

Undergraduate Certificate in Politics

Course code: 2122CCR877

COURSE GUIDE

Welcome to the **Undergraduate Certificate in Politics**, a University of Cambridge award offered by the Institute of Continuing Education (ICE). The Certificate is taught and awarded at FHEQ level 4 (i.e. first-year undergraduate level) and attracts 60 credits. The award is completed in one calendar year. For further information about academic credit please see our website: www.ice.cam.ac.uk/info/academic-credits-cats-points

The course offers three termly units and a syllabus and reading and resource list for each of these units are included in this course guide.

The programme will be taught remotely, through pre-recorded lectures which students can access at times convenient to them in addition to scheduled live sessions where the tutor and students will gather for discussion. While attendance at the live sessions is encouraged, all sessions will be recorded and will be accessible via the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Discussion forums and suggestions for additional reading and resources will also be found on the VLE. There will be an opportunity for one-to-one tutorials with the Course Director, Dr Carina O'Reilly, to discuss feedback on written work.

The programme aims to:

1. Introduce students to key concepts and theories, as well as methods of analysis, within politics as a discipline
2. Promote knowledge and understanding of politics, including political theory, domestic politics and comparative politics
3. Enable students to identify and explore continuities and discontinuities in political thinking
4. Promote critical thinking and analysis, and enable students to interpret and evaluate evidence and construct scholarly arguments
5. Allow students the opportunity to progress to further studies in politics and related disciplines

Transferable skills for further study and employability

- The capacity for independent thought and judgement
- The development of independent learning, study and time management skills
- The deployment of skills in critical reasoning
- The development of competence in using IT to support one's work
- The ability to work with others, productively and equitably
- The qualities necessary for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility and the demonstration of high levels of motivation and personal commitment through part-time study
- An ability to identify the strengths and limitations of concepts and theories pertaining to political thinking
- The capacity to evaluate and interpret evidence in order to develop an argument, synthesising evidence from a range of sources
- An ability to communicate clearly and appropriately, demonstrating a sense of audience, with structured and coherent arguments

Study hours

The award of academic credit is a means of quantifying and recognising learning and within the UK, one credit notionally represents 10 hours of learning¹. Each of the units in this course attracts 20 credits so students should expect to need to study for approximately 200 hours in total to complete each unit successfully. However, it is recognised that students study at different paces and use a variety of approaches, so this is a recommendation, rather than a hard-and-fast calculation.

¹ 'Academic credit in higher education in England – an introduction'. The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, 2009

Teaching staff

Academic Director

Dr Nigel Kettley is University Senior Lecturer and ICE's Academic Director for Education and Social Science. Nigel has had a wide-ranging teaching and research career in the fields of social science, educational studies, research methods and teacher training. Nigel teaches on a variety of courses for the Institute, supervises postgraduate students, and runs the MSt in Advanced Subject Teaching. His main published works are *Educational Attainment and Society* (2007, London: Continuum) and *Theory Building in Educational Research* (2012, London, Continuum). He is also a member of the editorial advisory board of the *British Journal of Sociology of Education*, a Fellow of Wolfson College and a Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts.

Course Director

Dr Carina O'Reilly has taught politics, sociology, policing and criminal justice at undergraduate and Masters level, and developed and led several undergraduate and Masters degrees at Anglia Ruskin University. She is now a Senior Lecturer and Programme Leader at the University of Lincoln. She has recently completed doctoral research on legitimacy and values in local policing.

Carina has an MA from Cambridge University in Social and Political Sciences and also holds a Masters in Strategic Studies from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. She left IHS Jane's after seven years as a writer, editor and senior analyst on European security. She is a specialist on politics, policing and security issues in Europe, and until 2016 was Deputy Leader of Cambridge City Council.

Tutors

Dr Max Stafford has taught at six universities, on a range of Social Sciences courses. He is a specialist in British Politics, political leadership, comparative politics and international urban developments. He has been teaching in Higher Education since 2013 and has taught adults since 2016. He previously worked for two former cabinet ministers and advised on political campaigning, and he uses this to highlight employability-related aspects of his teaching. His teaching style is discursive, with active preparation and extra-curricular learning encouraged.

