

Lancaster  
University



Politics  
Undergraduate Degrees 2026

# Welcome

**Has there ever been a better time to study politics?**  
**From the politics of energy to climate change, the politics of migration to global pandemics, and democratic accountability to the politics of self-identity, questions of power, representation, and protest loom large. Traditional party politics creaks under the weight of social transformation, while longstanding allegiances are challenged by the rise of populism, nationalist sentiment and multiculturalism.**

These modern challenges require political responses that address these urgent needs through policy solutions, programmes and strategies of immediate relevance to modern societies. The study of politics here at Lancaster examines the contemporary political arguments, processes and institutions through which these challenges are met, denied or avoided.

Politics occurs at local, national and regional levels. Your studies at Lancaster will therefore include analysis and exploration of UK domestic party-politics and policy, as well as the politics of nations such as the USA, China and Russia and regional contexts such as Africa, Latin America and the EU. You'll be equipped with the theories, concepts and approaches through which politics is studied academically, as well as gaining practical applied knowledge of how politics is conducted in a wide range of relevant sectors.

No matter what your ultimate career goals, studying politics at Lancaster will give you the skills necessary to analyse and confront the political complexities of the modern world. You'll have the opportunity, via work-based learning on our Richardson Institute Internship Programme, or a placement year, to gain experience which will prepare you for your future career and to develop skills that will make you more employable. You may also have opportunities to travel abroad, visiting countries you could be studying as part of your degree, either for short-term visits or as year-long study abroad options.

Many of our students choose to combine the study of politics with international relations, and many with other such as philosophy, economics or history. We hope that this booklet provides useful material to inform your own choice, but if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.



Degree title		Degree (Hons)	UCAS code	Course duration (years)	Typical A level offer
Politics		BA	L200	3	ABB
Politics (Placement Year)	🏠	BA	L202	4	ABB
Politics (Study Abroad)	✈️	BA	L203	4	ABB
Politics and International Relations		BA	L250	3	ABB
Politics and International Relations (Placement Year)	🏠	BA	L251	4	ABB
Politics and International Relations (Study Abroad)	✈️	BA	L252	4	ABB
History and Politics		BA	LV21	3	AAB
History and Politics (Placement Year)	🏠	BA	LV22	4	AAB
History and Politics (Study Abroad)	✈️	BA	LV23	4	AAB
Philosophy and Politics		BA	VL52	3	ABB
Philosophy and Politics (Placement Year)	🏠	BA	VL53	4	ABB
Philosophy and Politics (Study Abroad)	✈️	BA	VL54	4	ABB
Philosophy, Politics and Economics		BA	L0V0	3	AAB
Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Placement Year)	🏠	BA	L0V1	4	AAB
Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Study Abroad)	✈️	BA	L0V2	4	AAB
Economics, Politics and International Relations		BA	LL22	3	AAB
Economics, Politics and International Relations (Industry)	🏠	BA	LL20	4	AAB
Economics, Politics and International Relations (Study Abroad)	✈️	BA	LL19	4	AAB

Visit our website for more information on degree options, scholarships and entry requirements (such as BTECs)  
[lancaster.ac.uk](https://www.lancaster.ac.uk)





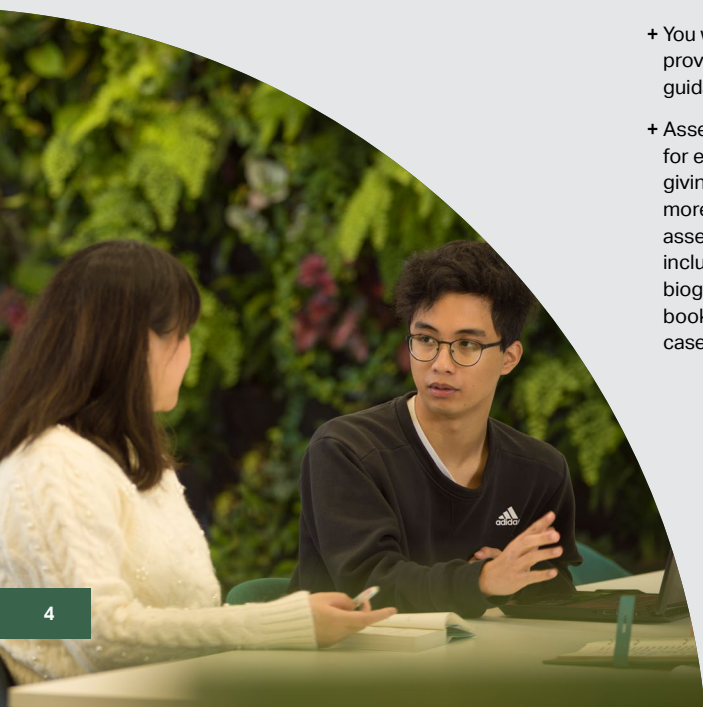
# Made for *learning*

**We use a range of teaching methods that are appropriate for the wide variety of topics that you will study in politics.**

