europe and Africa from the age of the Empires to the present.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democratisation and political change in South East Asia POLI235</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces the modern history of the struggle for democracy, as well as the main approaches to explaining the process of democratisation in comparative political science in Southeast Asia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Does the nation matter?&quot; The Basques' will to persist in the global culture HISP218</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores the conflict of identities that characterizes the contemporary Basque Country from a cultural, historical and anthropological perspective and reflects on the concept of national identity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign policy analysis and world politics POLI236*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Examines foreign policy decision-making, asking why states pursue particular foreign policy goals and adopt certain strategies for handling international challenges, threats and crises.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global news, war and media COMM212</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Examines the interplay between global news, media and war in the context of rapidly evolving communication technologies and journalistic practices; compares and contrasts the contexts and challenges in which journalists operate across the world; traces the evolution of foreign reporting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globalisation and development in Latin America LATI209</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces the key questions in the study of politics of globalisation and development and offers an analysis of the major developments in Latin America in the 20th century.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International organisations POLI225*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides an understanding of the nature of modern state system and the role of international organisations within it. Students explore central concepts and theories in international relations and apply these in the analysis of the challenges and conflicts faced by the international system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to political economy POLI229</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Examines the interplay between politics and economics and the way this relationship is influenced by domestic and international forces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political economies of globalisation ENVS264</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces the study of globalisation and explores the changes globalisation has wrought in political life and how globalisation has been contested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics of international human rights POLI289*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides an overview of the philosophical foundations and debates on human rights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics of ‘race’ and marginalisation POLI265</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores the critical notions of race and racialization and the subsequent development of marginalised communities and individuals.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: modules are illustrative only and subject to change.

* Compulsory module.
Core modules overview

Year Three

### Module title | Semester | Credit | Module description
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Africa-China relations in a changing global order POLI306 | 2 | 15 | Provides an understanding of key historical and contemporary policy debates and issues regarding the evolution of Africa’s relations with China.

Building better worlds ENV387 | 1 | 15 | Considers the socially constructed nature of the world and how people and communities have agency and the ability to shape their future.

Comparative peace processes POLI336 | 2 | 15 | The module examines the key components of peace deals and their implementation across a range of countries.

Contemporary Latin American politics LATI307 | 1 | 15 | Explores the relationship between citizenship, rights and democracy in Latin America.

Dissertation POLI401* | 1 and 2 | 15 | Students research and produce a 10,000-12,000 word dissertation. Students are responsible for formulating their own research questions and are encouraged to maintain a close relationship with their academic supervisors who will provide guidance and support throughout the module.

From the IRA to ISIL: understanding political violence in the contemporary world POLI324 | 1 | 15 | Examines why and how terrorist groups come into existence and disappear, the historical evolution of terrorism and the controversies that have been generated by terrorism and counter-terrorism.

Gender and global politics: women, peace and security POLI349 | 1 | 15 | This module will illustrate what feminist approaches contribute to our understanding of world politics. You will understand the implications of identity and difference in the practice of global politics and actively engage in theoretical gender debates to practical political issues.

Identity in contemporary international politics POLI332 | 2 | 15 | Examines the interrelationship between national identity, territory, sovereignty and democracy.

Immigration and the state POLI302 | 2 | 15 | The module explores how the topic of immigration connects with some of the deepest political questions which face contemporary democracies including human rights, citizenship, identity, globalisation and nationalism.

International intervention POLI321 | 2 | 15 | Gives a foundational understanding of the law, theory and practice of international intervention, international peace and security.

Media and human rights COMM317 | 1 | 15 | This is a module which examines key debates relating to the interaction between news media and human rights. Students will scrutinise the underlying rationale for media representation and reporting of critical human rights issues, examining specific cases of media and human rights interaction.

Media, politics and climate change POLI345 | 2 | 15 | Introduces students to the political and scientific realities of climate change and energy, and the economic and political imperatives that drive the journalistic practice around it.

Philosophical approaches to conflict PHIL365 | 2 | 15 | Presents the philosophical analysis of conflict and considers the various ways in which present-day societies solve, or attempt to solve, conflicts.

Politics of development POLI314 | 2 | 15 | Familiarises students with the historical development of the state in the global south, and the developmental trajectories of key states in Asia, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East.

