



POLITIC3016/4022

Scottish Politics

- Explore the politics of Scotland in comparative perspective and assess the central challenges facing the country in the 2020s.
- Investigate Scotland's national political institutions- the Scottish Parliament and Government- and how they interact with local, UK and international levels.
- Examine the core cleavages in Scottish society- including the politics of class and nationalism- and how they've impacted the party system of Scotland and its development.



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POLITIC3023/4104

Feminist Perspectives on Politics

- Investigate a range of feminist theories - from Marxist to postmodern, decolonial to liberal - into conversation and critically reflect on key questions within the study and practice of politics.
- Discover how feminist perspectives transform our understandings of politics and the political and that feminism itself is a site of political struggle.



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POLITIC3025/4103

International Political Communication

- Discover the media's role in relations between states.
- Scrutinise governments' use of the media as a foreign policy tool, both historically and in the contemporary period.
- Examine factors that influence the reporting of foreign news and international conflicts.



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POLITIC4001

American Politics

- Develop an understanding of key aspects of contemporary American politics, including governmental and non-governmental institutions, elections and voting behaviour and policy-making
- Examine the shift of American politics toward authoritarianism.



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POLITIC4005

Politics and Public Policy in the UK

- Explore contemporary British and Scottish politics and public policy, including the role of governmental and non-governmental institutions, as well as the importance of both electoral and party behaviour.
- Analyse the similarities and differences between the British, American and other relevant political systems.



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POLITIC4007

Global Environmental Politics

- Discover how states and non-state actors seek to cooperate to address global environmental problems.
- Explore the role that institutions, states and non-state actors play in these political processes.
- Evaluate why some environmental problems can be governed effectively, while others cannot.



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POLITIC4008

Human Rights in Global Perspective

- Examine the international and domestic politics of human rights with a focus on Global South contexts.
- Explore the roles of different actors, contested ideas, and the dilemmas that emerge as international norms are implemented in real-world settings.



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POLITIC4010

Issues in International Relations

- Explore some key contemporary issues in international relations.
- Examine both some current manifestations of perennial problems of international politics, and some issues new to our time.
- Discover challenges posed by a range of issues whose significance stretch far beyond the boundaries of any one country.



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A map of South America is shown in the top left corner, partially obscured by a green wavy line. The map displays various countries including Colombia, Peru, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, Chile, and Argentina, with their names in all caps. Major cities like Lima, Bogotá, and São Paulo are also labeled.

POLITIC4013

Latin American Politics

- Discover the complex process of political and economic change in Latin America - involving a changing cast of actors and an evolving spectrum of motivating ideas.
- Explore some of the debates around politics in the Latin American context.



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POLITIC4015

Political Parties and Democracy: Global Party Politics in Transition

- Explore the dynamics of party politics across the world, including how parties organise, party ideologies and how parties interact with one another.
- Examine the forces shaping party systems in different parts of the world and explain the huge changes they are undergoing.
- Discover the important role that political parties play in the functioning of democracy, how this role is under threat, and what can be done about it.



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POLITIC4020

Politics of the European Union

- Examine current debates on European integration, a process that has decisively shaped political, social and economic developments in the continent.
- Discover the theory and practice of policy-making in the EU.
- Discuss contemporary challenges such as economic competitiveness, digitalisation, the green energy transition, migration, enlargement and defence autonomy, currently facing the Union.



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POLITIC4033

Citizenship And Democracy

- Explore active citizenship, locating it within the democratic tradition of civic republicanism, whilst exploring the wider traditions of democracy.
- Examine the implications of active citizenship for contemporary liberal democracy.
- Investigate different/developed models of democracy, as well as current challenges.
- Discover the implications of shifting conceptions of the nature and boundaries of citizenship.



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A circular inset image showing hands moving 3D gender symbols (male, female, and transgender) on a white surface. The symbols are in purple, pink, and blue. A green wavy line runs vertically along the left side of the poster.

