University of Wolverhampton

Course Specification

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Produced By:	Pamela Virdi
Status:	Validated Online

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Social, Historical and Political Studies		
Course Code(s):	IR004K23UM	Sandwich	4 Years
UCAS Code:	L291		
Course Title:	BA(Hons) Politics and International Relations with Sandwich Placement		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Politics and International Relations Bachelor of Arts with Honours Politics and International Relations Bachelor of Arts Politics and International Relations Politics and International Relations Politics and International Relations Politics and International Relations		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	17/Mar/2022		
Last Review:			
Course Specification valid from:	2021/2		
Course Specification valid to:	2027/8		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Dr Alan Apperley
Head of Department:	

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

Entry requirements are determined by the faculty and published on the university website for each academic year. Typical entry requirements: • 96-112 UCAS points with a minimum of 72 points from at least two A-Levels • BTEC QCF Extended Diploma grade MMM, BTEC QCF Diploma grade DD • Access to HE Diploma full award (Pass of 60 credits - of which a minimum of 45 credits must be at level 3 including 18 at Merit or Distinction) English Language requirements are normally IELTS 6.0 equivalent with a minimum of 5.5 in each area (unless otherwise stated) or equivalent accepted qualification https://www.wlv.ac.uk/international/international-academy/english-at-the-international-academy/language-entry-requirements/ We accept the Wolverhampton English Proficiency Exam (WEPE), our own exam for candidates. Please see https://www.wlv.ac.uk/international/international-academy/english-at-the-international-academy/english-language-pathway-courses/wolverhampton-english-proficiency-examination-we/ If you do not have the level of English required, you can also do our Presessional. See https://www.wlv.ac.uk/international/international-academy/english-at-the-international-academy/english-language-pathway-courses/english-language-pre-sessional-courses/

Distinctive Features of the Course:

Politics today is shaped not only by domestic issues, but perhaps more importantly by a range of international and global issues that even the most inward-looking States can't ignore. From migration, through the trafficking of people and drugs, to international crime and terrorism, and on to the climate crisis, the study of Politics and International Relations takes us to the heart of issues that are reshaping our world. But addressing these issues is not only a task for politicians and States, important as these may be, and so here at Wolverhampton we also explore the many local, regional and international organisations that work together with States to find sustainable solutions to these global issues. Studying Politics and International Relations at Wolverhampton offers you an opportunity not only to engage with a wide range of current concerns facing the international community, but also encourages you to explore how you might make a difference in shaping a response to these issues. To this end, our curriculum not only provides you with conceptual and intellectual tools that will help you to better understand how international relations work, but also provides you with the knowledge and skills required to engage with those organisations and institutions – political and non-political – that work in the field of international problem-solving. In this regard, your Sandwich Placement year will provide you with a valuable opportunity to gain practical experience of working within and for a company or organisation connected with the fields of Politics and International Relations. Although your programme of study will help you to develop and refine key subject-specific skills geared towards academic success your Sandwich Placement will give you first-hand experience of how professional organisations work to achieve their goals. You will not only gain valuable practical experience of working in a professional environment, but will also build valuable contacts while developing an experience-based skillset that future employers will value.

Educational Aims of the Course:

Politics is about making a difference, but in today's world some of the most important issues we face require citizens, states, regional and international organisations to work together to find viable and sustainable

solutions. The study of Politics and International Relations at Wolverhampton explores not only the ways in which politicians, parties, organisations and institutions interact in their attempts to solve international problems, but also what role we as citizens in a globalised world might play in tackling these issues. To assist you in this task, we provide a learning environment that combines digital spaces with in-class, face-to-face teaching in the form of lectures, seminars, workshops and individual tutorials. In these activities, and in the assessed work you produce for us, you will develop your ability to gather, interpret, evaluate and think critically about a range of sources. You will also refine your ability to communicate your findings using a variety of media in writing, verbally and visually. These skills are not only essential for your academic work, but are also much in demand in the world of graduate employment. These essential skills will be developed and refined at length during your placement year in which you will engage with an external organisation working in the field of politics and international relations. During this placement, you will have an opportunity to gain valuable insight into how organisations negotiate the boundaries between issues and policies at the local, regional and international level. Working closely with your placement liaison and academic supervisors, you will produce a fully-researched report that will enable you to put your academic knowledge and skills to practical effect, to the benefit of your host organisation. Engagement with the world outside academia is not only encouraged by the placement year, however. Modules such as Volunteering in Action and Community Engagement and Social Change actively encourage you to explore Politics and International Relations not only as an academic subject, but as one that aims to enhance your understanding of the possibilities for shaping solutions, not just at the political level, but also in your individual capacity as a Global Citizen. To this end, and throughout the course, we will encourage you to develop your own specific interests in relation to political issues in international space, pursuing these through case studies and self-directed research tasks, to become a confident and independent researcher prepared for either graduate employment or post-graduate work, should you choose to continue your studies at Masters level.

