

Module code	INR518	Level	5
Module title	The History of the Present	Credit value	20
Common/Core/ Elective	Core	ECTS Credits	10
		Notional learning hours	200
Courses on which the module is taught	BA (Hons) International Relations	Teaching Period	Autumn

1. Module description

The history and the origins of the modern state system have a central role in the way we understand today's world. This module explores continuity and change in international relations and focuses on the historical study of themes central to contemporary debates on economic and political issues, as well as on traditional security and new global challenges. We will examine how the First and Second World Wars transformed international politics and consider the lasting effect of the Cold War and decolonisation on international relations. This module will provide you the theoretical foundation of international relations and will develop an understanding of a range of perspectives, including realism, liberalism, constructivism, feminism, postcolonialism and post-structuralism.

2. Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this module you will be able to:

Communication (MLO 05)

Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, in international settings about historical and contemporary issues.

Discipline Knowledge (MLO 07)

Examine and apply theories, concepts and knowledge relevant to the development of International Relations historically.

Discipline Skills (MLO 08)

Employ a range of techniques and tools to make sense of historical change and view the contemporary world through international relations theoretical lenses.

3. Learning and teaching methods

This module will use real world issues and themes to examine how international theories have developed over time, and will be taught using micro-lectures, class activities and independent learning exercises. You will be encouraged to use class discussions and debates to analyse the terms and concepts they encounter.

Learning hours	
Directed learning	48 hours
Workshops/classes	48
Guided/Self-guided learning	152 hours
Total	200

4. Assessment, formative feedback and relative weightings

Assessment 1: Poster

Weight (%): 50

Word Count or Equivalent: 1000 words and 10 minute presentation.

You will produce a poster exploring an historical or contemporary international issue and present it to the class. This will challenge your understanding of the importance, relevance and practical implications of this issue as well as your ability to communicate your ideas.

Assessment 2: Essay

Weight (%): 50

Word Count or Equivalent: 2000 words

With guidance from the module tutor, you will research and write an essay on a subject relevant to the conceptual understanding of the evolution of the modern world, and the nature of International Relations.

Each summative assessment will be preceded by an opportunity for formative assessment accompanied by formative feedback.

Mapping of assessment tasks for the module

Assessment tasks	MLO5	MLO7	MLO8
Poster	X		x
Essay	X	x	x

5. Indicative resources

Baylis, J., Smith, S., and Owens, P. (Eds.). (2020). *The Globalization of World Politics* (8th ed.). Oxford University Press.

Kalmo H. and Skinner, Q., (2014 edn) *Sovereignty in Fragments: the past, present and future of a contested concept*. Cambridge University Press.

Payne, S. G. (1996). *A History of Fascism 1914-1945*. University of Wisconsin Press.

Judt, T. (2010). *Postwar: a history of Europe since 1945*. Vintage.

<http://www.politicalresources.net>

<http://www.globalpolicy.org/>