

Course Specification

Published Date:	02-Apr-2019
Produced By:	Oliver Jones
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Social, Historical and Political Studies		
Course Code(s):	SA003K23UV	Sandwich	4 Years
UCAS Code:	LL43		
Course Title:	BA (Hons) Politics and Social Policy with Sandwich Placement		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Politics and Social Policy, having satisfactorily completed a sandwich placement Bachelor of Arts Politics and Social Policy, having satisfactorily completed a sandwich placement Diploma of Higher Education Politics and Social Policy, having satisfactorily completed a sandwich placement Certificate of Higher Education Politics and Social Policy, having satisfactorily completed a sandwich placement University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	26/Sep/2016		
Last Review:	2015/6		
Course Specification valid from:	2009/0		
Course Specification valid to:	2021/2		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Dr Michael Cunningham
Head of Department:	Dr David Hussey

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)

2017 Entry

- 'A' levels at grades BBC - CCC
- 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).
- If you've got other qualifications or relevant experience, please contact [The Gateway](#) for further advice before applying.
- Successful completion of the foundation year of our [BA \(Hons\) Law and Social Sciences with Foundation Year](#) guarantees entry on to this course
- International student language requirements and application guidance can be found at <http://www.wlv.ac.uk/international/apply>
- Successful completion of the [International Foundation Year in Social Sciences](#) guarantees entry on to this course

Other Requirements

Students must have studied a minimum of two years post GCSE level. However, it is expected that some applicants will be mature students with work experience, who wish to further their career development. These applicants will be processed through standard procedures, which may involve an interview as part of the process. Please see <http://wlv.ac.uk/mature> for further information.

Those who do not meet the entry requirements may be offered an alternative course.

Distinctive Features of the Course:

Practical Experience: An opportunity at the first two levels of the course to undertake a placement module which will provide invaluable practical experience or a supervised placement sandwich module.

Pastoral support: We pride ourselves in our supportive culture with a large team of academic and student support staff to provide excellent pastoral care and support together with a welcoming academic environment in which to undertake your degree.

Research-led: Our research-led teaching ensures that you will be learning about the very latest debates in policy and practice.

A placement can be undertaken anywhere; local, national or even, in some instances, international. During a placement, you will be doing similar work to a normal employee of the organisation giving you a unique insight into your chosen profession or sector, the opportunity to acquire crucial personal skills and also the opportunity to build a network of useful contacts. Many companies that employ graduates use placement programmes as a method of recruitment so you could be fast tracked into employment or onto one of their graduate schemes if you impress them.

The team at [The Workplace](#) constantly search for new placement opportunities but if you find an opportunity

that interests you or you have been successful in securing one yourself, contact them for further information and support.

Educational Aims of the Course:

This wide-ranging and work-focused course provides an interdisciplinary study of Politics and Social Policy. Students will engage in debates around what we mean by a socially fair and just society, and the policies a government should pursue to achieve one. The degree will also help to explain important global phenomenon including recent events like the war on terror and the impact of the international economic crisis

The degree will allow students to develop an understanding of contemporary social problems, such as poverty, inequalities in health, and underachievement in schools and the policies in place to address these issues. Alongside this students will investigate the institutions, processes and procedures through which interests are expressed, the theories we use in understanding political activity, and the factors motivating and legitimising it.

Teaching and learning is designed to support digital literacy. Students will acquire the skills necessary to gather evidence and apply theories to a range of social and political issues. Students are encouraged to share knowledge and be enterprising with their ideas. Global comparative perspectives are incorporated in the degree providing students with the opportunity to learn about society and politics in other countries.

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

HE FUNDING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND (HEFCE)

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
2017/8	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2017/8	EU	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2017/8	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£11475.00
2018/9	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2018/9	EU	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2018/9	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£11700.00
2019/0	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2019/0	EU	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2019/0	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£12000.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

September (Sandwich)

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

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4SA007	The Development of the Welfare State: 1945-2010	20	SEM1	Core
4PO003	Introduction to British Politics	20	SEM1	Core
4SA008	Contemporary Social Policy	20	SEM2	Core
4PO002	Introduction to International Relations	20	SEM2	Core

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits

4GK006	Success in Higher Education	20	SEM1	
4PO005	Campaigning and Citizenship: Women in Britain and its Empire from 1800 to 1950	20	SEM1	
4WL002	Basic Language	20	SEM1	
4WL003	Elementary Language	20	SEM1	

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits

4SL011	Volunteering in the Community	20	SEM2	
4PO006	Contemporary Capitalism	20	SEM2	
4GK006	Success in Higher Education	20	SEM2	
4WL002	Basic Language	20	SEM2	
4WL003	Elementary Language	20	SEM2	

September (Sandwich)

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

Year 2

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5PO003	Contemporary Political Ideologies	20	SEM1	Core
5PO004	World Politics	20	SEM2	Core
5SA009	Communities in Social Policy	20	SEM2	Core

Linked Option Group Rule: Select a minimum of 40 credits and a maximum of 40 credits from the linked (*) groups.