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2020/1	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£12250.00
2021/2	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2021/2	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£12950.00
2022/3	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2022/3	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£13450.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4HS004	Europe and the Americas, 1776-1914	20	SEM1	Core
4HS005	Britain and the World	20	SEM2	Core
4IR001	Introduction to International Relations	20	SEM1	Core
4IR002	Current Issues in International Relations	20	SEM2	Core
4PO008	Issues in Contemporary British Politics	20	SEM1	Core
4WR002	Thinking About War and Peace	20	SEM2	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5HS014	Research in Action	20	SEM2	Core
5IR002	World Politics	20	SEM2	Core
5PO003	Contemporary Political Ideologies	20	SEM1	Core

Group 01 | Min Value: 40 | Max Value: 40

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5HS013	Campaigning and Citizenship: Women's Activism, 1790s-1970s	20	SEM1	
5WR007	Political Violence	20	SEM1	
5WR010	From Inter to Intranational? The Changing Nature of War and Conflict	20	SEM1	

Group 01 | Min Value: 20 | Max Value: 20

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5SA017	Community Engagement and Social Change	20	SEM2	
5SL008	Volunteering in Action	20	SEM2	

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5IR003	International Relations Sandwich Placement	20	YEAR	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6IR002	Sustainable Development and International Relations	20	SEM2	Core
6PO009	Political Concepts and their use	20	SEM1	Core

Linked Option Group Rule: Select a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits from the linked (*) groups.

* Group 01 | Min Value: 0 | Max Value: 20

You must select one project/Independent Study module at Level 6. You are advised to study this in your final semester (semester 2)

Module	Title	Credits	Period
6IR003	Independent Study - Written Project	20	SEM1
6PO004	Project (Politics)	20	SEM1

Linked Option Group Rule: Select a minimum of 60 credits and a maximum of 60 credits from the linked (*) groups.

* Group 01 | Min Value: 20 | Max Value: 40

Select 2 option modules, unless you are undertaking a Project/Independent Study module this semester, in which case select 1 option module from this group.

Module	Title	Credits	Period
6IR001	The Rise of Asia in International Politics	20	SEM1
6PO005	Security and Integration in the New Europe	20	SEM1
6PO010	Contemporary Global Issues	20	SEM1

Linked Option Group Rule: Select a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits from the linked (*) groups.

* Group 01 | Min Value: 0 | Max Value: 20

You must select one project/Independent Study module at Level 6. You are advised to study this in your final semester (semester 2)

Module	Title	Credits	Period
6IR004	Independent Study - Written Project	20	SEM2
6PO004	Project (Politics)	20	SEM2

Linked Option Group Rule: Select a minimum of 60 credits and a maximum of 60 credits from the linked (*) groups.

* Group 01 | Min Value: 20 | Max Value: 40

Select 2 option modules, unless you are undertaking a Project/Independent Study module this semester, in which case select 1 option module from this group.

6HS001	America: The Rise of a Superpower, 1890-1945	20	SEM2
6PO008	India in a Global World	20	SEM2
6SL016	Nations and Nationalism	20	SEM2

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

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Reference Points:

Politics and International Relations (2019)

Overview of Assessment:

Learning Outcomes	Modules
CERTHE01 Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with your area(s) of study, and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of that area of study	4HS004 Europe and the Americas, 1776-1914 4HS005 Britain and the World 4IR001 Introduction to International Relations 4IR002 Current Issues in International Relations 4PO008 Issues in Contemporary British Politics 4WR002 Thinking About War and Peace
CERTHE02 Demonstrate an ability to present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts of your subject(s) of study.	4HS004 Europe and the Americas, 1776-1914 4HS005 Britain and the World 4PO008 Issues in Contemporary British Politics
CERTHE03 Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to your area(s) of study and/or work	4IR001 Introduction to International Relations 4IR002 Current Issues in International Relations 4PO008 Issues in Contemporary British Politics 4WR002 Thinking About War and Peace
CERTHE04 Communicate the results of your study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments	4HS004 Europe and the Americas, 1776-1914 4HS005 Britain and the World 4IR001 Introduction to International Relations 4IR002 Current Issues in International Relations 4PO008 Issues in Contemporary British Politics 4WR002 Thinking About War and Peace
CERTHE05 Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility	4HS004 Europe and the Americas, 1776-1914 4HS005 Britain and the World 4IR001 Introduction to International Relations

