

"BEING IN THE CENTRE OF LONDON IS
THE PERFECT PLACE TO STUDY POLITICS
AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS."

AGAMEMNON APOSTOLOU, GREECE
POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
BA HONOURS



» The University of Westminster has more than 20 years' experience teaching Politics and International Relations courses, and we offer you the widest choice of undergraduate study in Politics and International Relations in London. Our courses enable you to take maximum advantage of our central London location, with our proximity to Parliament and other centres of governance.

» The Politics and International Relations Department has an established reputation for international-quality research that informs all teaching. The Department has particular research strengths in the theory and practice of democracy (with a specific focus on Europe), the Arab world, security studies and international relations, and environmental politics.

» Our successful and popular internship programme, and our active exchange programmes with partner institutions around the world, will help to improve your career prospects and build relationships with potential employers. Our students have completed internships with MPs, the European Commission, Amnesty UK, the Fawcett Society, Green Alliance, Unlock Democracy and the Swedish Embassy in London.

For more information about Politics and International Relations courses visit the School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Languages website at **westminster.ac.uk/sshl**

Other related areas/courses you might be interested in:

- English (p82)
- Languages (p100)
- Social and Historical Studies (p172)

This course enables you to develop a comprehensive understanding of the evolution of the international system, and relate this to contemporary developments in international relations. It provides a theoretical framework for understanding the international system and the distribution of power at the global, regional and national levels.

Particular attention is paid to the changing dynamics of international security and the challenges of state building within contemporary international relations. This course is linked to the Security and International Relations programme in the Department of Politics and International Relations. With excellent links to employers, this course offers you the opportunity to advance your knowledge of international relations in an applied setting.

Course content

Year 1 (Credit Level 4)

This level introduces you to key issues and theories involved in the study of international relations. Core themes will examine the nature of the international system, identify the main players and dominant trends, and encourage you to explore theoretical perspectives on international politics. Option modules give you the chance to address questions of globalisation and international governance, comparative politics and political theory. You will also develop the key study skills and transferable skills needed to complete your studies in international relations successfully.

Year 2 and 3 (Credit Levels 5 and 6)

Building on your first year, these levels provide more in-depth, specialised analysis of both the theory and practice of international relations. Particular emphasis is given to terrorism, humanitarian intervention, international security and contemporary debates in foreign policy. These areas are taught by academics who are active in research in these specialised fields.

You will be encouraged to shape your degree according to your own research interests and there is significant choice for students at both levels. You will study research methods in your second year and undertake an independent dissertation in your final year. Students are also encouraged to participate in the Politics and International Relations internship programme, in which students gain credit for work experience in a political setting. The global nature of our undergraduate courses is reflected in our international exchange programme, and you will be encouraged to study abroad in your second year of studies.

International Foundation course

We work in partnership with Kaplan International College (KIC) London to provide Foundation courses for international students who don't meet our Bachelors degree entry requirements. If you complete your KIC London course at the required level, you are guaranteed progression to study at Westminster on selected Bachelors degrees. See p185, or for more information visit kiclondon.org.uk

Length of course

Three-year, full-time

UCAS code

L250

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

We make full use of innovative and traditional teaching approaches, geared to making you an independent learner through lectures, seminars and workshops. A wide variety of assessment methods are used. Some modules are assessed by course work only and some by a combination of course work and exam. Course work assessments include essays, presentations, book reviews, portfolio preparation and mini-projects.

Associated careers

Graduates pursue a diverse range of careers, and are well equipped for the changing job market. Some options include careers in the Civil Service (including the Foreign and Commonwealth Office), non-governmental organisations, an international organisation such as the EU or UN, policy and research officers, teaching, journalism and party political employment. Many students choose to go on to do postgraduate study at MA and PhD level. The course also offers you the opportunity to take a work experience module that will inform personal development as well as career planning.

Typical offer for September 2011

Qualification type	Grade/points
A Levels	BBB
International Baccalaureate	30 points
BTEC National Diploma	DDM plus Grade B in a Humanities-related subject

See also standard entry requirements on p206.

This degree offers you a wide-ranging course in contemporary politics, with a strong theoretical, UK, comparative and international approach. The modules cover a wide range of academic specialisms and particular interests, but share a common concern with the relationship between state, nationhood and society in the modern world, and the complex interplay between domestic and international politics.

You are encouraged to develop a critical understanding of political ideas and the relationship between political theory and practice. The course is linked to research undertaken in the Department of Politics and International Relations, including the internationally renowned Centre for the Study of Democracy.

We make full use of our unique location, and many of our students gain placements through our internship programme with members of Parliament, governmental and non-governmental organisations. The course improves your critical and analytical skills in the examination and understanding of political problems and issues, and we have excellent links with employers.