Max is currently working on a book examining mayors as political leaders and another examining the Downing Street Chief-of-Staff. He also advises the Qualitative Election Study of Britain on measuring political leadership. He obtained a PhD – entitled “Strong Mayors’ Leadership Capital: New York, London & Amsterdam (2000-2016) – in 2020.

Dr Jasper Miles completed his PhD in politics at the University of Liverpool on the Labour Party's approaches to electoral reform. He lectures in British and comparative politics at the University of Lincoln and the University of West London. He also lectures on the International Foundation Year at Queen Mary, University of London. Previously he lectured at the universities of Goldsmiths, Liverpool Hope, Winchester and Liverpool. Jasper's teaching style is rooted in a student-centred approach, placing the student at the centre of the learning process. The objective is to develop independent and critical thinking, aided by a range of pedagogical methods. He specialises in British politics and has written on the Labour Party's political thought.

Administrative staff

Arts and Sciences Enquiries
e. artscience@ice.cam.ac.uk t. 01223 746418 / 746236

Location: Institute of Continuing Education, University of Cambridge, Madingley Hall, Madingley, Cambridge, CB23 8AQ

Institute of Continuing Education

The Institute of Continuing Education's administrative headquarters are at Madingley Hall, an elegant country house built in the 16th century and set in gardens of about seven acres, designed in the 18th century by Capability Brown. Please visit www.ice.cam.ac.uk and www.madingleyhall.co.uk for further information.

Contact details of ICE

Institute of Continuing Education
University of Cambridge
Madingley Hall
Madingley
Cambridge
CB23 8AQ
T: 01223 746222

www.ice.cam.ac.uk
ug-awards@ice.cam.ac.uk

Please also refer to the 'information for students' section on our website <http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/studying-with-us/information-for-students> and the 21/22 Student Handbook for further information and guidance relating to all aspects of the course including study skills, assignments, assessment and moderation. The Course Information and Help and Guidance section of the ICE VLE will also contain valuable information specific to your course.

Information correct as at 31 August 2021

Syllabus for first unit
Lent term 2022

Power, politics and the modern state

Start date	07 January 2022	End date	23 March 2022
Day	Various (see session list below)	Time	Various (see session list below)
Venue	Remote delivery		
Tutors	Dr Carina O'Reilly	No of meetings	Introduction and 6 live teaching/open sessions plus pre-recorded lectures.

Aims

- To provide students with a comprehensive conceptual and theoretical grounding in politics
- To ensure students have a solid understanding of political ideologies and the liberal state
- To introduce students to a range of ideas about democracy

Content

This unit provides an introduction to the key concepts, theories and methods of politics which have been used to analyse the relationship between power, authority, ideology and the state. The first part of the unit explores: the concepts of power and authority, drawing on a range of theorists; the nature and origin of the modern state from a variety of theoretical positions; and the notion and forms of political ideology. In particular, it seeks to explore the nature and origin of the modern state from a range of perspectives, and to underline the contingency of liberal democracy as the dominant mode of political organisation in the West. It also explores the limits of liberalism and liberty in ideological debates. The unit then moves on to examine theories of democracy and the relationship between modern democracy and capitalism, and finally, students will look at the concept of politics and its relationship with war, power and morality, and what this means in practical terms for how we understand politics, the meaning we give to political decisions, how we decide what falls within the realm of politics rather than outside it, and why it matters.

Presentation of the unit

The unit will be taught in a series of pre-recorded lectures and 'live' teaching sessions via Zoom. Live teaching will involve directed discussion and reading, with short talks from tutors and small-group work in breakout rooms. There will be comfort breaks during each session and opportunities for general Q&A with the tutor.

Please also look at the VLE for each block's dedicated **discussions** and **forum activities** which are designed to guide your reading and to introduce you to relevant contextual and critical resources.

Teaching Sessions

For each block pre-recorded lectures will be available a week before the live teaching session. Live teaching sessions will be on **Saturdays between 13.00-15.00 and 16.00-18.00 pm GMT**. Please watch each lecture before the live sessions and follow the discussion forums on the VLE.