- + Lectures are used to provide overviews of the core theories, themes and evidence you need to know.
- + Discussion seminars will provide you with a space to expand on your own views on topics through engaging in vibrant debates to improve your critical understanding in safe supportive environments.
- + Workshop activities will provide you with the chance to engage in problem solving exercises and develop important team working skills.
- + Policy lab exercises provide the opportunity to directly engage in activities to address large contemporary policy challenges such as climate change or immigration often working directly with expert policymaking professionals in those fields.
- + Our teaching also includes mock debate exercises, computer lab work developing highly employable data analysis skills and role play simulations of parliaments and other institutions.



- + Your time will be divided between timetabled learning, independent learning time for reading and research tasks and meetings with academic staff.
- + Every module will have a dedicated Moodle website as part of the University's virtual learning environment. This is used for uploading key learning and support content and for contacting staff and other students.
- + You will have a dedicated academic advisor who will provide you with regular meetings and academic guidance throughout your studies.
- + Assessment tasks vary according to what is appropriate for each subject area. We place particular emphasis on giving you the opportunity to research topics of interest more widely as your studies progress and in using assessment to develop key professional skills. This can include essays, blogs, policy reports, research diaries, biographical studies, data analysis, policy evaluation, book reviews, government evidence submissions and case study research.





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*My lecturers  
have engaged  
directly with  
my ideas  
and offered  
constructive  
feedback.*

”



### Cecily

#### Politics and International Relations

Studying politics and international relations at Lancaster has provided me with teaching that is grounded in contemporary research and delivered through engaging seminars and lectures.

Throughout my first and second year I've focused most of my academic work on gender and women's roles in international politics. This interest has been continuously supported by my lecturers, who have engaged directly with my ideas and offered constructive feedback. This has left me with a richer and more nuanced understanding of the vital role of women in security studies and politics.

The course has equipped me with the skills to continue this interest beyond undergraduate studies. The research and expertise of the teaching staff are a privilege to receive.



# Gain *real-world* experience

We know you want to graduate confident and ready to step into your career. That's why we make it easy to incorporate work experience into your time at Lancaster.

Your ambitions are important to us, and we will help you build the skills you need to succeed by offering a range of placement and internship opportunities.

## Placement year

You can opt to study your degree with a placement year (also known as a year in industry). On this degree you spend your third year working in a graduate-level, professional job in a sector of your choice before returning to complete your final year at Lancaster University. Securing a placement is a competitive process and we support you with personalised coaching and professional guidance.

Internship opportunities with the Richardson Institute research centre for peace and conflict.

## Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Internship Scheme

You'll gain sector-relevant work experience and get paid for it with these internships. Apply in all years of study for opportunities in areas such as public affairs, marketing, business development and events. The scheme is delivered by our faculty employability team who are here to support your access to direct work experience while you study.

## Richardson Institute internships

Our School is home to the Richardson Institute, which undertakes cutting-edge peace and conflict research. Research themes include transnational repression, human rights, conflict resolution, and identity and belonging. Typically, the Institute offers 30 competitive internships per year to our students to undertake research projects for external organisations.

## The Lancaster Award

The Lancaster Award is a non-academic certificate developed in partnership with employers to help you make the most of your time at Lancaster and to demonstrate the skills you have developed along the way. It is designed to reward the wide range of volunteering activities and placements undertaken by many of our undergraduates. Potential employers increasingly value a profile that includes more than just strong academic results, and the Lancaster Award recognises and validates this.





“

*We presented a policy brief to a panel of senior advisors at the Department for Education in London.*

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*BA Hons Politics and  
International Relations*

*Lancaster University*



*Olle, second year*

Studying politics and international relations at Lancaster University has been an enriching journey for me so far. I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience of learning and critically analysing real-world events and problems.