Learning Outcomes	Modules
	4IR002 Current Issues in International Relations 4WR002 Thinking About War and Peace
DIPHE01 Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles of your area(s) of study, and of the way in which those principles have developed with an understanding of the limits of your knowledge, and how this influences analyses and interpretations based on that knowledge.	5HS013 Campaigning and Citizenship: Women's Activism, 1790s-1970s 5HS014 Research in Action 5IR002 World Politics 5SA017 Community Engagement and Social Change 5WR010 From Inter to Intranational? The Changing Nature of War and Conflict 5HS013 Campaigning and Citizenship: Women's Activism, 1790s-1970s 5HS014 Research in Action 5IR002 World Politics 5IR003 International Relations Sandwich Placement 5SA017 Community Engagement and Social Change 5WR010 From Inter to Intranational? The Changing Nature of War and Conflict
DIPHE02 Demonstrate the ability to apply underlying concepts and principles outside the context in which they were first studied, including, where appropriate, the application of those principles in an employment context.	5HS014 Research in Action 5PO003 Contemporary Political Ideologies 5SA017 Community Engagement and Social Change 5SL008 Volunteering in Action 5WR007 Political Violence 5WR010 From Inter to Intranational? The Changing Nature of War and Conflict 5HS014 Research in Action 5IR003 International Relations Sandwich Placement 5PO003 Contemporary Political Ideologies 5SA017 Community Engagement and Social Change 5SL008 Volunteering in Action 5WR007 Political Violence 5WR010 From Inter to Intranational? The Changing Nature of War and Conflict
DIPHE03 Demonstrate knowledge of the main methods of enquiry in the subject(s) relevant to the named award, and ability to evaluate critically the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in the field of study.	5HS013 Campaigning and Citizenship: Women's Activism, 1790s-1970s 5HS014 Research in Action 5IR002 World Politics 5IR003 International Relations Sandwich Placement 5SA017 Community Engagement and Social Change 5SL008 Volunteering in Action 5WR007 Political Violence
DIPHE04 Use a range of established techniques to initiate and undertake critical analysis of information, and to propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis.	5HS013 Campaigning and Citizenship: Women's Activism, 1790s-1970s 5IR002 World Politics 5IR003 International Relations Sandwich Placement 5PO003 Contemporary Political Ideologies 5SA017 Community Engagement and Social Change 5SL008 Volunteering in Action 5WR010 From Inter to Intranational? The Changing Nature of War and Conflict
DIPHE05 Effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences, and deploy key techniques of the discipline effectively.	5HS013 Campaigning and Citizenship: Women's Activism, 1790s-1970s 5HS014 Research in Action 5IR003 International Relations Sandwich Placement 5SA017 Community Engagement and Social Change 5SL008 Volunteering in Action 5WR007 Political Violence
DIPHE06 Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment, requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making and undertake further training, developing existing skills and acquire new	5HS014 Research in Action 5IR002 World Politics 5IR003 International Relations Sandwich Placement 5SA017 Community Engagement and Social Change

