

Module code	SAI511			Level	5
Module title	British Politics				
Status	Elective				
Teaching Period	Autumn and Spring				
Courses on which the module is taught	Study Abroad				
Prerequisite modules	None				
Notional learning hours	100	Credit value	10	ECTS Credits	5
Field trips?	A trip to the Palace of Westminster will be organised if possible.				
Content notes	This module deals with current events which may include subjects that are upsetting to students.				

1. Module description

In this module you will study the British political system in depth. By the end of the module, you will be familiar with the origins and functioning of the parliamentary system, the ideologies and structure of the main political parties and the most significant contemporary political and constitutional issues.

In this module you will engage with the evolution and functioning of the parliamentary system. You will examine the way in which debates have been formed and influenced by the main British political traditions, especially Conservatism, Liberalism and Socialism. The module will familiarise you with the nature of the party system and the way this has evolved in recent years. You will analyse constitutional change and the nature of the legislative process.

In studying British politics, you will also gain understanding of some of the major issues which continue divide British society, especially social class, European integration and questions of culture and national identity. You will also engage with ways in which changes in the media have affected the language and practice of politics.

2. Learning Outcomes

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

Discipline Knowledge (MLO7):

Examine and apply theories, concepts and facts in your field of study to write an essay and to keep a journal about subjects in British politics.

Discipline Skills (RLO8):

Employ discipline-specific knowledge, techniques and tools to consider subjects pertaining to British politics.

Human & Environmental Impact (RLO10):

Analyse the impact of human activity on people and on the environment when considering current affairs in British politics.

3. Learning and teaching methods, and reasonable adjustments

You will be within a 'self-directed learning' mode with tutor-facilitated support which is the basis of the learning and teaching strategy. Each class will begin with a discussion of current events taking place in the financial markets. To stay abreast of developments, you should be versed in the latest news and events from reading newspapers and media highlighted to you. In order to participate in class discussions, you will be expected to complete the readings *prior to* class as the teaching will build upon the text and other reading materials.

Classes will also feature activities and research exercises as appropriate to further understanding of the issue at hand (or one currently being examined in the field). Reasonable adjustments will be offered and made for those students who have a support plan in place.

Learning hours				36
Directed learning				36
Workshops/ classes/ seminars/ lead events	Supervision	Studio time	Other	
36				
Guided/Self-guided learning				64

4. Assessments and weighting, reasonable adjustment, and feedback methods

Assessment component 1: Learning Journal

Weight (%): 100%

Word Count or Equivalent: 2,000 words maximum

Self-reflexive learning diary based on the political issues which unfold over the duration of the module. You will be briefed and given more detailed information on the assignment brief for the module both in class and on Blackboard. Reasonable adjustments for the assessment will be confirmed with students that have a support plan in place.

Mapping of assessment tasks:

Assessment components	MLO7	MLO8	MLO10
Learning diary	X	X	X

The above assessment component is summative. Students will have the opportunity for formative assessment and feedback before the summative assessment.

5. Indicative resources

BALE, T. (2023) The Conservative Party after Brexit : Turmoil and Transformation.

CLARKE, P., (2004) Hope and Glory: Britain 1900-2000 London: Penguin

EVANS, E. J., (1997) Thatcher and Thatcherism London: Routledge,

LEACH, R. COXALL B. and ROBINS L., (2011) British Politics Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011.

PELLING, H. (1985) A Short History of the Labour Party London: Macmillan

SHIPMAN, T. (2024) No Way Out: Brexit: From the Backstop to Boris. Brexit Quartet.

STEWART, R. (2024) Politics on the Edge A Memoir from Within. Vintage.

Suggested Journals, Publications, Databases and other readings will be made available via Blackboard.