



<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Introduction to British Politics</b>
<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>LONS PSUK 130</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Political Science</b>
<b>Credits:</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Semester/Term:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Semester</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>J-Term</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Summer</b>
<b>Course Description:</b>	<p>This course examines the context, procedures and politics of British parliamentary democracy. It progresses through four parts: Introducing British Politics, Institutions and Structure, Britain in the Larger Context, and A Divided Britain. This course examines the context, procedures and politics of British parliamentary democracy. It progresses through four parts: Introducing British Politics, Institutions and Structure, Britain in the Larger Context, and A Divided Britain. Through these parts it engages several key themes in contemporary British Politics, including: Britain's Institutional Democracy, the effects of globalization and global politics on Britain, and the current social and cultural divisions causing tension in British Politics. The question lurking behind all of these discussions will be whether contemporary British Politics is in some kind of crisis and what its future prospects are.</p> <p>The course will employ a mix of lectures, seminars, and field studies out to view British Politics in action. Classes will be of a participatory nature and students are expected to prepare, read widely, and contribute fully to discussions and debates.</p>
<b>Course Requirements:</b>	<p><b>Required Text</b></p> <p>Fully engaging with the 'essential' readings for each week's topic is crucial for contributing to class and successfully completing the course. These essential readings will mainly be drawn from the textbooks below, all of which are available at Senate House Library. However, some weeks, additional readings will be uploaded to Blackboard.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Heffernan, R., P. Cowley &amp; C. Hay (eds.) (2011). <i>Developments in British Politics 9</i>. (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan). <b>ISBN:</b> 0230221742; <b>Cost:</b> To Be Determined.</li><li>2. Jones, B. &amp; P. Norton (eds.), (2010, 7th edition) <i>Politics UK</i>. (Edinburgh: Pearson Education). <b>ISBN:</b> 1405899964; <b>Cost:</b> To Be Determined.</li></ol>



### Assignments

Course Requirements	Percentages
1. Participation	10%
2. Newspapers/Blog	15%
3. Presentation	15%
4. Midterm Exam	20%
5. Final Essay	40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Class Participation

Students will receive a grade out of 10 assessing their contributions in lecture and seminar discussions.

### Newspapers and Blogs

Students will be responsible to keep up with the flow of British political news. This will involve reading at least 1 newspaper (out of a recommended list) each day. For each blog assignment (listed in course schedule) they must then select one article which illustrates the theme for that assignment (listed in course schedule) and write a 500-word blog entry about how that news-story demonstrates that theme.

### Presentations

In week 1, students will be assigned groups and a presentation slot (weeks 2-12) with topic. They will then have to prepare a 10-minute presentation and at least 3 discussion questions on their assigned topic.

### Midterm Exam

In week 6, there will be a 1-hour midterm examination covering all the preceding material of the course. The format of the exam will be discussed in a previous session.



	<p><b>Final Essay</b> The Final assessment will be a 1500-word research paper, the topic of which must be chosen from a pre-approved list released after reading week. Students are expected to research well beyond the course materials, pay attention to proper research and citation practice, and demonstrate original thinking in relation to their questions.</p>															
<p><b>Learning Outcomes and/or Expected Student Competencies and Assessment Measures:</b></p>	<p>On completion of the course, students should be able to:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="467 583 1464 1675"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="467 583 967 697">Learning Outcomes</th> <th data-bbox="967 583 1464 697">Course Requirement that will be used to assess the student's achievement of this outcome</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="467 697 967 852">1. List and describe British political institutions and explain the evolution of the British constitution.</td> <td data-bbox="967 697 1464 852">Newspapers/Blogs, Midterm Exam, and Final Essay</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="467 852 967 1052">2. Describe and analyze interaction between Parliament and other institutions and bodies in both Britain and Europe.</td> <td data-bbox="967 852 1464 1052">Midterm Exam and Final Essay</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="467 1052 967 1207">3. Identify and apply the theoretical approaches to the study of British politics.</td> <td data-bbox="967 1052 1464 1207">Midterm Exam and Final Essay</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="467 1207 967 1440">4. Synthesize information to construct arguments and actively contribute to conversations about current debates and key issues in British politics.</td> <td data-bbox="967 1207 1464 1440">Newspapers/Blogs and Presentation</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="467 1440 967 1596">5. Relate lived experiences from course fieldwork to the media's frame of British Political Culture.</td> <td data-bbox="967 1440 1464 1596">Participation and Newspapers/Blogs</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="467 1596 967 1675">6. Analyze trends and changes in the British political landscape.</td> <td data-bbox="967 1596 1464 1675">Presentation, Midterm Exam, and Final Essay</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Learning Outcomes	Course Requirement that will be used to assess the student's achievement of this outcome	1. List and describe British political institutions and explain the evolution of the British constitution.	Newspapers/Blogs, Midterm Exam, and Final Essay	2. Describe and analyze interaction between Parliament and other institutions and bodies in both Britain and Europe.	Midterm Exam and Final Essay	3. Identify and apply the theoretical approaches to the study of British politics.	Midterm Exam and Final Essay	4. Synthesize information to construct arguments and actively contribute to conversations about current debates and key issues in British politics.	Newspapers/Blogs and Presentation	5. Relate lived experiences from course fieldwork to the media's frame of British Political Culture.	Participation and Newspapers/Blogs	6. Analyze trends and changes in the British political landscape.	Presentation, Midterm Exam, and Final Essay
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<b>Other Policies:</b>	<p><b>Expectations</b> Professional behavior is expected of all students. This includes preparation for classes, on-time attendance at classes, attendance at all group sessions and appropriate participation in the form of attentiveness and contributions to the course. Respect for the academic process is the major guiding principle for professional behavior and extends to all communications, including e-mail.</p> <p><b>Attendance/Participation</b> Prompt attendance, full preparation, and active participation in class discussions are expected from every student in every class session.</p>																										



	<p><b>Course Policies</b> For e-mail communications, students must use their Arcadia University e-mail account. Students are responsible for any information provided by e-mail or through Intranet postings.</p> <p><b>Plagiarism</b> Representation of another's work or ideas as one's own in academic submissions is plagiarism, and is cause for disciplinary action. <i>Cheating</i> is actual or attempted use of resources not authorized by the instructor(s) for academic submissions. Students caught cheating in this course will receive a failing grade. <i>Fabrication</i> is the falsification or creation of data, research or resources to support academic submissions, and cause for disciplinary action.</p> <p><b>Late or Missed Assignments</b> Will not be accepted for grading. Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in a failure of the class.</p> <p><b>Students with Disabilities</b> Persons with documented disabilities requiring accommodations to meet the expectations of this course should disclose this information while enrolling into the program, and before leaving the United States so that appropriate arrangements can be made.</p>
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	None.
<b>Country and Program Connection:</b>	This course will give students a detailed knowledge of British politics and issues, adding important context to their experience of living in London.