Introduction	Friday 7 January 2022 19.00-20.00	Hello and welcome A chance to meet your classmates and tutor and to become familiar with the online classroom environment.
Block One	Live session Saturday 8 January 2022	The Nature and Origin of the Modern State This block will take you through classical and modernist theories of the state, and ask you to think about the development of liberalism and its dominance today. You will also begin to consider the role of ideology in modern liberal democracies.
Block Two	Live session Saturday 22 January 2022	The Limits of Liberty The second block will look at challenges to liberalism and liberal democracy. In particular, you will focus on Marxism; nationalism and self-rule; the influence of religion on politics; and Nietzsche's ideas about the role of morality.
Open Session	Wednesday 26 January 2022	An open session for informal discussion, chat and questions about coursework.
Block Three	Saturday 5 February 2022	Perspectives on Democracy The third block of teaching will focus on the roots of representative democracy and how and why democracy facilitates – and is subject to – change. You will consider and critically assess theories of democracy, and the relationship between capitalism, democracy and prosperity.
Block Four	Saturday 19 February 2022	The Persistence of Politics The final block in this unit will focus on politics as an idea. It will examine politics as a concept and the persistence of political disagreement; the role of power and violence in politics, and whether morality can and should play a central role in modern pluralistic societies.

Open Session	Wednesday 23 February 2022	An open session for informal discussion, chat and questions about coursework
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Learning Outcomes

As a result of the unit, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

- (i) Demonstrate a solid grasp of classical and modern theories of the state
- (ii) Analyse and discuss a range of ideological approaches to modern politics
- (iii) Show a critical conceptual understanding of politics and democracy

Student assessment

Students will be assessed through two essays reflecting the overall learning outcomes of the unit. The maximum word count for each of these is 2,000 words. Students will have the opportunity to submit an essay plan of no more than 500 words as part of their formative assessment for feedback from the unit tutor. The essays will be submitted through the ICE VLE.

Each essay will be worth 50% of the total mark for Unit One. Students may select any two of the following essays but will find the first four reflect the learning undertaken in the first half of the unit, and the last four reflect the learning in the second half.

Closing date for the submission of **plans for feedback**:

Essay One: Saturday 29 January 2022 by 12.00 noon GMT*

Essay Two: Saturday 26 February 2022 by 12.00 noon GMT*

Closing date for the submission of **assignments**:

Essay One: Wednesday 9 February 2022 by 12.00 noon GMT*

Essay Two: Wednesday 9 March 2022 by 12.00 noon GMT*

*Greenwich Mean Time

Essay titles

If students wish to create their own titles this **must be agreed in writing with the tutor first to ensure it meets the learning outcome of the unit.**

1. To what extent does authority always have to be legitimate? Discuss with reference to the works of at least one political theorist.
2. Why has the concept of sovereignty proved such a powerful political idea?
3. Why do the meanings of ideas like freedom, equality, and justice matter?
4. 'Marxism and fascism are irrelevant to twenty-first century political life.' Discuss.
5. Does democracy confer a unique right to legitimate authority, and if so, why?
6. Is representative democracy necessary for economic prosperity?
7. Are political parties beneficial to politics?
8. Is political disagreement inevitable?

Reading and resource list

Core Texts

Acemoglu, D. and Robinson, J. 2013. *Why nations fail: the origins of power, prosperity and poverty*. London: Profile.

Adams, I., 2013. *Political Ideology Today*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Beetham, D., 2013. *The Legitimation of Power*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Dunn, J., 1993. *Western political theory in the face of the future*, second ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Jackson, R., 2007. *Sovereignty: The Evolution of an Idea*. Cambridge: Polity.

Leftwich, A., 2004. *What is politics?* New edition. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Weber, M., 1994. 'The profession and vocation of politics' in: P. Lassman and R. Speirs (eds.) *Weber: Political Writings*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pp.309-369.

Supplementary reading

Caplan, B., 2008. *The myth of the rational voter: why democracies choose bad policies*, new edition. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Chernilo, D., 2008. *A Social Theory of the Nation-state: The Political Forms of Modernity Beyond Methodological Nationalism*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Dunn, J., 1993. 'Conclusions,' in *Democracy: the unfinished journey 508 BC to AD 1993*, ed. John Dunn, Oxford: Oxford University Press. Pp. 239-266.

Dunn, J., 1993. 'Political obligation,' in: *The history of political theory and other essays*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Gilens, M., 2012. *Affluence and influence: economic inequality and political power in America*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Haidt, J., 2013. *Why good people are divided by politics and religion*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.