POLITIC4082

Gender and International Development

- Explore key analytical tools for studying and understanding the role of gender analysis in international development.
- Employ a gendered lens as you investigate a range of subject matter expertise and themes from across different regions in the Global South.
- Examine recent and live global issues to keep the course up to date and relevant.



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**POLITIC4090**

Comparative European Politics

- Examine and compare the party systems, political ideologies, electoral systems, and governing institutions of contemporary European societies.
- Explore why some regions and sub-state entities are pushing for increased autonomy or even outright secession.
- Discover parties and the most important party families, such as the social democrats, Christian democrats and populist parties of the right and left.

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POLITIC4102

Politics, Communication and Democracy

- Examine political communications in democratic societies during both campaign periods and day-to-day government.
- Explore the mechanisms of influence and power different kinds of media have in contemporary democracies.
- Discover how political actors, such as parties, leaders and advocacy organisations, use media to pursue their political objectives .



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POLITIC4122

Global Inequality and International Development

- Explore the role of key international organisations, emerging powers, and non-state actors (multinational corporations and civil society), and the various means of cooperation (foreign aid and other development-related policies, such as trade, environment, migration) used by the international community to promote development and tackle global inequalities.



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POLITIC4124

Chinese Politics

- Explore key issues today in the politics of the People's Republic of China, focusing on political changes since Xi Jinping became top leader in 2012.
- Potential topics may include the political history of China, institutions in a one-party state, civil society and resistance, ethnic relations, and democratisation.



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POLITIC4128

Social Movements

- Examine the role that social movements play in political life and how they contribute to democracy.
- Discover how and why ordinary people come together under unlikely circumstances to challenge power.
- Investigate different repertoires of action that activists may adopt and important links between social movements and political parties.



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POLITIC4133

Radical Politics

- Explore the radical political tradition such as Marxist, anarchist and/or post-Marxist thought from the eighteenth century to today.
- Investigate core concepts and critical understandings of radical politics including their fundamental orientation towards transformative political change.
- Relate these ideas to contemporary global politics.



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POLITIC4140

War and International Security

- Discover how the international security agenda has expanded beyond a traditional focus on war, and how the potential use of violence for political purposes remains as a key security threat within international politics.
- Examine different explanations for war and political violence within international relations.



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POLITIC4146

Comparative Public Opinion

- Explore the psychological bases of mass public opinion and political behaviour.
- Investigate mass-level political and social intolerance, xenophobia, civic culture, postmaterialism and value change, trust in government, Euroskepticism as well as the impact of the mass media on public opinion.



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POLITIC4149

Authoritarianism

- Explore contemporary authoritarianism both conceptually and empirically.
- Examine literature on authoritarian politics.
- Investigate the factors that are associated with the survival of authoritarian regimes and the circumstances under which such regimes fail.
- Write a case study of an autocracy.



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POLITIC4153

Securitisation and the New Security Agenda

- Explore how issues are socially constructed as threats and the political implications of placing them in the security agenda.
- Investigate contemporary challenges in various sectors, including migration, terrorism, military intervention, environmental security and the current economic crisis.



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POLITIC4154

Global Distributive Justice

- Investigate contemporary normative theories concerned with allocating benefits and burdens globally.
- Explore the skills to describe and analyse theories of global distributive justice, and use them when appraising international issues.



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POLITIC4155

Narratives of War and Conflict

- Explore the role of narratives in the construction of war, conflict and insecurity in international relations.
- Investigate theoretical, autobiographical, testimonial, and historical accounts of conflict.
- Discover the ways in which emotions, knowledge and power shape representations and experiences of conflict.



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POLITIC4156

Politics of the Middle East

- Discover the political, economic and social changes that have affected the Middle East since the turn of the twentieth century.
- Investigate the major political issues, forces and developments in the region.
- Explore themes across several countries and engage with materials to deepen your understanding of the region, including literature, the arts, and scholarly work.



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POLITIC4158

US Foreign Policy

- Discover the actors, issues, processes and political conditions involved in the making of American foreign policy in the post-Cold War era.
- Explore a range of contemporary issues, such as the role of the US in the declining global liberal order, President and Congress, American Exceptionalism, race and gender, nuclear weapons, immigration, and other issues.



