

# Nottingham Trent University

## Module Specification

	Basic module information	
1	Module Title:	Exploring British Politics
2	Module Code:	POLS10213
3	Credit Points:	20
4	Duration:	Year long
5	School:	School of Social Sciences
6	Campus:	Clifton
7	Date this version first approved to run:	May 2013

### 8 Pre, post and co-requisites:

These are modules that you must have studied previously in order to take this module, or modules that you must study simultaneously or in a subsequent academic session

Pre, Co, Post      Module Code      Module Title

### 9 Courses containing the module

<u>Level</u>	<u>Core/Option</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Course Title</u>
1	Core	FT	HUMA039	BA (H) History and Politics

### 10 Overview and aims

The module introduces students to:

- Basic concepts related to the study of Politics
- Identifies significant actors in the political and government systems of the UK and its territorial polities, their role, functions and inter-relations
- Reviews the broader European and global dimension of national politics / government and how this impacts on the governance of the British nation state

### 11 Module content

Basic political concepts required for understanding contemporary politics

Constitutional, cultural, social and economic aspects of the British polity including the debate on the uncodified constitution, political culture, nationalism and political identity, devolution and beyond, including relations with Northern Ireland; the wider European and global dimension of British government

representative politics: elections and institutions

the machinery of the state and the policy-making process

current challenges confronting the British polity

## 12 Indicative reading

Garnett, M., and P. Lynch. 2012. *Exploring British politics*. 3rd ed.. Harlow: Pearson.

Heffernan, R., P. Cowley, and C. Hay, eds. 2011. *Developments in British politics* 9. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Norton, P. 2010. *The British polity*. 5th ed.. Harlow: Longman.

Jones, B., et al 2010. *Politics UK* 7th ed. London: Pearson

Budge, I. et al 2007. *The New British Politics* 4<sup>th</sup> edition London: Longman

Kavanagh, D., et al 2006. *British Politics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press)

## 13 Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes describe what you should know and be able to do by the end of the module

Knowledge and understanding. After studying this module you should be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of the nature, complexity and significance of politics as a human activity
- Discuss and utilise basic concepts relevant to the study of politics
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the British polity and the nature and distribution of power therein
- Identify the social, economic, historical and cultural contexts within which British politics operates
- Identify and analyse the key political actors in the British polity
- Identify and understand the various elements of the policy process
- Demonstrate an ability to analyse arguments, assumptions and

differing interpretations of political issues and events relevant to British government and politics and to reach sound judgements	
Skills, qualities and attributes. After studying this module you should be able to:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquire the tools and self-confidence to work independently and as part of a group on specific and identified tasks and problems</li> <li>• Communicate effectively both orally and in writing</li> <li>• Retrieve and select appropriate information from a variety of written and electronic sources</li> <li>• Plan and carry out prescribed tasks such as: gather, organise, and deploy data, evidence, arguments, assumptions and information, demonstrating awareness of appropriate sources and how to locate them</li> <li>• Formulate appropriate responses to resolve unfamiliar problems</li> <li>• Evaluate information and use it to plan and develop investigation strategies and responses</li> <li>• Exercise judgement, use information technology in research and learning and for the retrieval and presentation of information</li> </ul>	

14	<b>Teaching and learning</b> <i>Range of modes of direct contact</i> This indicates the range of direct contact teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. lectures, seminars
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A one hour lecture per week</li> <li>• A weekly seminar of one hour to discuss specific issues raised both by lecture material and individual reading</li> </ul>
	Total contact hours: 48
	<i>Range of other learning methods</i> This indicates the range of other teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. directed reading, research
	Total non-contact hours: 152

15	<b>Assessment methods</b>
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This indicates the type and weighting of assessment elements in the module			
<u>Element number</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	100%	Exam	Unseen Examination
<b>Diagnostic/formative assessment</b>			
This indicates if there are any assessments that do not contribute directly to the final module mark			
Report on a policy-related topic			
<b>Further information on assessment</b>			
This section provides further information on the module's assessment where appropriate			

<b>Document management</b>		
16	Module Title:	Exploring British Politics
17	Module Code:	POLS10213
18	Subject (JACS) Code	L200
19	Cost Centre	128
20	School:	AAH
21	Academic Team	PAS
22	Campus	2 (Clifton)
23	Other institutions providing teaching	<i>Please complete in box 23 a-d - if applicable</i>
	Institution	%
23a	Other UK Higher Education or Further Education Institution- Please name Percentage not taught by NTU	
23b	Other public organisation in the UK- Percentage not taught by NTU	
23c	Other private organisation in the UK - Percentage not taught by NTU	
23d	Any other Non-UK organisation -	

	Percentage not taught by NTU	
24	Date this version was formally approved by SASQC/DAG:	