I had the opportunity to participate in an excellent policy school provided by Lancaster University in partnership with HM government, in which we learned all the skills of policy making and were required to present a policy brief to a panel of senior advisors at the Department for Education in London. This was highly beneficial because it gave me insight into governmental workings whilst also improving my presentation and reporting skills, skills which are both essential to succeeding within this field.

What really stands out to me about my experience here is the willingness of the lecturers to help and support their students, whether this is through essay or exam help, or just catching up in general. I personally have a great relationship with my academic tutor, who has continuously supported me throughout my first two years here at Lancaster. By having this close community around me this has undoubtedly helped me to settle into university life faster and develop my overall personality, making the shift to university life extremely smooth.



# Your global *experience*

**Lancaster is a truly international university, with students and staff from over 100 different countries and partner institutions around the world. Your global experience is about living and learning with people from different cultures whether through your course, your college or your students' union.**

## **Study abroad**

You can choose to study your degree with a study abroad year. On these four-year degrees, you spend your third year studying at one of our partner universities abroad. Our current partners are in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, the Netherlands and the USA, although availability of destinations varies each year.

Living in another country and studying your subject from a different perspective enhances your subject knowledge and develops resourcefulness for life after university.

## **Vacation travel and overseas summer schools**

You can also discover the world during your vacations. We run short trips to destinations such as China, Germany, Ghana, Malaysia and Switzerland. These trips include meeting local students and businesses as well as some academic study and cultural discovery.

In addition, you can attend summer schools at one of our many overseas partners.

Find out more at [lancaster.ac.uk/your-global-experience](https://lancaster.ac.uk/your-global-experience)



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*It's provided me with life-long friends and experiences that I will always appreciate.*

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The University of  
Kentucky, USA

Lancaster University



**Meg, final year**

**BA Hons Politics and  
International Relations  
(Study Abroad)**

Studying abroad has not only added new areas of interest within my degree, but it has also provided me with life-long friends and experiences that I will always appreciate. The states within America are vastly different, so experiencing new cultures and traditions that are unique to Kentucky was extremely fun.

The University of Kentucky provided courses that I would have unlikely chosen myself, allowing me to explore the different areas of politics and international relations which I may be interested in. This is what happened with my history of pre-colonial Africa class that led me to choose an African politics module for my final year. Being able to undertake such a variety of modules has even opened new doors for different career paths I may be willing to take.

The main thing I have gained from this experience is my independence. Before studying abroad, I really struggled to put myself outside my comfort zone which led me to miss out on some valuable opportunities. Experiencing meeting new people and being in a new environment has completely improved my confidence, allowing me to engage more with different activities since being back.

# Politics

## BA (Hons)

**Explore the many ways politics affects all our lives - from social injustice, culture wars and climate change, to migration, crime, and declining trust in democracy.**

This BA Politics contains three primary themes – comparative politics, public policy and political theory. The course structure ensures you will develop a strong academic grounding in all three areas before having the opportunity to specialise in topics that particularly interest you.

The second year places greater emphasis on developing highly employable independent research skills that you will need to explore the political topics that interest you in more depth. It also gives you the opportunity to apply that knowledge to explore the politics of specific regions such as China, Europe, USA, Africa and Latin America.

The final year gives you the opportunity to apply the critical analysis skills you have learned to research a topic you are passionate about in the dissertation. You will also have the opportunity to use those skills on our specialist final year modules covering everything from international development to immigration and from populism to parliament.

### Enhancing your curriculum

We continually review and enhance our course curricula to ensure we are delivering the best possible learning experience, and to make sure that the subject knowledge and transferable skills you develop will prepare you for your future. Information within this publication with respect to courses and modules is correct at the time of publication, and the University will make every reasonable effort to offer courses and modules as advertised. In some cases, changes may be necessary and may result in new modules or some modules and combinations being unavailable, for example as a result of student feedback, timetabling, staff changes and new research.

## Year 1

### Core Modules

#### Global Challenges in World Politics

This module provides you with a nuanced understanding of the forces driving change in the international system and their implications for global order and human security, equipping you with the tools to navigate and contribute to a complex and interconnected world.

#### Parties, Populism and Protest

Learn how to analyse highly contemporary political events and trends, and develop the vital critical skills required to be able to put them into context.

#### Policy Lab: Becoming a Policymaker

On this module you will act as policy advisors, learning how to solve complex problems and produce practical recommendations to government for policy change.

