

Module Title Contemporary Issues In Politics Keywords Contemporary Politics, Contemporary Public Policy	Reference BS3145 SCQF Level SCQF 9 SCQF Points 15 ECTS Points 7.5 Created December 2004 Approved October 2006 Amended August 2012 Version No. 2
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This Version is No Longer Current

The latest version of this module is available [here](#)

Prerequisites for Module

None in addition to SCQF9 entry requirements or equivalent

Help and advice to students as they conduct practical research on issues. Help with analysing and writing up research findings.

Corequisite Modules

None.

Indicative Student Workload

<i>Contact Hours</i>	Full Time
Lectures	5
Seminars	12

Precluded Modules

None.

Aims of Module

To enable students not undertaking a placement to focus upon contemporary issues in politics as they arise, and to introduce the basic tools of information enquiry about politics. The module will aid students in the development of initial competence and skills in

<i>Directed Study</i>	
Engagement in the gathering and analysis of information	70
Analysis and report writing	63

Mode of Delivery

Lectures, seminars, external speakers, web tutorials.

politics oriented information enquiry and offer students opportunities for engagement in current affairs issues.

Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

1. Apply insights drawn from political science to the study of current issues in politics.
2. Demonstrate competence in the use of a range of information sources to acquire information on current affairs.
3. Demonstrate skill in the use of some of the basic tools of analysing public affairs, and to apply the concepts in basic form.

Indicative Module Content

An introduction to the methods and techniques that are used in the research and study of political issues.

How to engage in the research of political issues.

The selection of current affairs issues by negotiation with students.

Assessment Plan

	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Component 1	1,2,3

The coursework will involve the selection of a range of current affairs issues, the identification of the range of information sources about it, how the issue arose, and its engagement by political institutions.

Indicative Bibliography

1. HALPERIN, S. and HEATH, O., 2012. *Political research: methods and practical skills*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
2. HEYWOOD, A., 2015. *Key concepts in politics and international relations (2nd Ed.)* London: Palgrave.
3. HEYWOOD, A., 2015. *Political theory: an introduction (4th Ed.)* London: Palgrave.
4. HOFFMAN, J. and GRAHAM, P., 2015. *Introduction to political theory (3rd Ed.)*. Abingdon: Routledge.
5. LEFTWICH, A., 2004. *What is politics? The activity and its study*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
6. MCKINNON, C., 2015. *Issues in political theory (3rd Ed.)* Oxford: Oxford university Press.