***For this option group you must choose a minimum of 0 credits and a maximum of 20 credits**

If you are intending to study 5SA013 (Social Science Work Placement) you will not need to choose ANY option modules from this group.

5PO006	Contemporary Britain	20	SEM1
5WL001	Basic Language	20	SEM1
5WL002	Elementary Language	20	SEM1

***For this option group you must choose a minimum of 0 credits and a maximum of 20 credits**

If you are intending to study 5SA013 (Social Science Work Placement) you will not need to choose ANY option modules from this group.

5SL008	Volunteering in Action	20	SEM2
5PO005	Europe United? European Politics, Societies, Cultures	20	SEM2
5WL001	Basic Language	20	SEM2
5WL002	Elementary Language	20	SEM2
5SC002	Evaluating and Using Research in Applied social Studies	20	SEM2

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits

5SA007	Paying for Welfare	20	SEM1
5SA014	Families, Children and the State	20	SEM1

Linked Option Group Rule: Select a minimum of 40 credits and a maximum of 40 credits from the linked (*) groups.

***For this option group you must choose a minimum of 0 credits and a maximum of 40 credits**

5SA013	Social Science Placement	40	YEAR
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September (Sandwich)

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

Year 3

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5LW022	Supervised Placement Year	40	YEAR	Core

September (Sandwich)

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

Year 4

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6PO003	Political Theory	20	SEM2	Core
6SA003	Approaches to Poverty and Social Exclusion	20	SEM1	Core

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

***For this option group you must choose a minimum of 0 credits and a maximum of 20 credits**

Please note: If you choose a Independent study/project module in semester 1 you should also choose one other option module. From semester 2 you should then choose 2 option modules.

6SA004	Independent Project in Social Policy	20	SEM1	
6PO004	Project (Politics)	20	SEM1	
6SA007	Community Link in Social Policy	20	SEM1	
6HS013	Work Placement in the Community	20	SEM1	

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 40 credits

6CJ006	Controlling Crime	20	SEM1	
6PO005	Security and Integration in the New Europe	20	SEM1	
6PO001	Democracy and Terrorism: Conflict Resolution in Northern Ireland	20	SEM1	
6SA005	Policy-Making in Britain	20	SEM1	
6WL001	Intermediate/Advanced Language	20	SEM1	

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 40 credits

6SA001	Participation and Policy	20	SEM2
6PO002	The Politics of the Middle East	20	SEM2
6SA008	Social Policy of Work and Labour Markets	20	SEM2
6WL001	Intermediate/Advanced Language	20	SEM2

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

***For this option group you must choose a minimum of 0 credits and a maximum of 20 credits**

Please note: If you choose a Independent study/project module in semester 2 you should also choose one other option module. From semester 1 you should then choose 2 option modules.

6SA004	Independent Project in Social Policy	20	SEM2
6PO004	Project (Politics)	20	SEM2
6SA007	Community Link in Social Policy	20	SEM2
6HS013	Work Placement in the Community	20	SEM2

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

1.3.1 - Each course will be made up of units of study called modules. Modules are discrete units of assessed learning at a given level, with coherent aims and learning outcomes. One independent study/dissertation 40 credit module will be permitted at level 6. A 60 credit dissertation/project module must be included at level 7 for the Masters award.

Whilst it is normal for a 40 credit module to be only available at level six as an independent study module, the option to have a year-long placement with an external organisation is an excellent opportunity to apply knowledge learned on the course and to enhance employability. However, it is felt that this is an opportunity best given to students at level five on this course to avoid too much independent study in the final year and to allow students to develop experiences and focus within a topic prior to starting their dissertation.

One of the key elements of Social Policy at the University is its strong links with external partners as well as students graduating with a strong employability profile. We are looking to build on this position by incorporating a year-long optional placement module within the second programme where students will spend time with an external organisation working on a defined piece of work. In addition to being academically rigorous, the placement will allow students to graduate with not just a final year dissertation where they have investigated a topic independently and in-depth, but also an independent piece of work that has been carried out with an external organisation and evidence a range of employability and independent skills whilst applying their social policy knowledge.

For this to happen in meaningful and effective manner that will be useful to external partners and also allow the students sufficient opportunity to become involved, contribute towards and write-up a defined piece of work whilst still studying, the module would need to run through the whole academic year, ie, across both semesters one and two. Furthermore, for the workload that would be expected, this goes beyond the remit of a

standard 20 credits and, as such, the module would need to be 40 credits.

Section 1.2.7 - Exemption to permit a 40 credit Placement module at Level 5 to contribute towards independent study in addition to 40 credits worth at Level 6 (exceeding the maximum of 60 credits permitted for an undergraduate honours degree programme);

5SA013 Social Science Placement (40 credits).