Learning Outcomes	Modules
competences that will enable them to assume significant responsibility within organisations.	5SL008 Volunteering in Action 5WR007 Political Violence 5WR010 From Inter to Intranational? The Changing Nature of War and Conflict
BHONSN01 Demonstrate an ability to identify and critically compare different concepts, theories and methodologies employed in the study of both Politics and International Relations	6HS001 America: The Rise of a Superpower, 1890-1945 6IR001 The Rise of Asia in International Politics 6IR002 Sustainable Development and International Relations 6IR003 Independent Study - Written Project 6IR004 Independent Study - Written Project 6PO004 Project (Politics) 6PO005 Security and Integration in the New Europe
BHONSN02 Demonstrate proficiency in the generic transferable and subject-specific skills used in the study of Politics and International Relations	6HS001 America: The Rise of a Superpower, 1890-1945 6IR001 The Rise of Asia in International Politics 6IR002 Sustainable Development and International Relations 6IR003 Independent Study - Written Project 6IR004 Independent Study - Written Project 6PO004 Project (Politics) 6PO005 Security and Integration in the New Europe 6PO008 India in a Global World 6PO009 Political Concepts and their use 6PO010 Contemporary Global Issues 6SL016 Nations and Nationalism
BHONSN03 Show understanding of the relevance of political institutions at local, national, regional and international level to the origins, framing and attempted resolution of contemporary political issues	6HS001 America: The Rise of a Superpower, 1890-1945 6IR001 The Rise of Asia in International Politics 6IR002 Sustainable Development and International Relations 6IR003 Independent Study - Written Project 6IR004 Independent Study - Written Project 6PO004 Project (Politics) 6PO008 India in a Global World 6PO010 Contemporary Global Issues
BHONSN04 Identify and critically evaluate the role of a variety of political actors (e.g. parties, pressure groups, lobby groups, activist movements, and citizens) in relation to the shaping of problems and solutions in the fields of Politics and International Relations	6IR001 The Rise of Asia in International Politics 6IR002 Sustainable Development and International Relations 6IR003 Independent Study - Written Project 6IR004 Independent Study - Written Project 6PO004 Project (Politics) 6PO008 India in a Global World 6PO010 Contemporary Global Issues 6SL016 Nations and Nationalism
BHONSN05 Demonstrate an ability to employ appropriate technologies in a digitally literate way to support research, process data and produce written work and presentational material	6HS001 America: The Rise of a Superpower, 1890-1945 6IR001 The Rise of Asia in International Politics 6IR002 Sustainable Development and International Relations 6IR003 Independent Study - Written Project 6IR004 Independent Study - Written Project 6PO004 Project (Politics) 6PO005 Security and Integration in the New Europe 6PO008 India in a Global World 6PO009 Political Concepts and their use 6PO010 Contemporary Global Issues 6SL016 Nations and Nationalism
BHONSN06 Show understanding of your own role and ethical responsibilities as an active Global Citizen in relation to a variety of practical political policy issues at local, national, regional and international level	6IR002 Sustainable Development and International Relations 6IR003 Independent Study - Written Project 6IR004 Independent Study - Written Project 6PO004 Project (Politics) 6PO005 Security and Integration in the New Europe
BHONS01 Demonstrate an ability to identify and critically compare different concepts, theories and methodologies employed in the study of both Politics and International Relations and relate these to actual case studies drawn from IR	6HS001 America: The Rise of a Superpower, 1890-1945 6IR001 The Rise of Asia in International Politics 6IR002 Sustainable Development and International Relations 6IR003 Independent Study - Written Project 6IR004 Independent Study - Written Project 6PO004 Project (Politics) 6PO005 Security and Integration in the New Europe

Learning Outcomes	Modules
BHONS02 Demonstrate a high level of proficiency in the generic transferable and subject-specific skills used in the study of Politics and International Relations and exercise critical judgement in their deployment	6HS001 America: The Rise of a Superpower, 1890-1945 6IR001 The Rise of Asia in International Politics 6IR002 Sustainable Development and International Relations 6IR003 Independent Study - Written Project 6IR004 Independent Study - Written Project 6PO004 Project (Politics) 6PO005 Security and Integration in the New Europe 6PO008 India in a Global World 6PO009 Political Concepts and their use 6PO010 Contemporary Global Issues 6SL016 Nations and Nationalism
BHONS03 Clearly articulate a critical understanding of the relevance of political institutions at local, national, regional and international level to the origins, framing and attempted resolution of a range of contemporary political issues and of the strengths and limitations of these institutions	6HS001 America: The Rise of a Superpower, 1890-1945 6IR001 The Rise of Asia in International Politics 6IR002 Sustainable Development and International Relations 6IR003 Independent Study - Written Project 6IR004 Independent Study - Written Project 6PO004 Project (Politics) 6PO008 India in a Global World 6PO010 Contemporary Global Issues
BHONS04 Identify and critically evaluate the role of a variety of political and non-political actors (e.g. parties, pressure groups, lobby groups, activist movements, and citizens) in relation to the shaping of problems and solutions in the fields of Politics and International Relations and of the strengths and limitations of these actors	6IR001 The Rise of Asia in International Politics 6IR002 Sustainable Development and International Relations 6IR003 Independent Study - Written Project 6IR004 Independent Study - Written Project 6PO004 Project (Politics) 6PO008 India in a Global World 6PO010 Contemporary Global Issues 6SL016 Nations and Nationalism
BHONS05 Demonstrate an ability to employ appropriate technologies in relation to a range of platforms in digitally literate, enterprising and creative ways to support research, process data and produce written work and presentational material to a high quality	6HS001 America: The Rise of a Superpower, 1890-1945 6IR001 The Rise of Asia in International Politics 6IR002 Sustainable Development and International Relations 6IR003 Independent Study - Written Project 6IR004 Independent Study - Written Project 6PO004 Project (Politics) 6PO005 Security and Integration in the New Europe 6PO008 India in a Global World 6PO009 Political Concepts and their use 6PO010 Contemporary Global Issues 6SL016 Nations and Nationalism
BHONS06 Develop and refine your understanding of your own role and ethical responsibilities as an active Global Citizen in relation to a variety of practical political policy issues at local, national, regional and international level	6IR002 Sustainable Development and International Relations 6IR003 Independent Study - Written Project 6IR004 Independent Study - Written Project 6PO004 Project (Politics) 6PO005 Security and Integration in the New Europe