Lassman, P., 2000. 'The rule of man over man: politics, power and legitimation.' pp. 83-98 in: *The Cambridge Companion to Weber*, edited by Stephen P. Turner. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Marx, K. and Engels, F., 2002. *The Communist Manifesto*, trans. Samuel Moore, ed. Gareth Stedman Jones. Harmondsworth: Penguin.

Nietzsche, F., 2007. *On the genealogy of morality*. Ed. Keith Ansell-Pearson. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Pitkin, H., 1967. *The concept of representation*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Powell, J. 2010. *The new Machiavelli: how to wield power in the modern world*. London: Bodley Head.

Runciman, D., 2017. *The Confidence Trap: A History of Democracy in Crisis from World War I to the Present*, 2nd Ed. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Schmitt, C., 2008. *The concept of the political: Expanded edition*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Singer, P., 2018. *Marx: a very short introduction*, 2nd Ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Skinner, Q., 1989. 'The state,' in: Ross, D., Skinner, Q. and Tully, J., *Political innovation and conceptual change*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Sleat, M., 2018. *Politics recovered: realist thought in theory and practice*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Weber, M., 2002. *The Protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.

Syllabus for second unit Easter term 2022

States and regimes

Start date	09 April 2022	End date	10 June 2022
Day	Various (see session list below)	Time	Various (see session list below)
Venue	Remote delivery		
Tutor	TBC	No of meetings	6 live teaching/open sessions plus pre-recorded lectures

Aims

- To introduce students to the temporal nature of nations and states, and the processes of change
- To give students an appreciation of the layered nature of power and authority in modern states
- To develop students' comparative understanding of regimes and polities

Content

This unit looks at the structure and formation of the state. It begins by examining the historical and political contingency of particular patterns of state formation, before turning its focus on the role of the nation state from a domestic perspective. It examines nationalism in depth; from the way in which non-European states have been shaped by such forces, to the role of nationalism in the formation of sub-national entities. The unit also explores the effects of factors such as supranational organisations and the expanding force of globalisation on the functioning of domestic polities. The unit then turns to the development of different political regimes, from democracy to authoritarianism, and what causes such regimes to collapse. It examines comparative regime types, constitutions, the separation of powers, and the implications of all of this for the resilience and legitimacy of particular types of regime – and of nation states themselves.

Presentation of the unit

The unit will be taught in a series of pre-recorded lectures and 'live' teaching sessions via Zoom. Live teaching will involve directed discussion and reading, with short talks from tutors and small-group work in breakout rooms. There will be comfort breaks during each session and opportunities for general Q&As with the tutor.

Please also look at the VLE for each block's dedicated discussions and forum activities which are designed to guide your reading and to introduce you to relevant contextual and critical resources.

Teaching Sessions

For each block pre-recorded lectures will be available a week before the live teaching session. Live teaching sessions will be on **Saturdays between 13.00-15.00 and 16.00-18.00 pm BST**. Please watch each lecture before the live sessions and follow the discussion forums on the VLE.

	'Live' teaching session dates	Content
Block One	Saturday 9 April 2022	<p>The Formation of States</p> <p>The unit will begin by exploring theories of state formation, before looking at case studies of Western Europe and at the wider international community. You will also look at the way that states have been constructed from the outside, both in the shift away from empire and more recent state development, and the effects of these processes on internal politics.</p>
Block Two	Saturday 23 April 2022	<p>Nations and Nationalism</p> <p>The first block sets the scene for Block Two which looks at the nation-state as a particular entity and what this form means for domestic politics. You will also look beyond the nation-state: at globalisation; supranational entities such as the EU; and sub-national governments and systems and their effects on politics at a national level.</p>
Open Session	Wednesday 27 April 2022	An open session for informal discussion, chat and questions about coursework.
Block Three	Saturday 7 May 2022	<p>Political Regimes</p> <p>This block will look at the development of democracy as the dominant political regime not just in the West but increasingly in the developing world – and the indications that this dominance may have stalled. It will examine the processes of democratisation, the resilience of authoritarianism, and how regimes of all types come to collapse.</p>
Block Four	Saturday 21 May 2022	<p>Comparative Regimes</p> <p>Your final block will take a more granular look at particular types of regimes. It will compare constitutional structures, and institutional details such as the separation of powers. Finally, you will consider the implications of this analysis for the legitimacy and resilience of political regimes more generally.</p>

Open Session	Wednesday 25 May 2022	An open session for informal discussion, chat and questions about coursework.
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Learning Outcomes

As a result of the unit, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to demonstrate:

- (i) Comprehension of theories of state formation, along with practical examples
- (ii) Appreciation of the processes involved in the rise and fall of particular regimes
- (iii) Understanding of different domestic political structures and their effects on resilience and legitimacy

Student assessment

Students will be assessed through two essays reflecting the overall learning outcomes of the unit. The maximum word count for each of these is 2,000 words. Students will have the opportunity to submit an essay plan of no more than 500 words as part of their formative assessment for feedback from the unit tutor. The essays will be submitted through the ICE VLE.

