

**Programme Specification for Undergraduate Programme
Leading to:
BSc Politics
BSc Politics with Placement**



*Applicable for all undergraduate students **starting at Level 1** on or after 1st September 2021*

<u>Version No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Notes – QA USE ONLY</u>	<u>QA</u>
1	May 2021	Programme specification for 2021/22 created PP2623 replaces PP2600 from 21/22; PP3618 replaces PP3608 from 21/22	BJR
Undergraduate Programme			
1. Awarding institution	Brunel University London		
2. Teaching institution(s)	Brunel University London		
3. Home college/department/division	College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences, Department of Social and Political Sciences, Division of Politics and History.		
4. Contributing college/department/division/ associated institution	N/A		
5. Programme accredited by	N/A		
6. Final award(s) and FHEQ Level of Award	BSc (Hons) Politics (FHEQ Level 6) BSc (Hons) Politics with Professional Development (FHEQ Level 6)		
7. Programme title	BSc Politics		
8. Programme type (Single honours/joint)	Single Honours		
9. Normal length of programme (in months) for each mode of study	36 months Full time/48 months Thick Sandwich		
10. Maximum period of registration for each mode of study	72 months FT/84 months thick sandwich		
11. Variation(s) to September start	None		
12. Modes of study	Full-time/thick sandwich		
13. Modes of delivery	Standard		
14. Intermediate awards and titles with FHEQ Level of Award	Certificate of Higher Education in Politics(FHEQ Level 4) Diploma of Higher Education in Politics(FHEQ Level 5) Diploma of Higher Education in Politics with Placement (FHEQ Level 5) BSc (Ord) Politics (FHEQ Level 6) BSc (Ord) Politics with Placement (FHEQ Level 6)		
15. UCAS Code	L200 (full-time), L202 (thick sandwich)		
16. HECoS Code	100491		
17. Route Code	L200UPLT		
18. Relevant subject benchmark statements and other external and internal reference points used to inform programme design.	UK Quality Code for Higher Education which includes the English Framework for Higher Education Qualifications within Part A on Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards Most Recent QAA Subject Benchmark Statement- Politics and International Relations Brunel 2030 Brunel Placement Learning Policy, as published under the 'Placements' section of the Managing Higher Education Provision with Others page		
19. Admission Requirements	Details of entry requirements are provided on the University's and College website.		

	Levels of English for non-native speakers are outlined on Brunel International's language requirements pages.
20. Other relevant information (e.g. study abroad, additional information on placements)	Exchange programmes are available: http://www.brunel.ac.uk/international/exchanges-and-study-abroad-programmes
21. Programme regulations not specified in Senate Regulation 2. Any departure from regulations specified in Senate Regulation 2 must be stated here and approved by Senate.	N/A
22. Further information about the programme is available from the College website.	https://www.brunel.ac.uk/politics-and-international-relations/home

23. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

- To provide opportunities for the study of politics at undergraduate degree levels
- To provide a programme that prepares graduates for both employment and further study via the development of their methodological, cognitive and transferable skills
- To develop students' understanding of the theoretical and empirical frameworks which underpin the field of Politics
- To provide opportunities for students to include a work placement component in their degree.

24. PROGRAMME AND INTERMEDIATE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding (K) cognitive (thinking) skills (C) and other skills and attributes (S) in the following areas:

Level	Learning Outcome	Associated Assessment Blocks Code(s)	Associated Study Blocks Code(s)	Associated Modular Blocks Code(s)
4				
	Demonstrate knowledge of research design and qualitative methods used in Politics.			PP1600 PP1603
	Demonstrate a knowledge of American and Comparative Politics			PP1070 PP1602
	Demonstrate the knowledge of writings of significant political thinkers			PP1601 PP1602
	Demonstrate a knowledge and comprehension of British politics and public policy.			PP1068 PP1603
	Understand how to analyse and question evidence and sources and how to report and reflect upon them.			All Level 4 modules
	Demonstrate effective communication			All Level 4 modules
5				
	Apply comparative enquiry and evaluate different political systems in relation to positive theories.			PP2623 PP2061 PP2613 PP2618
	Demonstrate an understanding of statistical analysis and apply this using practical skills in data analysis and the presentation of quantitative findings			PP2611 PP2617 PP2618