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POLITIC4159

Business and Politics

- Discover how private firms and business association participate in politics and seek to influence policy.
- Investigate business-government relations in both the Global North and Global South.
- Examine how the political influence of business has changed over time.



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POLITIC4160

International Political Economy

- Explore how politics shapes international economic relations and vice versa.
- Discover who the winners and losers of economic globalisation are.
- Investigate the global economy's stability and why economic crises happen.
- Examine why regional integration is so widespread today.



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POLITIC4161

Protest Politics in a Post-Political Age

- Explore post-politics and depoliticisation and address the complexities and paradoxes of contemporary politics under neoliberalism.
- Investigate a range of political protest movements such as the Occupy movement, the Zapatistas, the Chilean student movement, the Gezi Park protests, the resurgence of anarchism, the radical independence campaign and the Arab Spring revolutions.



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POLITIC4164

China's International Relations

- Examine key institutions and problems shaping China's foreign policy-making and some of the important issues associated with China's rise as a great power.
- Explore topics including: post-Colonialism, identity and security, China's strategic futures, soft power, globalisation and "the China Model", Sino-US Relations, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) initiative, and China's relations with its neighbours.



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POLITIC4168

Global Energy Politics

- Explore what makes energy political and how national and international energy systems interact.
- Analyse trade-offs between ensuring energy security, economic development, and addressing climate change.
- Critically examine the global energy transition and how it will reshape domestic and international politics.



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POLITIC4170

Post-colonial and De-colonial International Theory

- Examine arguments of post-colonial and decolonial International Relations theory, their movements, their significance at global, local and personal levels.
- Engage with post-colonial and decolonial critiques of 1) the historical narrative of IR theory, 2) IR's silences (especially on the issues of race and empire) and 3) IR's Eurocentric character.



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POLITIC4171

International Organisations

- Investigate the significance of international organisations for international relations.
- Examine why states create international organisations, how decisions are taken, what differences they make (if any), and why they are contested.
- Apply knowledge to a wide range of issue-areas, such as environmental protection, global health, international economic affairs, the protection of human rights, and collective security.



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**POLITIC4172**

Politics of Terror

- Discover the origins, histories and meanings of terms 'terror', 'terrorism' and 'counterterrorism' how they relate to international relations including territory, sovereignty and the nation state
- Examine key theoretical and political debates.
- Explore how terrorism is managed/governed.
- Investigate empirical dynamics related to terror.

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POLITIC4175

The Politics of Immigration

- Explore different aspects of the impact of immigration on politics.
- Discover why governments are more liberal or restrictive vis-à-vis immigration flows, the effect of public policy on inter-ethnic conflict, the political behaviour of immigrants and ethnic minorities, and the drivers of populist anti-immigrant parties and sentiment.



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POLITIC4176

International Relations Concepts

- Develop analytical and critical thinking skills to make sense of complex events, processes, and institutions in global politics.
- Explore a range of competing and complementary conceptual and theoretical approaches to the study of international relations.



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POLITIC4179

Politics and Popular Culture

- Discover how political actors have used popular culture to achieve their goals
- Investigate how scholars can use popular culture to understand political movements and ideas
- Explore how to use the tools of critical theory and cultural studies to interpret different kinds of media as political texts.



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A vibrant, stylized illustration on the left side of the poster. It features a large megaphone at the top left, with a crowd of diverse people below it. A hand in the foreground points upwards. The background is filled with various symbols, including a crown, a flag, and the words 'LIES', 'BES', 'NEWS', and 'PAM'. The overall style is colorful and dynamic, with a green wavy line running down the left side of the poster.

POLITIC4182

Comparative Perspectives on Populism

- Explore contemporary debates around populism and its diverse manifestations across the world.
- Investigate different theoretical approaches for understanding populism.
- Examine a variety of historical and contemporary cases of populism.