Course content

Year 1 (Credit Level 4)

This level introduces you to the study of politics. Core themes examine the emergence and transformation of the nation state, political concepts and political ideologies, and comparative and international politics. In addition you will have the chance to study modules addressing questions of international governance, globalisation and immigration. You will also develop the research and transferable skills required to study politics successfully.

Year 2 and 3 (Credit Level 5 and 6)

Building on your first year you can specialise in areas of political theory and British, American, European and international politics. The course is taught by research-active academics in political theory, government, the media, political economy, foreign policy and international relations. You will study research methods in your second year and undertake a supervised, independent dissertation in your final year.

You are encouraged to participate in our internship programme where you can gain credits for a learning placement in a political setting. With our strong international exchange programme, you are able to undertake study with partner institutions. Undergraduates from Politics and International Relations are also known for organising their own programme of academic activities, including successful and lively debating societies and politics clubs.

International Foundation course

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Length of course

Three-year, full-time;
five-year, part-time

UCAS code

L200

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

We make full use of innovative and traditional teaching approaches geared to making you an independent learner through lectures, seminars and workshops. A wide variety of assessment methods are used. Some modules are assessed only by course work, some by course work and exam. Course work assessments include essays, presentations, literature reviews, portfolio preparation and mini-projects.

Associated careers

Graduates pursue a diverse range of careers and are well equipped for the changing job market. Some options include careers in the Civil Service (including the Foreign and Commonwealth Office), non-governmental organisations, an international organisation such as the EU or UN, policy and research officers, teaching, journalism and party political employment. Many students choose to go on to do postgraduate study at MA and PhD level. The course also offers you the opportunity to take a work experience module that will inform personal development as well as career planning.

Typical offer for September 2011

Qualification type	Grade/points
A Levels	BBB
International Baccalaureate	30 points
BTEC National Diploma	DDM plus Grade B in a Humanities-related subject

See also standard entry requirements on p206.

This course enables you to study both Politics and International Relations. It will provide you with an in-depth understanding of comparative and institutional approaches to politics and gives you the theoretical framework to investigate national and international systems.

In this course you will study the distribution of power at the global, regional, national and local levels. We make full use of our unique location, and many of our students gain placements through our internship programme with members of Parliament, governmental and non-governmental organisations. This course improves your critical and analytical skills in the understanding of political problems and issues at both the national and international levels. It also enjoys excellent links with employers.

Course content

Year 1 (Credit Level 4)

This level introduces you to the study of politics and international relations. Core themes examine political concepts and political ideologies, the emergence of the state as a national and international actor, comparative politics of different nation-states, and the nature and theoretical perspectives of international systems. Optional modules give you the chance to address questions of environmental politics, immigration, the global economy, and globalisation and international governance.

Year 2 and Year 3 (Credit Levels 5 and 6)

Building on your first year, these levels provide more in-depth specialised analysis of political theory, comparative politics and theory and practice of international relations. Particular emphasis is given to questions of power, freedom and justice, democracy, media freedom, terrorism, international security and contemporary debates in foreign policy. These areas are taught by academics who are active in research in these specialised fields.

You will be encouraged to shape your degree according to your own research interests and there is significant choice for students at both levels. You will study research methods in your second year and undertake an independent dissertation in your final year. Students are also encouraged to participate in the Politics and International Relations internship programme, in which students can gain a credit for a learning placement in a political setting. With a strong international exchange programme, students are able to undertake study with partner institutions in their second year.

Our students play a key part in the academic community in Politics and International Relations. From week to week you will be invited to participate in the wide variety of events which we organise, from seminars on cutting-edge thinking to workshops and conferences with leading academic figures from all over the world.

International Foundation course

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Length of course

Three-year, full-time;
five-year, part-time

UCAS code

L290

Location

Central London (Regent)

Teaching and assessment

We make full use of innovative and traditional teaching approaches, geared to making you an independent learner through lectures, seminars and workshops. A wide variety of assessment methods are used. Some modules are assessed by course work only and some by a combination of course work and exam. Course work assessments include essays, presentations, literature reviews, portfolio preparation and mini-projects.

Associated careers

Graduates can pursue a diverse range of careers and are well-equipped for the changing job market. Career options include the Civil Service (including the Foreign and Commonwealth Office), non-governmental organisations, an international organisation such as the EU or UN, policy and research officers, teaching, journalism and party political employment. Many students choose to go on to postgraduate study at MA and PhD level. The course also offers a work experience module that will inform your personal development as well as career planning.

Typical offer for September 2011

Qualification type	Grade/points
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