APPROVED by AFRSC (10/11/2016).

Reference Points:

- QAA Subject Benchmarks for Politics and Social Policy
- University Assessment Strategy – a wide range of differing assessment strategies have been chosen to ensure that the full range of skills are developed.
- Equality Act 2010

Learning Outcomes:

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 1 (CHECLO1)

"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"

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 2 (CHECLO2)

"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."

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 1 (DHECLO1)

"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."

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 2 (DHECLO2)

"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"

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 3 (DHECLO3)

"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"

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 4 (DHECLO4)

"Use a range of established techniques to initiate and undertake critical analysis of information, and to propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis"

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 1 (ORDCLO1)

Apply social policy theories to analyse social needs and policy intervention

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 2 (ORDCLO2)

Be able to identify and critically compare different concepts and methodologies used in Politics and Social Policy.

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 3 (ORDCLO3)

Have a knowledge of the political history and institutions of the UK and globally one other area.

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 4 (ORDCLO4)

Be familiar with the major ideological traditions in Politics

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 5 (ORDCLO5)

Have developed critical and analytic skills in the study of Politics and Social Policy which contribute to graduate employability.

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 1 (DEGCLO1)

Apply social policy theories to analyse social needs and policy intervention

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 2 (DEGCLO2)

Be able to identify and critically compare different concepts and methodologies used in Politics and Social Policy.

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 3 (DEGCLO3)

Have knowledge of the political history and institutions of the UK and globally one other area.

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 4 (DEGCLO4)

Be familiar with the major ideological traditions in Politics

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 5 (DEGCLO5)

Have developed critical and analytic skills in the study of Politics and Social Policy which contribute to graduate employability.

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
4PO002	Introduction to International Relations	CHECLO1, CHECLO2
4PO003	Introduction to British Politics	CHECLO1, CHECLO2
4SA007	The Development of the Welfare State: 1945-2010	CHECLO1, CHECLO2
4SA008	Contemporary Social Policy	CHECLO1, CHECLO2
4SL011	Volunteering in the Community	CHECLO1, CHECLO2
5LW022	Supervised Placement Year	DHECLO4
5PO003	Contemporary Political Ideologies	DHECLO2, DHECLO4
5PO004	World Politics	DHECLO3
5PO005	Europe United? European Politics, Societies, Cultures	DHECLO2, DHECLO3
5PO006	Contemporary Britain	DHECLO1
5SA007	Paying for Welfare	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4
5SA009	Communities in Social Policy	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4
5SA013	Social Science Placement	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4
5SA014	Families, Children and the State	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4
6PO001	Democracy and Terrorism: Conflict Resolution in Northern Ireland	DEGCLO2, ORDCLO2
6PO002	The Politics of the Middle East	DEGCLO3, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO5
6PO003	Political Theory	DEGCLO2, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO5
6PO005	Security and Integration in the New Europe	DEGCLO3, ORDCLO3
6SA001	Participation and Policy	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO5
6SA003	Approaches to Poverty and Social Exclusion	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO5
6SA004	Independent Project in Social Policy	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO5
6SA005	Policy-Making in Britain	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO5
6SA007	Community Link in Social Policy	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO5
6SA008	Social Policy of Work and Labour Markets	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO5, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO5

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

Learning will be face to face and on-line and will consist of the following:

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Tutorials
- Debates
- Small and large group work
- Discussion forums and wikis
- Student presentations

- Work- and community- based learning through placements (to support employability skills)
- Research activities
- Independent and guided study
- Collaborative on-line tasks and activities
- Individual on-line tasks and activities
- Video and image analysis
- Case studies
- Role play

The on-line activities and electronic presentations the students will prepare will support their digital literacy.

The group tasks and seminars will support students' enterprising ideas.

The international perspectives to topics taken in lectures and learning tasks will support students' global citizenship.

Student Support:

Specific support through single semester and modules

Study skills (such as using Harvard referencing and writing for academic purposes) are embedded in some modules at level 4 and extended at levels 5 and 6.

Students will receive feedback informally throughout the modules and formally through written feedback for their formative and summative assignments. This feedback will be constructive and indicate to students how to progress in their learning.

All students will have a personal tutor to support their progress through the course.

The academic skills centre provides learning support and resources in groups and individually.

Employability in the Curriculum:

Politics and Social Policy students are attracted to a wide range of jobs mostly in the public or not for profit sector. Careers in local and central Government, community projects, and policy writing and analysis are all open to graduates. All courses provide the academic background and scholarship necessary for postgraduate study at both Master's and Doctoral level.

The completion of a Sandwich Year will enable you to gain valuable hands on experience in a relevant work environment. This will not only provide additional practical subject skills but it will also develop personal transferable skills such as communication skills, problem solving skills and demonstrate competency in working with other people. This will increase your employability and assist you in gaining employment in the future.

