

Understanding the theories behind politics

Module Information

2022.01, Approved

Summary Information

Module Code	4101IRP
Formal Module Title	Understanding the theories behind politics
Owning School	Humanities and Social Science
Career	Undergraduate
Credits	20
Academic level	FHEQ Level 4
Grading Schema	40

Teaching Responsibility

LJMU Schools involved in Delivery
Humanities and Social Science

Learning Methods

Learning Method Type	Hours
Lecture	22
Online	2
Tutorial	11
Workshop	11

Module Offering(s)

Display Name	Location	Start Month	Duration Number Duration Unit
JAN-MTP	MTP	January	12 Weeks

Aims and Outcomes

Aims	Discuss the key themes, concepts and ideas in Western and non-Western political thought in order to have a global view on the relationship between the human, state and society. Provide a solid grounding in the key texts in political thought from around the world and from different eras
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After completing the module the student should be able to:

Learning Outcomes

Code	Number	Description
MLO1	1	Identify and explain the key themes, concepts and ideas in political thought.
MLO2	2	Discuss how complex and contentious theorising is when attempting to understand the relationship between human, state and society.
MLO3	3	Understand and assess the importance of key texts produced, and be able to illustrate their strengths and weaknesses relative to other theoretical positions.

Module Content

Outline Syllabus	The course is text based, and it is essential that students become familiar with the key texts of political thought. Topics covered will typically include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a theory, and how it can be used • Human nature and politics • Law and politics • The relationship between moral, religious and political ideas • Concepts of justice, liberty and equality
Module Overview	Theory is an important tool in understanding why and how we act, whether it be as an individual or a group. This module encourages us to think about the different ways in which we have attempted to understand the relationship between the human, state and society. All too often our understanding of these theories are driven by Western political thought. Whilst an essential component, this module will also explore non-Western thoughts on this relationship in an attempt to gain a greater understanding of humans and the world in which we live.
Additional Information	Theory is an important tool in understanding why and how we act whether it be as an individual or a group. This module encourages us to think about the different ways in which we have attempted to understand the relationship between the human, state and society. All too often our understanding of these theories are driven by Western political thought. Whilst an essential component, this module will also explore non-Western thoughts on this relationship in an attempt to gain a greater understanding of humans and the world in which we live in. A skills specific session will be incorporated in this module.

Assessments

Assignment Category	Assessment Name	Weight	Exam/Test Length (hours)	Module Learning Outcome Mapping
Presentation	15 minute presentation	25	0	MLO2, MLO3
Essay	2,500 word essay	75	0	MLO1, MLO2, MLO3

Module Contacts

Module Leader

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
Peter O'Reilly	Yes	N/A

Partner Module Team

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
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