UNIVERSITY of BRADFORD

Module Descriptor

| Module Details | |
|---|---|
| Module Title | The Politics and Processes of Foreign Policy |
| Module Code | PES5035-B |
| Academic Year | 2021/2 |
| Credits | 20 |
| School | School of Social Sciences |
| FHEQ Level | FHEQ Level 5 |

| Contact Hours | |
|---|---|
| Type | Hours |
| Lectures | 12 |
| Tutorials | 11 |
| Directed Study | 177 |

| Availability | |
|---|---|
| Occurrence | Location / Period |
| BDA | University of Bradford / Semester 1 |

## Module Aims

This module is designed to provide an understanding of the nature and practice of foreign policy and diplomacy in contemporary international politics; and knowledge and expertise in professional skills and processes associated with international diplomacy and negotiation.

## Outline Syllabus

This module examines the nature, development, processes and practices of foreign policy, including: the dynamics and influences on the inter-governmental, bilateral, regional and international foreign policies of states; the development of diplomatic practice and the foreign policy of states in modern historical context; theories of foreign policy (e.g. rational actor, bureaucratic politics); the influence of domestic factors on foreign policy; contemporary practices of diplomacy and statecraft; international law and the role of international institutions (e.g. The United Nations, the European Union, the IMF and World Bank); and the relevance of norms, force and human rights in foreign policy. Case studies will be used to develop an understanding of how states make foreign policy as well as the domestic and external constraints faced by governments in achieving their foreign policy objectives.The module will further enable you to deepen your understanding of contemporary diplomacy and foreign policy dilemmas through experiential learning and through exercises and projects, including options to participate in the international 'Model United Nations' student exercise.

| Learning Outcomes | |
|---|---|
| Outcome Number | Description |
| 01 | Apply and combine concepts, theories and methods from international relations, politics, peace studies, security studies and other relevant social sciences and humanities to the analysis of foreign policy, its formation and implementation. |
| 02 | Apply relevant concepts, theories and methods to the analysis of foreign policy, demonstrating an understanding of the complexity of these challenges and critical engagement with relevant international policy debates. |
| 03 | Apply concepts, theories and methods used in the study of international relations to analyse the development, implementation and effectiveness of the normative, legal and institutional frameworks of foreign policy. |
| 04 | Explain complex concepts and theories in a concise, confident and accurate manner. |
| 05 | Systematically review academic debates, clearly distinguishing and explaining the main contending theoretical perspectives, showing awareness of key differences in reasoning. |
| 06 | Exercise critical judgement, through distinguishing strengths and limitations in academic theories and research evidence. |
| 07 | Recognise and discuss relationships between knowledge practices and the forms and operations of power. |
| 08 | Use concepts and theories to analyse case studies that amplify relevant issues and debates pertinent to the study of foreign policy, its formation and implementation. |
| 09 | Apply and develop skills relating to the practice of international negotiations, crisis responses or problem solving relevant to employment in practitioner and policy communities in the area of diplomacy and foreign policies. |

## Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

The aim of the assessment strategy is to promote and review the progressive achievement of learning outcomes. This is achieved through the following:Formative assessment includes an in-class presentation on the academic literature relating to specific topics based on written notesFor summative assessment, you will submit an essay at the end of the semesterWeekly tasks are designed to allow and encourage you to demonstrate their achievement of the learning outcomes in different formats, thus broadening your skills and fostering a more inclusive curriculum.

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| Mode of Assessment | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Type | Method | Description | Weighting |
| Summative | Coursework - Written | Essay (3400-3600 words) | 100% |
| Formative | Coursework - Written | Presentation of literature review. 500 words | N/A |

| Reading List |
| --- |
| To access the reading list for this module, please visit https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html |

*Please note:*
*This module descriptor has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but minor changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Upon commencement of the module, students will receive a handbook with further detail about the module and any changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.*

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