

Politics of the United Kingdom  
*For GIS major:* POLS 1120 Introduction to Political Economy, POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science and POLS 2130 Foundations of International Relations

The global political economy is in many ways not a new phenomenon. Imperialism in the form of single nation-states dominating sub-national areas began to impose forms of government and economic regulation worldwide as early as the 18th century. Yet, even so, one could argue that these nation-state empires were relatively isolated global regionalisms until the mid-20th century. Only in the post-World War II period could a more or less voluntary, systematic, and global framework of political and economic relations begin to develop which, while recognizing the nation-state, nevertheless also sublimated it to international protocols and behaviours, and since the end of the Cold War in 1991 the process has accelerated. Today the isolated nation-state has lost much of its sovereignty to the international political economy. This course examines that process and the actors which have developed, or are developing, the international political economy. Challenges to the global international political economy are raised and potential dangers and opportunities examined. This course is open to GIS and ES majors only.

**POLS 3120 World Order Issues (3,2,1)**

*Prerequisite:* Year III standing in GIS major or Year IV standing in ES major or GIS minor (Year III standing)

As the world grows more integrated, as communication and business speed up the changes in our daily lives, the impact of events on our individual lifestyles deepens and the necessity to understand and react intelligently to events and forces affecting us becomes more imperative. This course is the capstone required experience for graduating majors. Guest lectures by outside speakers and members of the Department in their areas of research and specialization are used to inform and provoke students to apply concepts and data acquired in their time of study to current problems facing the global order, and thus, to themselves, their families, and their careers. The personal and the corporate, the local and the global, the present and the future are intended to be brought together in this issue-oriented course which focuses the life experience and academic study of students on their world and the events and forces changing it on a daily, if not hourly, basis.

**POLS 3205 Chinese Legal System (3,2,1)**

The course aims to introduce students to some of the major areas of the current Chinese legal system and traces their historical and political backgrounds. Major areas covered are constitutional, civil, commercial, administrative and criminal laws, as well as the court system and the legislative process. The Basic Law will be examined in relation to its provisions and its significance to Hong Kong after the change of sovereignty in July 1997.

**POLS 3206 Government and Politics of Japan (3,2,1)**

*Prerequisite:* POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science  
 The course focuses on the political development of Japan since 1945. It begins with a historical overview of the rise of modern Japan and an examination of the legacies of the Second World War. The workings of the major political institutions, central and local, are studied, with particular reference to the process of policy-making. It goes on to identify the main political actors, political parties, business groups and labour unions and examines political culture and mass electoral behaviour. The role of Japan in the international system is also assessed.

**POLS 3207 Government and Politics of the United Kingdom (3,2,1)**

This is a course which intends to examine the growth and workings of the British system of parliamentary government. It identifies the key features of the British political and administrative systems, seeks to explain both the changes and the continuities within British politics, and examines the various pressures and challenges to which it is currently exposed under the

New Labour government from Blair to Brown. It also discusses the British approach to European integration since 1945.

**POLS 3215 Government and Politics of the United States (3,2,1)**

*Prerequisite:* POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science  
 This course aims to introduce students to American politics and government by examining the foundational principles and ideas, institutional structures, political processes, and policy-making patterns of the American political system.

**POLS 3217 Political Philosophy: Chinese and European (3,2,1)**

*Prerequisite:* POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science or EURO 1008-9 Europe: Unity and Diversity

This course is designed to introduce major issues of political philosophy and approaches to these issues offered by major Chinese and European thinkers. Particular attention will be paid to theories of state, rights, and liberty. This course is a study of the major political thinkers and issues in European and Chinese political philosophy.

Political philosophy would be focused on the lives and ideas of selected political philosophers. The course will teach the Chinese political philosophy of Confucianism, Mohism, Taoism and Legalism, Neo-Confucianism. Moreover, European political philosophers of Plato, Hobbes, John Locke, Karl Marx, and John Stuart Mill will also be taught respectively.

**POLS 3591-2 Honours Project (3,\*,\*)**

*Prerequisite:* Year III standing in GIS major  
 A final year project is required from all prospective graduates of the GIS major. The project is an extended written report on a specific topic within the field of political science, produced by the student under the supervision of a member of staff.

**POLS 3610 Political Cultures and Economies in Transition (3,2,1)**

*Prerequisite:* *For GIS major:* POLS 1120 Introduction to Political Economy, POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science or POLS 1530 Government and Politics of Hong Kong

*For ES major:* EURO 1111-2 Europe: Unity and Diversity and EURO 2140 The Political Economy of the European Union

This is an interdisciplinary third-year course which explores the recent political and socio-economic evolution of selected societies in the East and the West. Specifically, it focuses on the dynamic interplay of political, economic and cultural forces at the state level of the international system. It also considers similar forces at the regional and global levels which may link or interact with them. While attention is given to the Third World, emphasis will be on Hong Kong and Greater China, Eastern Europe and the Soviet successor states, and the European Union in exploring such transitional currents.

**POLS 3620 Contemporary Europe and Asia (3,2,1)**

*Prerequisite:* *For GIS major:* (1) POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science; and (2) POLS 1520 Government and Politics of China, or POLS 1530 Government and Politics of Hong Kong, or POLS 2160 European Politics and Society: French Political and Government System, or POLS 2170 European Politics and Society: German Political Systems and Society

*For ES major:* EURO 1111-2 Europe: Unity and Diversity and EURO 2140 The Political Economy of the European Union

A course designed to integrate the study of Europe with a knowledge of Europe's relations with Asia since 1945. Emphasis is on the post-colonial development of Asian states' ties with Europe, and with Europe's economic, political, and cultural exchanges with Asia. The problems posed to Euro-Asian relations by relict anti-colonialism, by Cold War rivalries and by geo-