



Module Handbook

Incoming Students

Academic year 2024/2025

Part 2

School of Government and International Affairs
(Politics and International Relations)

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A: THE SCHOOL

The School of Government and International Affairs (SGIA) at Durham University is located in two separate buildings, which are in close proximity to each other; South End House, on the corner of South Road and Elvet Hill Road, accommodates two centrally timetabled teaching rooms, an undergraduate study room with IT access for SGIA students and Wi-Fi access, together with some academic staff offices. The Al-Qasimi Building is just along the road on Elvet Hill Road and is the main School building where the School administrative office is located together with two small lecture rooms, and several seminar/tutorial rooms used for teaching. Wi-Fi internet access is available in the common area for students upstairs. Both buildings are close to several of the University's colleges and within easy walking distance of the University Library and Durham University Business School, approximately 10 minutes walk from Durham city centre and 5 minutes walk from the main lecture theatres on the Science Site where the majority of SGIA's large lectures are held.

A1: European Departmental Coordinator

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B: DEGREE PROGRAMMES OFFERED

The School of Government and International Affairs offers three Honours degrees.

- Politics (BA)
- Politics (Year Abroad) (BA)
- International Relations (BA)

Undergraduate teaching is structured around three main streams: Political Thought, Political Institutions, and International Relations. Students move from generalist courses in these areas in their early years to more specialised options in Honours Politics, and International Relations, which explore the diverse and dynamic politics of the contemporary world.

The School also participates in the following Joint Honours degrees:

- Economics and Politics (BA)
- Philosophy and Politics (BA)
- Philosophy, Politics and Economics (BA) (*Combined Degree*)
- Politics and International Relations (BA)

B1: Degree Structure

All degrees at Durham have a modular structure, consisting of six modules each year for three years. Modules are usually studied over all three terms of the teaching year. All modules are examined or assessed in the year in which they are taught: this means that at the end of the first year there are preliminary examinations, and that the final degree class is determined by the examinations taken in the second and third year.

C: REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

This section contains important information for setting up your academic programme at Durham University. Please read through this section carefully before considering your modules and filling in the Learning Agreement!

C1: General

Choice of Modules

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR STUDENTS: PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR LEARNING AGREEMENT

At Durham University European agreements are signed by individual university departments and are not university-wide agreements. This means that, in general, students will have to choose modules (courses) within the Durham University department through which the European agreement with their home university has been signed (students should check with the Exchange Coordinator in their university if they are not sure which department this is). Modules offered by other departments are subject to availability and can only be taken with prior consent from the relevant department. Certain restrictions may also apply to courses in some departments and students need to follow the advice below carefully before completing their Learning Agreements.

Please clearly indicate the modules you wish to take on your Learning Agreement (included in your application package) for approval by the respective department(s). Before completing your Learning Agreement, it is very important that you read carefully the relevant departmental section(s) of the ECTS Handbook to check which modules are available to you and any restrictions which may apply. It is imperative that a properly completed Learning Agreement is submitted as part of the application form. Only complete applications can be processed.

Section *D: Module Details* provides a list of modules available for European students in the department where the agreement has been established (receiving department) as well as a list of modules available for students coming in through other departments (external departments). Please choose from these modules only!

To find out about the details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content, etc) please

refer to the Faculty Handbook online under <https://www.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/>.

C2: Departmental Requirements and Restrictions

The School of Government and International Affairs only offers European exchange placements at Durham **for a full academic year**. European students from a partner university with which SGIA has an European exchange agreement have unrestricted access to the full undergraduate course catalogue for Single Honours Politics and International Relations. Undergraduate exchange students are generally expected to choose modules for their Learning Agreement from year one, two or three of the undergraduate course catalogue. Exchange students are generally expected to select the modules in their Learning Agreement from the SGIA's module catalogue. Modules in other faculties or departments can only be chosen in exceptional cases and on the basis of a separate learning agreement between the student and the relevant department.

D: MODULE DETAILS

This section contains a list of modules European students can choose from. Please only select from the modules listed in sections D1 or D2 in the ECTS Handbooks for each subject!