Politics of participation and civic space POLI354 | 1 | 15 | Gain a critical understanding of the key theoretical debates in social movements and collective action by exploring different examples of civic participation.

Politics of the environment ENV3325 | 1 | 15 | Evaluates the political responses to the growing impact that environmental issues and the concept of sustainability are having on decision making at all levels of governance.

Postcolonial geographies ENV3334 | 1 | 15 | Through an exploration of theoretical ideas and the application of theories to case studies, this module considers the relevance of postcolonial ideas to understanding the contemporary world.

Race, racism and civilisation in world politics POLI348 | 2 | 15 | Explores the impact of racism and civilisationism in past and contemporary global politics.

Strategic studies in conflicts and terrorism POLI347 | 1 | 15 | Examines the empirical techniques used in conflict and terrorism studies to understand the main theoretical puzzles in the areas of conflict, terrorism and conflict resolution.

The changing faces of African politics POLI329 | 1 | 15 | Broadens students’ comparative understanding of political models and approaches beyond Western political thought.

The puzzle of civil war POLI353 | 1 | 15 | The aim of the module is to introduce students to the systematic theoretical and empirical study of civil wars.

*POLI401 is a ‘year-long’ module and represents 15 credits in each semester. Students will require prior approval to take this module.

Please note: modules are illustrative only and subject to change.

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**Staff Profile**

**Professor David Dolowitz**

Professor Dolowitz is a professor in the Department of Politics who specializes in the research of knowledge development and transfer. He teaches a range of courses examining the role of ideas and power in society and is the Director of Postgraduate Research for the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and Department Director of XJTLU programs and links. He is particularly interested in supervising XJTLU students interested in studying the Belt and Road initiative.
Student support in the Department of Politics and next steps

Careers and Employability
The University’s Careers & Employability service, offers career development sessions, including drop-in sessions and a rehearsal ‘assessment centre’ experience to aid applications for graduate jobs and internships.

Skills for employability
All our modules are run and assessed with employability in mind. Students will find in all module handbooks the main skills that they will enhance or learn on our modules. These include reading, writing, presenting, and critical thinking skills.

School support
All students are assigned a named academic member of staff as their Academic Advisor. This member of staff acts as your first point of contact for any academic, personal or welfare issues that may arise. They are here to help you fulfil your academic potential during the course of your studies.

The Student Experience Team provides support and advice to students and serve as the main administrative point of contact between you and the School. Our dedicated team of administrators are the first port of call for all student enquiries and provides advice and guidance for any students experiencing difficulties. The Learning and Teaching Support Officers work closely with Academic Advisors to ensure that students who are struggling with personal or health problems, or with their academic studies, receive appropriate and timely support.

In-sessional English support
The English Language Centre also provides an extensive, vibrant and innovative programme of English language support for students who are already studying at the University but whose first language is not English.

Classes are free of charge, taught by highly-experienced, approachable English tutors who are fully committed to helping you develop your language skills. English language support is provided throughout the academic year.

Academic skills development with KnowHow
KnowHow provides a range of resources from making the most out of group work to improving your academic writing skills. KnowHow offers a wide range of academic skills materials and workshops to help you gain the most from your studies. Most of our workshops and events are held in the KnowHow space in the Sydney Jones Library, and many are available online alongside training materials from Linkedin Learning.

Next steps
Prior to your arrival, you will be able to access your Welcome Week Timetable via the School website (www.liverpool.ac.uk/politics/welcome).

Welcome Week is a full week of events which includes an introduction to your programme, a guided session on module choice with your programme director, campus and city tours, a school welcome and opportunities to meet your cohort of students on your programme ahead of teaching. A module guidance session will give you the opportunity to talk with your programme director about your programme and module selection.

Programme structures are available for you to access via the School website ahead of your arrival in Liverpool. You will then be asked to register for your modules on Liverpool Life the University’s information portal for current students.
Find out more
liverpool.ac.uk/study

Accommodation: liverpool.ac.uk/accommodation
Fees and student finance: liverpool.ac.uk/money
Life in Liverpool: liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/welcome-to-liverpool
Student Welfare Advice and Guidance: liverpool.ac.uk/studentsupport

Enquiries
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