#### Political Theory in a Troubled World

Explore how the history of political thought can help us make sense of contemporary crises such as political instability, economic crises, deepening inequalities, environmental degradation and technological disruptions.

#### British Politics: Political Ideas in Action

Discover the key concepts that shape our understanding of British politics, learn how to conduct political analysis, and gain a sophisticated understanding of the complexities of the British political landscape.

#### Thinking Globally

This module will draw on disciplines from across the School of Global Affairs to think about the very different ways in which the world can be imagined. What are the ideas that have framed or limited our understanding of the world and others in it? How can we challenge existing narratives and explore alternative perspectives?







## Final Year

### Core Modules

#### Politics Dissertation

Investigate an area of politics that is of particular interest to you by carrying out a detailed research project. The topic may be inspired by a module you've taken, or it may be less directly linked to course work but of special appeal to you.

#### Plus one from:

Technology and Social Justice

Queer Futures

People Power, Community Engagement and Collective Action

Confronting the Climate Crisis

The Power of Ideas

Artistic Fusions

Futures Beyond Borders

### Optional Modules

+ Critical Studies of War and Security

+ Environment and Development

+ Security, Strategy and Technology

+ Russia and China

+ Politics of Latin America and Africa

+ The Politics of Borders and Migration

+ Democracy Under Pressure

+ Critical Political Theory

+ Parliamentary Studies

+ Policymaking in the Real World

+ The Politics of Crises and the Future of Governance

+ Europe and America

+ Politics of the Middle East and Asia Pacific

## Year 2

### Core Modules

#### Theories of Power and the State

This module gives you a firm grasp of the competing theories of power and how they relate to the state, enabling you to critically apply key concepts in political debate.

#### Understanding Political Research

In this module, you'll gain skills for independent research in politics. Design your own project, learn qualitative and quantitative methods and analyse a large political dataset to test for statistically significant relationships using various techniques.

#### Plus one from:

Employability, Purpose and Social Impact

Global Challenges and Collaborative Solutions

Cultural Diversity and Professional Contexts

Taking an Idea and Making it Happen

### Optional Modules

+ Philosophy, Politics and Economics: Issues and Intersections

+ Global Superpowers

+ Politics of the Global South

+ Government and Leadership in an Unstable World

+ Politics of Policy

### Study abroad degrees

You will study abroad at a partner university in your third year. The grades you achieve at your host university will be translated back and be credited to your Lancaster degree.

### Placement year degrees

In your third year you will undertake as core the 'Placement Year Work Based Learning Module'.

# Politics and International Relations

## BA (Hons)

**Explore how major global challenges impact politics and society at a national, regional and global level.**

The first year provides you with grounding in critical analysis of major global challenges from climate change to global security to the rise of electoral populism and authoritarian states.

The second year will provide you with opportunity to explore these critical global challenges in more depth through key regional case studies of the USA, China, Africa and Latin America. We will also provide you with the critical research skills to direct your own analysis.

The final year gives you the freedom to specialise in exploring the topic areas and regions that interest you most in more depth. From cyber security and geopolitics to elections and policymaking to development studies and the Middle East you will be using research skills to contribute to these key debates.

### Study abroad degrees

You will study abroad at a partner university in your third year. The grades you achieve at your host university will be translated back and be credited to your Lancaster degree.

### Placement year degrees

In your third year you will undertake as core the 'Placement Year Work Based Learning Module'.

## Year 1

### Core Modules

#### Origins and Foundations of International Relations

Discover the core concepts, theories and historical contexts that shape the field of international relations. In this module you will gain an understanding of the state system, sovereignty, power, anarchy and other key concepts that underpin the discipline.

#### Global Governance and International Institutions

Explore global governance and the role of international institutions in tackling today's challenges. Study the historical development of the international system and the evolution of world order, setting the stage for an analysis of key actors in global politics.

#### Parties, Populism and Protest

Learn how to analyse highly contemporary political events and trends, and develop the vital critical skills required to be able to put them into context.