Each essay will be worth 50% of the total mark for Unit Two. Students may select any two of the following essays but will find the first four reflect the learning undertaken in the first half of the unit, and the last four reflect the learning in the second half.

Closing date for the submission of plans:

Essay One: Saturday 30 April 2022 by 12.00 noon BST*

Essay Two: Saturday 28 May 2022 by 12.00 noon BST*

Closing date for the submission of assignments:

Essay One: Wednesday 11 May 2022 by 12.00 noon BST*

Essay Two: Wednesday 8 June 2022 by 12.00 noon BST*

*British Summer Time

Essay titles

If students wish to create their own titles this **must be agreed in writing with the tutor first to ensure it meets the learning outcome of the unit.**

1. What is the role of ideas and ideology in the formation of states?
2. Can states be built from the outside? Answer with reference to at least two examples
3. Has globalisation eroded the distinction between domestic and international politics?
4. How far has the modern nation-state had to surrender powers to supranational systems and/or societies? Answer with reference to at least one international political organisation.
5. How do democracies emerge? Discuss with reference to at least one example.
6. What explains the persistence of authoritarian regimes?
7. Are some democratic regime types better than others?
8. What are the implications of the constitutional structure of a democratic state for its resilience and legitimacy?

Reading and resource list

Core texts

Baylis, J., Smith, S. and Owens, P. (eds.), 2014. *The Globalization of World Politics: An*

Introduction to Politics and International Relations. Sixth Edition. Oxford: OUP.

Fukuyama, F., 2012. *The Origins of Political Order; From Prehuman Times to the French Revolution*. London: Profile.

Hague, R. and Harrop, M., 2004. *Comparative government and politics*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Held, D., 1995. *Democracy and the Global Order: From the Modern State to Cosmopolitan Democracy*. Cambridge: Polity.

Sisk, T., 2014. *Statebuilding*. Cambridge: Polity.

Tilly, C., 2007. *Democracy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Supplementary reading

Ashtown, P., 2007. *Swords and Ploughshares: Bringing Peace to the 21st Century*. London: Orion.

Brooker, P., 2014. *Non-Democratic Regimes*. London: Palgrave.

Chandler, D. and Sisk, T. (eds.), 2013. *Routledge Handbook of International Statebuilding*. London: Routledge. Chapters 12-15.

Fukuyama, F., 2004. *State-building: governance and world order in the 21st century*. London: Profile.

Gandhi, J., 2008. *Political Institutions under Dictatorship*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Grugel, J. and Bishop, M. L., 2014. *Democratization: A Critical Introduction*. Second edition. London: Palgrave.

Holton, R. J., 2011. *Globalization and the Nation-State*. London: Macmillan.

Jackson, R., 1996. *Quasi-States: Sovereignty, International Relations and the Third World*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Lachmann, R., 2010. *States and Power*. Cambridge: Polity.

Mann, M., 2012. *Sources of Social Power, Vol. 1*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Milward, A. S., 1992. *The European Rescue of the Nation-State*. London: Routledge.

Syllabus for third unit
Michaelmas term 2022

Liberal Democracy in Practice

Start date	8 October 2022	End date	4 January 2023
Day	Various (see session list below)	Time	Various (see session list below)
Venue	Remote delivery		
Tutor	TBC	No of meetings	6 live teaching/open sessions plus pre-recorded lectures

Aims

This unit aims to:

- Encourage students to take a comparative perspective with regard to political systems
- Enhance students' understandings of the variety of actors in democratic polities and the institutions through which they act
- Develop students' critical evaluation of contemporary liberal democracy

Content

This final unit explores the way that politics is practiced in contemporary nation states. A focus of the unit will be the operation of democracy through political parties, and the unit will take a comparative approach, looking particularly at the US and European experiences of various party systems. It will then turn to an examination of other actors that take part in the democratic process, including but not limited to civil society, trade unions, business interests and the media, embedding these practical examples in a range of contemporary theoretical perspectives. The unit will also take a comparative approach to democratic systems legislatures, elections, referenda, and patterns of voting. The unit will conclude with an examination of the arguments for a crisis of the liberal state, including immigration and the welfare state; the rise of populism; cultural and identity politics; and look at the current state of health of democracy in Western polities.