To find further details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content, etc) please refer to the Faculty Handbook online under <https://www.dur.ac.uk/faculty.handbook/>.

The School of Government and International Affairs does not offer all the modules listed every year so reserve choices are necessary as the School is unable to guarantee spaces on modules that have not been previously selected however; every effort is made to accommodate European student choices.

D1: Modules available to European students coming on a departmental link

Level 1	Module Title	Module Convener and Teaching Staff	ECTS
SGIA1071	International Security, Interdependence and Organisation	Dr Cameron Harrington	10
SGIA1241	Perspectives of Political Economy	Dr Emma Murphy	10
SGIA1191	Democratic Political Systems	Dr Neil Visalvanich	10
SGIA1201	Researching Politics and International Relations	Dr Adrian Millican	10
SGIA1211	Introduction to Comparative Politics	Dr Resul Umit and Dr Vittorio Merola	10
SGIA1221	Introduction to International Relations	Dr Dennis Schmidt	10
SGIA1231	Introduction to Political Theory	Dr Jessica Begon and Dr Jan Kandiyali	10

Level 2	Module Title	Module Convener and Teaching Staff	ECTS
SGIA2131	International Theory	Dr Kavi Abraham	10
SGIA2161	The Politics of Pacific Asia	Dr Chenchen Zhang	10
SGIA2171	Foundations of Western Political Thought	Prof Julia Stapleton and Dr Jan Kandiyali	10
SGIA2261	International Organisations	Dr Jack Copley and Dr Kevin Miller	10
SGIA2281	Sovereignty, State and Empire	Dr Kavi Abraham	10
SGIA2401	Capitalism: History and Theory	Dr Javier Moreno Zacaes	10
SGIA2391	Middle East and the International System	Dr Marzieh Kouhi-Esfahani	10
SGIA2321	Debates in Political Theory	Dr Lewis Mates	10
SGIA2351	Class and Nation in British Politics	Dr Lewis Mates	10
SGIA2371	Challenges and Conflicts in European Politics	Dr Kyriaki Nanou and Dr Resul Umit	10
SGIA2381	Democracy, Conflict and American Society	Dr Tessa Ditonto	10

Level 3	Module Title	Module Convener and Teaching Staff	ECTS
SGIA3271	Muslims and Politics in the Modern World	Dr Rory McCarthy	10
SGIA3291	Theories of Liberty	Dr Maria Dimova Cookson	10
SGIA3381	China in the Global Political Economy	Dr Gordon Cheung	10
SGIA3441	Elections and British Politics	Prof Nick Vivyan	10
SGIA3801	Advanced Topic in International Political Theory: The International Politics of the Everyday	Prof Ilan Baron	10
SGIA3511	Political Psychology in International Relations	Dr Carly Beckerman	10
SGIA3531	Democratic Practise in the US Campaigns, Elections and Voter Behaviour	Dr Dave Andersen	10
SGIA3561	Social and Political Philosophy	Dr Elizabeth Kahn	10
SGIA3611	Women, Gender and Politics	Dr Tessa Ditonto	10
SGIA3671	Politics of Inequality	Dr Graham Harrison	10

SGIA3681	Poverty or Prosperity? Political Economy Development	Dr Anouk Rigterink	10
SGIA3721	Digital Democracy	Dr Moritz Osnabruegge	10
SGIA3731	Global Politics in Anthropocene: Securing the Environment	Dr Cameron Harrington	10
SGIA3771	Intelligence, The State and International Security	Prof Clive Jones	10
SGIAL3791	Politics of Covid-19	Dr Oliver Belcher	10

All modules are assessed in English and are offered on a full-time basis

Visiting and European students registered on an undergraduate programme should only register for undergraduate modules. Postgraduate students who may want to do undergraduate modules in Languages or at Level 4 are allowed to register.

D2: Modules available to European students coming on an external link (through a different department)

The School of Government and International Affairs regrets that it is unable to offer any modules to students coming to Durham on links with other departments. Arrangements can be made in exceptional cases on an individual basis.