#### Policy Lab: Becoming a Policymaker

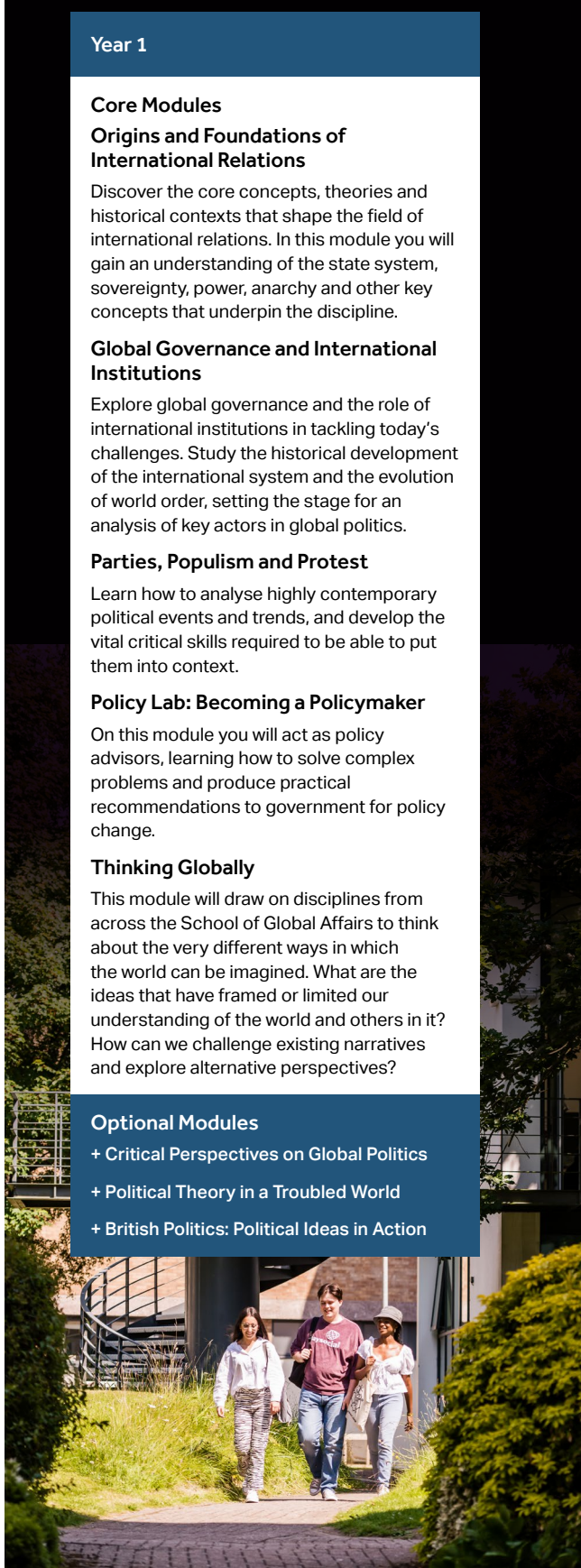
On this module you will act as policy advisors, learning how to solve complex problems and produce practical recommendations to government for policy change.

#### Thinking Globally

This module will draw on disciplines from across the School of Global Affairs to think about the very different ways in which the world can be imagined. What are the ideas that have framed or limited our understanding of the world and others in it? How can we challenge existing narratives and explore alternative perspectives?

### Optional Modules

- + Critical Perspectives on Global Politics
- + Political Theory in a Troubled World
- + British Politics: Political Ideas in Action







## Year 2

### Core Modules

#### Reshaping Global Order

Explore the profound transformations reshaping the contemporary international system. This module will build on your knowledge of foundational theories and concepts to examine the dynamic interplay of power shifts, globalisation and evolving security landscapes.

#### Theories of Power and the State

This module gives you a firm grasp of the competing theories of power and how they relate to the state, enabling you to critically apply key concepts in political debate.

#### Understanding Political Research

In this module, you'll gain skills for independent research in politics and international relations. Design your own project, learn qualitative and quantitative methods and analyse a large political dataset to test for statistically significant relationships using various techniques.

#### Plus one from:

Employability, Purpose and Social Impact

Global Challenges and Collaborative Solutions

Cultural Diversity and Professional Contexts

Taking an Idea and Making it Happen

### Optional Modules

- + War, Peace and Modernity
- + Global Capitalism and its Discontent
- + Authoritarianism, Repression and Resistance in the 21st century
- + Philosophy, Politics and Economics: Issues and Intersections
- + Global Superpowers
- + Politics of the Global South
- + Government and Leadership in an Unstable World
- + Politics of Policy

## Final Year

### Core Modules

#### Politics and International Relations Dissertation

Investigate an area of politics and international relations that is of particular interest to you by carrying out a detailed research project. The topic may be inspired by a module you've taken, or it may be less directly linked to course work but of special appeal to you.