Presentation of the unit

The unit will be taught in a series of pre-recorded lectures and 'live' teaching sessions via Zoom. Live teaching will involve directed discussion and reading, with short talks from tutors and small-group work in breakout rooms. There will be comfort breaks during each session and opportunities for general Q&As with the tutor.

Please also look at the VLE for each block's dedicated **discussions** and **forum activities** which are designed to guide your reading and to introduce you to relevant contextual and critical resources.

Teaching Sessions

For each block pre-recorded lectures will be available a week before the live teaching session. Live teaching sessions will be on **Saturdays 13.00-15.00 and 16.00-18.00 pm BST/GMT**. Please watch each lecture before the live sessions and follow the discussion forums on the VLE.

	'Live' teaching session dates	Content
Block One	Saturday 8 October 2022	<p>Politics in practice</p> <p>This week's session focuses on the practice of democracy: from democratic systems, to the structure and workings of legislatures, to elections and referenda. This session will also look at changing voting patterns in the West and will ask whether politics in developed countries is entering a new period of instability.</p>
Block Two	Saturday 22 October 2022	<p>Political Parties</p> <p>The second session will pick up where the first left off, by looking at the development and operation of political parties in various political systems. It will focus on political parties within Europe and in the US, and compare the strengths and weaknesses of the systems and the parties within them. It will conclude by asking whether the traditional party system is under threat from disruptive populist outsiders.</p>
Open Session	Wednesday 26 October 2022	An open session for informal discussion, chat and questions about coursework.
Block Three	Saturday 5 November 2022	<p>Democracy outside the party system</p> <p>The election of representatives is not the only way in which democracy is expressed. This third block will explore the participation of other actors in the democratic process, including the workings of civil society, the influence of economic interests and trades unions, the role of the media in the democratic state. It will also look at theoretical perspectives on the role and importance of non-party organisations in a healthy democracy.</p>

Block Four	Saturday 19 November 2022	The crisis of the liberal state? We conclude the course by gathering many of the strands developed during this final unit. This last block focuses first on immigration, the welfare state and the effects of globalisation, and asks whether the growth of populism in the West represents an existential threat to these democracies. It focuses also on the development of cultural and identity politics as forces that threaten the theoretical and moral underpinnings of liberal democracies themselves, and asks if this is a survivable crisis for the liberal order.
Open Session	Wednesday 23 November 2022	An open session for informal discussion, chat and questions about coursework.

Learning Outcomes

As a result of the unit, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate comprehension of a variety of political systems and the effects of these structures on the workings of democracy
- Understand political themes and trends, and identify which elements of these are specific to given political systems
- Critically analyse specific challenges to the liberal order such as populism and identity politics

Student assessment

Students will be assessed through two essays reflecting the overall learning outcomes of the unit. The maximum word count for each of these is 2,000 words. Students will have the opportunity to submit an essay plan of no more than 500 words as part of their formative assessment for feedback from the unit tutor. The essays will be submitted through the ICE VLE.

Each essay will be worth 50% of the total mark for Unit Three. Students may select any two of the following essays but will find the first four reflect the learning undertaken in the first half of the unit, and the last four reflect the learning in the second half.

Closing date for the submission of plans:

Essay One: Saturday 29 October 2022 by 12.00 noon BST*

Essay Two: Saturday 26 November 2022 by 12.00 noon GMT**

Closing date for the submission of assignments:

Essay One: Wednesday 9 November 2022 by 12.00 noon GMT**

Essay Two: Wednesday 7 December 2022 by 12.00 noon GMT**

*British Summer Time

**Greenwich Mean Time

Essay titles

If students wish to create their own titles **this must be agreed in writing with the tutor first to ensure it meets the learning outcome of the unit.**

1. Is there such a thing as an ideal electoral system?
2. Should referenda be banned?
3. How important is the role that political parties play in modern liberal democracies?
4. How can mainstream political parties in the West respond to populism?
5. How dominant is the role of economic interests in Western liberal democracies?
6. Can groups other than political parties be legitimate and representative political actors?
7. What relevance do political culture and tradition have for the resilience and success of a modern democracy?
8. Is cultural diversity a problem for liberal democracies?

