

Nottingham Trent University

Module Specification

	Basic module information	
1	Module Title:	Politics Dissertation
2	Module Code:	POLS30214
3	Credit Points:	40
4	Duration:	Year-Long
5	School:	Social Sciences/Arts and Humanities
6	Campus:	Clifton
7	Date:	January 2017

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

<u>Pre, Co, Post</u>	<u>Module Code</u>	<u>Module Title</u>
----------------------	--------------------	---------------------

9 Courses containing the module

<u>Level</u>	<u>Core/Option</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Course Title</u>
6	Option	FT		BA Joint Honours Humanities
6	Option	PT		BA Joint Honours Humanities

10 Overview and Aims

To provide an opportunity for sustained investigation and analysis of a specific topic of the student's choice (with guidance). The topic must be relevant to the field of study of Politics, but can be theoretical or empirical in nature.

A synoptic assessment is also contained within the dissertation module. It will require you to reflect on the entirety of your degree at NTU, including both subjects as part of a Joint Honours award. The synoptic assessment allows you to combine learning in relation to your employability from a range of activities and experiences

11 Module Content

1. Introductory session on aims and objectives
2. Submission of 2-3000 word draft literature review by week 10 for term one.

3. Workshops, in which students discuss practical issues relating to their proposals, e.g. using data sets, conducting interviews or focus groups, analysing texts, analytical frameworks.
4. Synoptic Assessment: A reflection across the whole of your degree at NTU in relation to your employability.
5. Other content varies according to topic chosen through individual supervisions

12 Indicative Reading

Bell, J. (2010), *Doing your research project*. 3rd ed. Milton Keynes: Open University Press.

Burnham, P et al. (2008), *Research Methods in Politics*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Denscombe, M. (2010), *The Good Research Guide*. Milton Keynes: Open University Press.

Kellstedt, P & Whitten, G (2013), *The Fundamentals of Political Science Research*, 2nd ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Marsh, D & Stoker, G (2010), *Theory and Methods in Political Science* 3rd ed. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Savigny, H. & Marsden, L. (2011), *Doing Political Science and International Relations: Theories in Action*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

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:

1. Undertake a detailed critical analysis of a Politics topic;
2. Identify and question assumptions made in the study of political life;
3. Critically analyse academic literature and appropriate analytical frameworks.
4. Complete a synoptic assessment with specific reference to employability, reflecting on your overall development as a student across all three years of the Politics module and with specific reference to the dissertation project.

Skills, qualities and attributes. After studying this module you should be able to:

1. Gather, select and synthesise information/data/ideas from a variety of sources
2. Formulate and test concepts, hypotheses and questions
3. Initiate and manage one's own learning and work.

4. Articulate findings and conclusions from an independent investigation in any aspect of Politics
5. Comply with relevant ethics procedures in relation to independent study

14 **Teaching and Learning**

Range of modes of direct contact

This indicates the range of direct contact teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. lectures, seminars

Self-directed research with supervision and workshops

Total contact hours: 22 (10 hours supervision, 12 hours class contact time)

Range of other learning methods

This indicates the range of other teaching and learning methods used on this module, e.g. directed reading, research

Total non-contact hours: 378

15 **Assessment methods**

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>
-----------------------	------------------	-------------	--------------------

One	80%	CWK	Dissertation
-----	-----	-----	--------------

Two	20%	CWK	Synoptic Assessment
-----	-----	-----	---------------------

Diagnostic/ formative assessment

This indicates if there are any assessments that do not contribute directly to the final module mark

Formative: written and verbal feedback on literature review and other draft sections.

Further information on assessment

This section provides further information on the module's assessment where appropriate

9,000 – 12,000 Word Dissertation including all references (excluding appendices)

Document Management

16	Module Title:	Politics and International Relations Dissertation	
17	Module Code:	POLS30214	
18	Subject (JACS) Code	L200	
19	Cost Centre	128	
20	School:	Social Sciences	
21	Academic Team	Politics & International Relations	
22	Campus	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 of approval:	January 2017	