#### Plus one from:

Technology and Social Justice

Queer Futures

People Power, Community Engagement and Collective Action

Confronting the Climate Crisis

The Power of Ideas

Artistic Fusions

Futures Beyond Borders

### Optional Modules

- + Critical Studies of War and Security
- + Environment and Development
- + Security, Strategy and Technology
- + Russia and China
- + Politics of Latin America and Africa
- + The Politics of Borders and Migration
- + Democracy Under Pressure
- + Critical Political Theory
- + Parliamentary Studies
- + Policymaking in the Real World
- + The Politics of Crises and the Future of Governance
- + Europe and America
- + Politics of the Middle East and Asia Pacific

# History and Politics

## BA (Hons)

**Studying history and politics allows us to understand the places, people and decisions that shape major political moments.**

This degree enables you to use the analysis of history to inform the political debate around critical contemporary global challenges. The first year gives you a core grounding in the key themes of modern British and global history and enables you to connect this to contemporary political debates and policy priorities.

The second year provides you with highly employable skills in historical and political analysis enabling you to carry out your own enquiries. It explores diversity in the evolution of the relationship between the individual and the state over time and its impact on contemporary politics in comparative context including China, USA, Europe and Africa.

The final year emphasises independent learning as you are given the opportunity to apply your research skills to study the topics that most interest you in greater critical depth through year-long special subject modules in history and the politics dissertation project.

### Study abroad degrees

You will study abroad at a partner university in your third year. The grades you achieve at your host university will be translated back and be credited to your Lancaster degree.

### Placement year degrees

In your third year you will undertake as core the 'Placement Year Work Based Learning Module'.

## Year 1

### Core Modules

#### Revolutions in History

Explore a concept fundamental to history: historical change. We discover what it looks like and how it happens. You will investigate a series of political, economic, social, environmental, and cultural events that have been identified as revolutionary.

#### Controversy in History

Why do historians disagree about how to interpret the past? What issues divide them and why? You will study real-life examples of historical debate introduced by our experts and you'll learn to build and articulate your own persuasive arguments.

#### Modern Britain

You will go beyond conventional narratives to uncover a history that's both national and global, and where the personal and the political intersect.

#### Parties, Populism and Protest

Learn how to analyse highly contemporary political events and trends, and develop the vital critical skills required to be able to put them into context.

#### Policy Lab: Becoming a Policymaker

On this module you will act as policy advisors, learning how to solve complex problems and produce practical recommendations to government for policy change.

#### Thinking Globally

This module will draw on disciplines from across the School of Global Affairs to think about the very different ways in which the world can be imagined. What are the ideas that have framed or limited our understanding of the world and others in it? How can we challenge existing narratives and explore alternative perspectives?





## Year 2

### Core Modules

#### Human and Environment

Examine how people have understood nature and their place within it over time and across cultures by investigating climate change, environmental disasters, and massive landscape transformations.

#### Theories of Power and the State

This module gives you a firm grasp of the competing theories of power and how they relate to the state, enabling you to critically apply key concepts in political debate.

#### Understanding Political Research

In this module, you'll gain skills for independent research in politics. Design your own project, learn qualitative and quantitative methods and analyse a large political dataset to test for statistically significant relationships using various techniques.

#### Plus one from:

Employability, Purpose and Social Impact

Global Challenges and Collaborative Solutions

Cultural Diversity and Professional Contexts

Taking an Idea and Making it Happen

### Optional Modules

+ Inventing Rights

+ Information and Misinformation

+ Philosophy, Politics and Economics: Issues and Intersections

+ Government and Leadership in an Unstable World

• Politics of Policy

## Final Year

### Core Modules

#### Politics Dissertation

Investigate an area of politics that is of particular interest to you by carrying out a detailed research project. The topic may be inspired by a module you've taken, or it may be less directly linked to course work but of special appeal to you.