		Apply the various theories of politics to the relevant substantive area			PP2006 PP2061 PP2615 PP2616 PP2617 PX2607
		Demonstrate the ability to self-reflect on own learning and build on feedback gained.			PP2623 PP2611 PP2615 PP2617 PP2618 PX2607
		Apply a critical analysis of data, scholarly output and theories.			PP2623 PP2611 PP2613 PP2614 PP2616 PP2617 PP2618
		Employ written skills to demonstrate the ability to analyse empirical results			PP2611 PP2061 PP2613 PP2616 PP2617 PP2618
		Employ written skills to demonstrate the ability to analyse theoretical concepts			PP2623 PP2611 PP2006 PP2614 PP2615 PP2616 PX2607
6					
		Apply an advanced synthesis of key political issues and concepts with relevant theories			PP3070 PP3013 PP3611 PX3609
		Synthesize theory and evidence relevant to the choice of dissertation topic			PP3070
		Independently use analytical, evaluative, and critical capacities to present research findings			PP3070 PP3001 PP3003 PP3013 PP3068 PP3604 PP3607 PP3608 PP3609 PP3611 PP3612 PP3614 PX3609
		Synthesize theory and evidence on current issues facing polities.			PP3070 PP3604 PP3605 PP3607 PP3608 PP3609
		Communicate complex ideas, concepts and convincing arguments			PP3070 PP3001 PP3003 PP3068 PP3605 PP3607 PP3608

					PP3612 PP3614
Students taking work placement (BSc/DipHE with Professional Development)					
		Demonstrate an understanding of a work environment, its structural and operational context, and the issues that shape them			PP2555
		Demonstrate the ability to reflect on professional and personal development issues arising from the employment experience			PP2555
Learning/teaching strategies and methods to enable learning outcomes to be achieved, including formative assessments					
Core knowledge and understanding of are acquired by means of lectures and other tutor-led activities, seminars, group discussion and guided independent study as appropriate for the particular module. This builds on compulsory modular blocks at FHEQ Level 4 providing a firm grounding for work at FHEQ Level 5 where compulsory modular blocks in comparative politics and quantitative methodology is supported by optional modular blocks. FHEQ Level 6 draws together knowledge and understanding of both empirical and conceptual work in the dissertation on a topic chosen by the student. In 4-year thick sandwich mode, a workshop and tutorials are provided, associated with the work placement.					
Summative assessment strategies and methods to enable learning outcomes to be demonstrated					
Appropriate assessment forms are employed across all levels ranging from written examinations, coursework, dissertation, presentations and practical reports. Student on the professional development degree will produce reflexion on on professional development and its connection to their academic programme of study. The range of assessment methods utilised tests cognitive skills through a shared emphasis on approaching a task or problem via a process of individual research, analysis and interpretation. All require clear, well-evidenced argumentation, and all call upon a degree of creative thought, imagination and independence of mind, although these are most extensively tested through more complex assignments, especially the dissertation, reflecting progression on the programme. Assessment noted above for the 4-year work placement programme of study. The ability to work independently, demonstrating initiative and the ability to organise time and work is an element essential to successful performance across the programme, and is assessed on all levels in variable form, but is especially tested in the FHEQ Level 6 dissertation. Transferable skills in writing, discussion, analysis, and independent judgement are a feature of the more independent and autonomous thought and research that characterise work at the higher levels, but opportunities for individual choice are available throughout the programme. Skills and understanding of the functioning of the workplace are assessed in the reflective workplace report for students taking the thick sandwich degree.					