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

In the delivery of our Politics and International Studies offer here at Wolverhampton, we employ a wide range of learning and teaching activities, as well as a variety of assessment tasks, in order to meet the needs of a diverse body of students. Our approach to the delivery of our course empowers students, as they move through the various levels of study, to become successful independent learners, capable of exercising independence of mind, and creativity in the development, execution and delivery of specific research tasks. At all stages of this journey, students are guided and supported in the development of a range of study skills appropriate not only to their chosen subject but also to their needs as individual learners. Teaching: Our approach to the teaching of our courses recognises that different students learn in different ways and at different speeds. We therefore employ a flexible approach to the delivery of our material, making full use of digital technology which may be accessed at a time and place of the student's own choosing. This includes, where appropriate, live or pre-recorded lectures, lecture slides, sources, links and other course materials being made available within the University's dedicated Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and accessible through dedicated Apps. We do not, however, solely employ digital platforms for the delivery of our material, and in-

class, face-to-face discussion takes place regularly throughout our modules. These are environments in which course materials may be delivered via lectures, but they are also – and perhaps more importantly – spaces in which students are encouraged to develop their confidence in discussing and debating topics not only with their tutors, but also with their peers, in the context of group-based discussions and set tasks. This approach has educational value, but it also has the aim of developing individual students' inter-personal and communication skills which will enhance their employability after they have graduated. Learning: The study of Politics and International Relations here at Wolverhampton entails a flexible and adaptable approach to the specific needs of individual learners. We recognise the importance to students of learning in the best way that suits them as individuals, and on this basis we provide a supportive environment in which students can feel empowered to take responsibility for their own learning. This aim is achieved in part through an approach to learning that is staged throughout the levels of study, with students at Level 4 receiving a strong study-skills based introduction to the practicalities and intellectual challenges of studying at university, which for many students entails a period of adjustment to Higher Education learning expectations. Study skills tasks are therefore built into our Level 4 provision, and are reflected in the assessment tasks students engage in at the modular level. At Level 5 students are encouraged to develop and refine their confidence in handling conceptual and theoretical approaches to their topic through the study of key ideas and ideologies framing our understanding of political issues and international concerns. Students not only encounter these ideas and concepts, but are also encouraged to explore their practical importance in relation to specific case studies which they may choose for themselves, thereby gaining confidence in devising their own research projects. The placement year provides students with an opportunity, not only to experience first-hand how professional organisations work to achieve their goals, but also to explore the ways in which academic concerns engage with – and help shape our understanding of – practical actions and decisions in happening in the world beyond the classroom and lecture theatre. At Level 6 we expect students to be working at a high level of independence, and this is perhaps exemplified best by the requirement that they produce a substantial piece of self-designed, self-managed research (the 'Independent Study – Written Project') which students are encouraged to view as evidence of their capabilities in gather, analysing and presenting complex information when they either seek employment having completed their studies, or in pursing their studies at Post-graduate level. However, the Independent Study - Written Project module is not the only module in which students are expected to demonstrate a high level of independent ability. All Level 6 modules are designed to provide opportunities for students to demonstrate their ability to synthesise complex information, analyse the results and communicate them confidently and in a manner that is appropriate to their intended audience. Assessment: The assessment tasks reflect the developmental approach we take towards learning and teaching. Many of our modules will contain formative assessment tasks – some assessed, some not – which provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate their skills and understanding whilst receiving constructive feedback enabling them to further refine their approach prior to attempting the summative assignments with which their modules conclude. The feedback students receive for their summative tasks itself serves two distinct but inter-related functions: (a) it provides an opportunity on the part of students to reflect on the work they've done during the module; and (b) provides suggestions as to how improvements might be made in relation to the modules they are yet to take. Inevitably, at Level 4, many of the assignments – formative and summative – will contain a study skills component as this (a) bridges the move from school to Higher Education and (b) provides a solid, skills-based foundation for the higher levels of study to come. At Level 5 we expect the students to be demonstrating facility with ideas and concepts, relating these to empirical examples and practical issues drawn from the fields of politics and international relations. In pursuit of these goals, we employ a wide range of assessment tasks including essays, reports, case studies, and presentations (online and in-class) all of which are designed collectively to develop and enhance students' critical and analytical skills, as well as their written and verbal communication skills, and their digital literacy, thereby also enhancing their employability.