#### Plus one from a selection including:

Confronting the Climate Crisis

The Power of Ideas

Futures Beyond Borders

### Optional Modules

+ The Use and Abuse of History

+ Vikings and Sea-Kings: The Irish Sea Region, 794–1079

+ Intelligent Design? Science, Religion and the Idea of Design in Nature, 1450–1800

+ Victorian Bodies: Sex, Gender, Race and Power in Global Britain

+ Big Data and Dead People: Digital Histories of Crime, Justice and Punishment, 1760–1925

+ Advertising and Consumerism in Britain, 1853–1960

+ Gender Identities in the People's War: Experiences, Representations and Memories

+ Dangerous Thoughts: Soviet Dissent, Human Rights and the Cold War

+ Russia and China

+ Politics of Latin America and Africa

+ The Politics of Borders and Migration

+ Democracy Under Pressure

+ Parliamentary Studies

+ Policymaking in the Real World

+ Politics of the Middle East and Asia Pacific

See website for further optional modules.

# Philosophy and Politics

## BA (Hons)

**Gain a deep and nuanced grasp of political ideas and practice – such as human rights, justice, and the nature of our institutions of governance – and equip yourself with the essential tools of clear thinking and political understanding.**

During this course, you will study a comprehensive array of key themes in both politics and philosophy. In your first year, you will examine topics including parties, political behaviour and protest, political philosophy, critical thinking, metaphysics, epistemology, and ethics, developing strong foundational knowledge in philosophy and a sense of the value of studying politics and political theory in a troubled world.

In your second year, you will explore theories of power and the state, develop skills in political research, and develop your analytical skills through participating in a guided project in philosophy, alongside choosing between a range of optional topics in politics and philosophy for further study.

Studying comparative politics and both applied and theoretical topics in philosophy in the final year of your studies, you will develop a wide range of employable analytical skills that you will apply to researching political issues from across the globe including China, USA, the EU, the UK, Russia, Asia and Africa. And you will complete your studies by conducting independent, supervised research in a final capstone dissertation or portfolio, designed to showcase the skills and knowledge you have gained throughout the degree.

### Study abroad degrees

You will study abroad at a partner university in your third year. The grades you achieve at your host university will be translated back and be credited to your Lancaster degree.

### Placement year degrees

In your third year you will undertake as core the 'Placement Year Work Based Learning Module'.

## Year 1

### Core Modules

#### Knowledge and Reality

Develop philosophical tools for reasoning and arguing (critical thinking and logic) and discover fundamental philosophical questions about knowledge (epistemology) and the nature of reality (metaphysics).

#### Ethics

Consider foundational questions regarding the nature of moral statements and the content of our moral obligations towards others in this introduction to philosophical ethics.

#### Political Philosophy

Explore fundamental questions regarding politics, power, and the arrangement of our collective lives, engaging with critical debates faced by both historical and contemporary communities: what are the boundaries, rights and duties of the state? What do the concepts of justice, freedom, equality, sovereignty, rights and power mean?

#### Parties, Populism and Protest

Learn how to analyse highly contemporary political events and trends, and develop the vital critical skills required to be able to put them into context.

#### Political Theory in a Troubled World

Explore how the history of political thought can help us make sense of contemporary crises such as political instability, economic crises, deepening inequalities, environmental degradation and technological disruptions.

#### Thinking Globally

This module will draw on disciplines from across the School of Global Affairs to think about the very different ways in which the world can be imagined. What are the ideas that have framed or limited our understanding of the world and others in it? How can we challenge existing narratives and explore alternative perspectives?



## Year 2

### Core Modules

#### Philosophy Guided Project

Create a portfolio of investigative and critical writing which explores a particular philosophical topic in depth. In this module you will be guided with expert support from a contemporary philosopher to develop your philosophical and independent study skills. Through deep engagement with a narrow topic you will develop your ability to assess philosophical arguments and make independent judgements, informed by reasoning and evidence.

#### Theories of Power and the State

This module gives you a firm grasp of the competing theories of power and how they relate to the state, enabling you to critically apply key concepts in political debate.

#### Understanding Political Research

In this module, you'll gain skills for independent research. Design your own project, learn qualitative and quantitative methods and analyse a large political dataset to test for statistically significant relationships using various techniques.

#### Plus one from:

Employability, Purpose and Social Impact

Global Challenges and Collaborative Solutions

Cultural Diversity and Professional Contexts

Taking an Idea and Making it Happen

### Optional Modules

+ Global Capitalism and its Discontent

+ Applied Philosophy

+ Philosophy, Politics and Economics: Issues and Intersections

+ Philosophy of Science

+ Buddhist Philosophy

+ 19th Century Philosophy

+ Philosophy of Mind

+ Global Superpowers

+ Politics of the Global South

+ Government and Leadership in an Unstable World

+ Politics of Policy

## Final Year

### Core Modules

#### Comparative Political Philosophy

This module introduces you to philosophical perspectives emanating from different intellectual traditions.