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POLITIC4183

Contemporary Challenges in Politics

- Explore key contemporary issues and debates in politics through the thought of political theorists writing from different traditions and perspectives.
- Examine fundamental and perennial political questions as well as issues new to our time including freedom and autonomy, epistemic crisis and democracy, intergenerational justice, animal rights, and the impact of AI.



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POLITIC4184

The Psychology of Politics

- Learn about psychological phenomena such as emotions, personalities, political cognition, and identities and discover how to use these concepts to illuminate political events and explain political outcomes.



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POLITIC4185

The Politics of Borders

- Explore the politics of borders from a critical, interdisciplinary and historical perspective.
- Examine how the politics of borders manifests itself in a range of issue-areas, including territory, migration, sovereignty, economy, security, nationalism, indigenous struggles against extractive industries, as well as social movements against borders, climate change and imperialism and empire.



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POLITIC4186

Political Ideas that Changed the World

- Analyse and evaluate a range of texts in the history of political thought, tracing interconnections and discovering how political ideas have shaped real-world politics over time.
- Investigate competing, cutting-edge interpretations of these texts by today's leading scholars in the field.



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POLITIC4187

Defying Dictators: Political Opposition in Authoritarian States

- Explore how citizens and elites oppose authoritarian rule across a range of contexts.
- Discover how scholars do research in authoritarian contexts through a clear emphasis on research design.
- Discuss a single piece of research alongside a methodological primer each week.
- Create research-led assessments (critical evaluation of scholars' work and a research design).



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**POLITIC4188**

Elections and Voters

- Investigate elections and voting, including how elections work across political regimes and how citizens make election choices.
- Examine all aspects of elections, including campaigns and polling, and factors that drive individual voting choices, from parties to social identities, issues and performance.

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POLITIC4190

Challenges to Democracy

- Discover why countries democratize, when democracy consolidates or backslides, and what drives these processes.
- Explore a variety of challenges to democracy at the national and international levels such as corruption, discontent, economic inequality, globalization, legitimacy, authoritarian contestation, technological change, polarisation or populism.



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POLITIC4191

Good Government and its Corruption

- Investigate the fundamental principles that ought to guide public action, institutional design, and accountability, that is, the ideal of 'good government.'
- Explore the ways in which governments may fail to live up to this ideal, particularly in the form of corruption.



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POLITIC4192

African Politics in Global Perspective

- Explore key theories and concepts about politics and international relations of, from, and on Africa.
- Discuss contemporary issues as well as examine country case studies from across the continent.
- Examine policy-making from and toward African countries.



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POLITIC4194

Political Leaders and Leadership

- Explore leaders and leadership styles in contemporary politics from the UK and around the world.
- Investigate political leaders and leadership with a broad range of examples to illustrate how leaders influence institutions and governance, and how key dimensions of leadership shape or react to political developments.



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POLITIC4195

Scottish Enlightenment

- Examine the nature of eighteenth century Scotland and the extraordinary group of thinkers that were produced by it.
- Investigate aspects of the social, economic, political, and cultural history of Scotland.
- Explore the place of the eighteenth century Scottish thinkers within the wider European Enlightenment.
- Discover the legacy and influence of the Scottish Enlightenment and its ideas.



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POLITIC4196

Ethics of Artificial Intelligence

- Explore the ethical and political challenges posed by artificial intelligence (AI).
- Examine how AI is already shaping our social, economic and political lives, and is likely to do so into the future.
- Enquire what morality, justice, and legitimacy demand in such an age of intelligent machines, addressing issues such as bias and fairness, manipulation and autonomy, among others.



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The image shows the cover of the 'Youth Poll 2026' report. The cover is dark blue with the title 'Youth Poll' in large white letters, followed by 'for young people, by young people' in smaller white text, and '2026' at the bottom. The John Smith Centre logo is in the top left corner. Logos for ' nationwide', 'University of Glasgow', and 'BBC' are visible at the bottom.

SPS4013

The John Smith Youth Poll Project

- Set the themes and write the questions for the high-profile annual UK Youth Poll, shaping the national political discussion around young people.
- Develop practical skills including writing and analysing polls, pitching news stories and writing press releases, writing for public audiences, and managing research projects.



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