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes) Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation) Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills

assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

University Learning Centres are the key source of academic information for students. Learning Centres provide physical library resources (books, journal, DVDs etc.) and offer a range of study areas to allow students to study in the environment that suit them best: Social areas, quiet and silent areas. Learning Centres also provide access to wide range of online information sources, including eBooks, e-Journals and subject databases. Learning Centres also provide students with academic skills support via the Skills for Learning programme. Students on campus can attend workshops or ask for one-to-one help on a range of skills such as academic writing and referencing. Students can access a range of online skills material at: www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills. The University Student Support website offers advice on a variety of matters (careers, counselling, student union advice, etc.) Students can also access these services by booking appointment with the SU, careers, counselling services, etc. Course Specific Support: the Politics and International Studies team is committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for its students especially, though not exclusively, in relation to the transition from school to university. This is achieved in part through in-module study skills provision with a particular focus on our first-year of study where time in class and online is dedicated to discussing, exploring and practising those skills that are necessary to achieve academic success. Opportunities for applying these skills – and for receiving constructive feedback on their use – is also built into assessment tasks at this level and all assessed work – whatever the level of study – receives constructive feedback so that students may continually develop and refine their abilities as they progress. At all levels of study, tutors work closely with students in class to 'unpack' and explain the assessment tasks so that students' well-being and confidence in their progress is maintained. Politics and International Studies staff work closely with the Faculty's academic support tutors which include the Faculty-based Academic Coaches at Level 4, with whom students may book appointments to discuss a range of issues relating to their studies. Beyond Level 4, all students are allocated a dedicated personal tutor whose remit is not only the student's academic progress, but also the student's overall well-being. Finally, the teaching team makes a point of inviting colleagues from other departments such as the Learning Centre (Library), Careers Team and so on to discuss in-class their work so that students are not only made aware of the facilities available to them, but are also kept up to speed with developments in these areas.

Employability in the Curriculum:

Politics and International Relations equips students with a range of skills appropriate to graduate employment. Whilst the subject-specific skills acquired will enable students to undertake further research at post-graduate level, the transferrable skills will ensure that they are attractive to those professions which value independently-minded individuals with good communication skills across a range of platforms, digital and otherwise, who are capable of thinking critically and creatively, and are capable of producing high quality research to tightly-specified briefs. In modules such as Volunteering in Action, Community Engagement and Social Change, and your Sandwich Placement, you will have the opportunity to explore at first hand the links between politics and society at the local level and examine how the local links to the regional and the international. These modules and others help you not only to develop your academic talents but also encourage you to develop an emotionally-intelligent approach to the understanding of social and political problems, and to devise solutions to those problems that are sensitive to the needs of others – whether as individuals, communities or peoples. The skills and personal qualities (Graduate Attributes) developed in these activities are valuable to employers in both the public and private sectors and graduates will find employment in fields such as public administration, local and national Government, advocacy (e.g. non-governmental organisations such as think tanks, charities etc.) as well as the communications sector such as marketing, public relations, media and journalism.