BA Politics and Sociology Year 1 – Module Information

Over the year as a whole you must take 6 modules. Three modules in each semester. Some of your modules are core (compulsory) but you will also have some optional modules to choose from.

You will be required to select your optional modules using Online Module Selection before you arrive. Please read the information below so you know which optional modules you would like to take.

Module Structure

Semester One
Core Modules:
- SY1004 Sociology: a Beginners Guide
- PL1015 Cold War, Crisis and Confrontation: International Relations, 1945-89
- PL1019 Politics, Power and Ethics

Semester Two
Core Modules:
- SY1002 Society in Transformation
- SY1020 Introduction to Social Research

Optional Modules:
You MUST select ONE of the following -
- PL1011 Political Concepts
- PL1012 Comparative European Politics

Optional Module Descriptions

Semester TWO

PL1011 POLITICAL CONCEPTS
This module introduces students to the study of political concepts. The module starts by considering the nature of political theory and political ideology before moving on to examine a number of key concepts - such as political obligation, freedom, power, justice and authority. The way in which these concepts relate to the ‘real world’ of political systems is tackled through an analysis of competing theories of the state. In the second part of the course, attention will be paid to a number of competing ideologies.

PL1012 COMPARATIVE EUROPEAN POLITICS
The aim of this module is to introduce participants to the major theoretical, empirical and substantive issues in contemporary European (as distinct from European Union or UK) politics. This module takes a broadly comparative approach, focusing on significant topics of cross-national concern in a large number of European countries. A recurring theme throughout the module is the degree to which European countries are institutionally and politically similar but at the same time different.