25. Programme Structure, progression and award requirements

Programme structures and features: levels, assessment blocks, credit and progression and award requirements

- **Compulsory block:** one which all students registered for the award are required to take as part of their programme of study. These will be listed in the left hand column;
- **Optional block:** one which students choose from an 'option range'. These will be listed in the right hand column;
- A **core assessment** is an assessment identified within an assessment block or modular block (either compulsory or optional) which must be passed (at grade D- or better) in order to be eligible to progress and to be eligible for the final award. All core assessments must be specified on the programme specification next to the appropriate assessment or modular block:

Where students are expected to pass the block at D- or better, but not necessarily all elements, then the block itself is core.

e.g. AB3000 Project (40)
Core: Block

Where only some elements of assessments are required to be passed at D- or better, these will be identified by

listing each element that is core
 e.g. ABXXX1 Title (XX credits)
 Core: 1 & 4

Where students are expected to pass all assessments in a block then this will be identified. By setting the assessment this way, students are also required to pass the block by default. This will be identified thus:
 e.g. ABXXXX Title (XX credits)
 Core: All, Block

- A **non-core assessment** does not have to be passed at grade D- or better, but must be better than a grade F, in order to progress and to be eligible for the final award.

Level 1	
Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credit	Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits
Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume	Optional Study block codes, titles and credit volume
Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits All modular blocks are 20 credits PP1600 Research Design and Qualitative methods in Politics PP1601 Modern Political Thought PP1068 Modern British Politics PP1070 Introduction to American Politics PP1602 Introduction to Comparative Politics PP1603 Delivering Public Policy	Optional modular block codes, titles and credits All modular blocks are 20 credits
Level 1 Progression and Award Requirements As per Senate Regulation 2	

Level 2	
Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credits	Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits
Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume	Optional Study block codes, titles and credit volume

<p>Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits</p> <p>All modular blocks are 20 credits</p> <p>PP2623 Comparative Electoral systems PP2611 Explaining Politics: Quantitative Political Science in Practice</p>	<p>Optional modular block codes, titles and credits</p> <p>All modular blocks are 20 credits</p> <p>80 credits from: PP2061 Issues in American Politics PP2613 National Security Intelligence PP2614 Ancient Greek Political Thought: Plato's Republic and Aristotle's Politics PP2615 Unity and Cultural Diversity PP2616 The Cinema and Politics PP2617 Social Welfare: Politics and Policy PP2618 Political Behaviour in Britain PX2607 The State and Revolution</p>
<p>Level 2 Progression and Award Requirements</p> <p>As per Senate Regulation 2</p>	

<p>Level 2 – Sandwich Placement</p>	
<p>Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credits</p>	<p>Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits</p>
<p>Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume</p> <p>PP2554 Politics Pre-Placement Study Block (0 credit)</p>	<p>Optional study block codes, titles and credit volume</p>
<p>Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits</p> <p>PP2555 Work Placement (120 credits) Core: Block</p>	<p>Optional modular block codes, titles and credits</p>
<p>Level 2 Placement Progression and Award Requirements</p> <p>As per Senate Regulation 2 For BSc Politics with Placement, PP2555 will contribute 25% of the Level 2 part of the award (or 8.3 % of the overall degree calculation).</p>	

<p>Level 3</p>	
<p>Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credits</p>	<p>Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits</p>
<p>Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume</p>	<p>Optional study block codes, titles and credit volume</p>

Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits	Optional modular block codes, titles and credits
PP3070 Dissertation (40 credits) Core: Block	All modular blocks are 20 credits 80 credits from: PP3001 Arab-Israeli Conflict PP3003 European Union Politics: Problems and Prospects PP3013 Empire, Imperialism and Hegemony PP3068 Media, Politics and Power in America PP3604 Public Policy Analysis PP3605 Parliamentary Studies PP3607 History of Political Philosophy PP3609 Advanced Applied Quantitative Methods PP3611 Karl Marx and the Critique of Political Economy PP3612 Elections, Parties and Voters in the UK PP3614 Researching Contemporary Issues in British Politics PP3618 Terrorism and Counterterrorism PX3609 Crisis and Critique

Level 3 Progression and Award Requirements

As per [Senate Regulation 2](#)

For BSc Politics with Professional Development, PP2555 will contribute 8.3% of the overall degree weighting.

Please note: this specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods can be found in the modular block, assessment and study block outlines and other programme and block information. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University from time to time and whenever a modification occurs.