#### Critical Political Theory

Study conceptual questions about the nature of power, justice, freedom and the state – and normative questions about the kinds of political structures we should adopt.

#### Plus one from:

#### Philosophy Dissertation

Develop a philosophical dissertation: a substantial piece of independent research that demonstrates critical thinking, deep analysis, and original insight. In this module, supported by an expert in your chosen topic you will demonstrate your advanced philosophical skills developed throughout your degree and prepare for both further academic study in philosophy and for professional roles that require skills in research, critical thinking and independent thought.

#### Politics Dissertation

Investigate an area of politics that is of particular interest to you by carrying out a detailed research project. The topic may be inspired by a module you've taken, or it may be less directly linked to course work but of special appeal to you.

#### Philosophy Communication and Engagement Portfolio

Explore the impact that philosophy can have outside of academia. Academic philosophers regularly engage with, inform and persuade diverse audiences outside the academic field. To do so, they need to provide compelling, clearly-stated arguments; understand their target audience; and tailor their material to the audience they seek to impact. In this module you will learn how to communicate complex arguments and ideas effectively in non-academic contexts and apply these to discourse and debates surrounding contemporary problems.

#### Plus one from a selection including:

Technology and Social Justice

Queer Futures

The Power of Ideas

### Optional Modules

See website for further optional modules.







# Careers and employability

## Careers service

Our career advisers are available to support you with subject-specific careers guidance, as well as application and interview practice. You can take part in the Lancaster Award, which is a formal recognition of extra-curricular activity that enhances your employability, for example volunteer work, training and attending careers workshops.

## Graduate destinations

A politics degree provides you with knowledge and transferable skills relevant to a range of different careers. We will help you determine your direction and support you in getting there. We do this by offering subject-specific support from academic tutors and specialist careers advisers.

Employers look for clear thinking, broad vision, independence, the capacity to locate and analyse problems and exercise judgement in their solution. It is also very useful to be able to present information lucidly and argue effectively for favoured courses of action.

Our graduates find that their analytical and organisational skills, plus their ability to achieve insights into problems, are greatly valued by employers in many areas, including:

- + Civil and Diplomatic Services
- + Politics and Government
- + International Charities and Non-Government Organisations
- + Teaching and Education
- + International Finance and Banking
- + Journalism and Media
- + Business, Management and Consultant

“

*It equipped me with skills for life, both professionally and personally.*

”

Senior Digital  
Communications  
Manager at HMRC

Lancaster University



**Emily Siddall,**  
*graduated 2017*

My time at Lancaster University equipped me with skills for life, both professionally and personally. One of the benefits was being able to choose from a range of modules, as well as tailoring coursework and my dissertation to my future career - which in my case, was government communications.

What also impressed me was the range of work and social experiences that were available during my undergraduate degree. For me, this included participating in the Richardson Institute Internship Programme, the Faculty Internship Scheme, becoming President of the Politics Society and Captain of Bowland College Netball Team. I received direct feedback from my first employer that using these experiences as examples during interview was a critical factor in securing the role, as well as my academic credentials.

Since graduating, I have progressed quickly in my career and have been able to apply my studies to each role I've held. I secured my first communications role with an MP before finishing my Master's and progressed to Chief of Staff two years later. Then I moved on to a role as government Press Officer, and I now work as a Senior Digital Communications Manager, responsible for creating content for government social media channels and managing a team of twelve.

My best advice to prospective students? You get out of your university experience what you put in. Lancaster offers heaps of opportunity, so go for it!



[lancaster.ac.uk/politics](https://lancaster.ac.uk/politics)

The information provided in this publication relates primarily to 2026 entry to the University and every effort has been taken to ensure the information is correct at the time of printing in June 2025. The University will use all reasonable effort to deliver the course as described but the University reserves the right to make changes after going to print. You are advised to consult our website at: [lancaster.ac.uk/study](https://lancaster.ac.uk/study) for up-to-date information before you submit your application. Further legal information may be found at: [lancaster.ac.uk/compliance/legalnotice](https://lancaster.ac.uk/compliance/legalnotice).