Reading and resource list

Core texts

Dalton, R.J., Farrell, D.M., and McAllister, I., 2011. *Political parties and democratic linkage: How parties organize democracy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Flinders, M., Gamble, A., Hay, C., and Kenny, M., (eds.) 2009. *The Oxford Handbook of British Politics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Hague, R. and Harrop, M., 2004. *Comparative government and politics*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

Katz, R. and Crotty, W., 2006. *Handbook of Party Politics*. London: Sage.

Lang, S., 2012. *NGOs, Civil Society, and the Public Sphere*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Mair, P., 2013. *Ruling the void: The hollowing of Western democracy*. London: Verso.

Supplementary reading

Boulding, C., 2014. *NGOs, political protest, and civil society*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Dalton, R. and Wattenberg, M., 2000. *Parties Without Partisans: Political Parties in Advanced Industrial Democracies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Dalton, R.J. and Welzel, C. eds., 2014. *The civic culture transformed: From allegiant to assertive citizens*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Fukuyama, F., 2018. *Identity: The demand for dignity and the politics of resentment*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Mudde, C., 2007. *Populist Radical Right Parties in Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Putnam R. (ed), 2002. *Democracies in Flux: The Evolution of Social Capital in Contemporary Society*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Uslaner, E.M. ed., 2018. *The Oxford handbook of social and political trust*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Ware, A., 1996. *Political parties and party systems*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Webb, P., Farrell, D. and Holliday, I. eds., 2002. *Political parties in advanced industrial democracies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Webb, P., Farrell, D. and Holliday, I. eds., 2002. *Political parties in advanced industrial democracies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Wiarda, H.J., 2014. *Political culture, political science, and identity politics: An uneasy alliance*. Farnham: Ashgate Publishing, Ltd.

TIMETABLE

All Saturday live sessions run from 13.00-15.00 and 16.00-18.00

Lent 2022: **Power, Politics and the Modern State**

Introduction Session
Block One
Block Two

Friday 7 January 2022
Live session Saturday 8 January 2022
Live session Saturday 22 January 2022

Open session Wednesday 26 January 2022 19.00-20.00

Plan deadline Saturday 29 January 2022

Submission deadline 1 Wednesday 9 February 2022

Block Three
Block Four

Live session Saturday 05 February 2022
Live session Saturday 19 February 2022

Open Session Wednesday 23 February 2022 19.00-20.00

Plan deadline Saturday 26 February 2022

Submission deadline 2 Wednesday 9 March 2022

Easter 2022: **States and Regimes**

Block One
Block Two

Live session Saturday 9 April 2022
Live session Saturday 23 April 2022

Open Session Wednesday 27 April 2022 19.00-20.00

Plan deadline Saturday 30 April 2022

Submission deadline 1 Wednesday 11 May 2022

Block Three
Block Four

Live session Saturday 7 May 2022
Live session Saturday 21 May 2022

Open Session

Wednesday 25 May 2022

Plan deadline Saturday 28 May 2022

Submission deadline 2 Wednesday 8 June 2022

Michaelmas 2022: **Liberal Democracy in Practice**

Block One

Live session Saturday 8 October 2022

Block Two

Live session Saturday 22 October 2022

Open Session Wednesday 26 October 2022

Plan deadline Saturday 29 October 2022

Submission deadline 1 Wednesday 9 November 2022

Block Three

Live session Saturday 5 November 2022

Block Four

Live session Saturday 19 November 2022

Open Session Wednesday 23 November 2022

Plan deadline Saturday 26 November 2022

Submission deadline 2 Wednesday 7 December 2022

Assignment submission dates are provided for each unit in the Course Guide (above).

Whilst every effort is made to avoid changes to this programme, published details may be altered without notice at any time. The Institute reserves the right to withdraw or amend any part of this programme without prior notice.

University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education, Madingley Hall, Cambridge, CB23 8AQTel
01223 746222 www.ice.cam.ac.uk