1. **Title of the module**

POLI6750 (PO675) Politics and IR Internship

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

Politics and International Relations

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 6

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

15 credits (7.5 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

The module will be taught in the autumn term, with students being able to begin contributing internships from the beginning of the Easter vacation preceding the module. Student recruitment for the module will begin in the March preceding the module, with spaces being confirmed in Week 0 of the new academic year, depending on whether an appropriate internship has been found and approved[[1]](#footnote-2).

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None. Students will however be required to interview for a space on the module where they will be tested on their commitment and capacity for finding an internship independently.

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

This is an optional module that can be chosen by all students taking single and joint honours programmes with the School of Politics and International Relations. It is not available as a ‘wild module’ to students from other schools.

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

1. apply concepts, theories and methods used in the study of politics to the analysis of political issues

2. Have learned how the intellectual knowledge gained through university study can be applied to a variety of practical work-based tasks and issues;

3. Have gained an awareness and understanding of the nature of work within the broad politics field, and of some of the key knowledge-based and practical issues facing employees and organisations

4. Have developed an understanding of the value of work-based learning opportunities for students of Politics and International Relations, and been able to communicate this understanding to fellow students.

5. Have developed a set of learning and practical skills related to the work undertaken in the placement organisation.

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

1. Gather, organise and deploy evidence, data and information from a variety of secondary and primary sources;

2. Identify, investigate, analyse, formulate and advocate solutions to problems

3. Construct reasoned arguments, synthesise relevant information and exercise critical judgement;

4. Communicate effectively and fluently in speech and writing

5. Use communication and information technology, including audio-visual technology, for the retrieval and presentation of information, including, where appropriate, statistical or numerical information

6. Work independently, demonstrating initiative, self-organisation and time management

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module blends practical workplace experience, in the form of an internship in the area of politics and international relations, with taught seminars and private study. The internship will allow students to experience first-hand the practical application of their degree subject in the wider world of work, and will provide the opportunity to develop transferable skills such as teamwork, communication and self-organisation. The taught seminars will provide an opportunity to reflect upon, and develop, knowledge of the sector and its relationship with the academic field of study, using the student’s internship experiences and a range of other resources. This will include input from School staff and alumni working in relevant fields, as well as appropriate support from employability and careers-guidance professionals.

It will be the student’s responsibility to source and apply for internship opportunities, but assistance will be provided both by the School’s Employability, Internships, Placements and Alumni Relations Officer, and the University’s Careers and Employability Service. These opportunities should be in an organisation whose aims and activities are broadly related to politics and international relations, and the internship should reflect these activities and give the student the opportunity to work in a way which allows the module learning objectives to be achieved. Students on pre-approved School-administered internships (currently those based with Kent Union and the Representation of the EU Commission to the UK) will also be eligible to take this module.

The internship must consist of at least 60 hours of work, but this may be spread across a number of days / weeks and need not be a full-time position. The module convenor will approve of all internship opportunities prior to their commencement and students are advised to liaise closely with the module convenor and other appropriate staff in good time. Internships must finish by the date of the final seminar, and the School will provide all documentation[[2]](#footnote-3) and relevant insurance[[3]](#footnote-4) / health and safety checks[[4]](#footnote-5) to ensure that the placement meets both University and sector requirements and guidance on work-related learning opportunities.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

* Boys, J. D and Keating, M. F. (2009) 'The Policy Brief: Building Practical and Academic Skills in International Relations and Political Science', Politics, 29:3.
* Curtis, S. and Blair, A. (2011) The Scholarship of Engagement for Politics: Placement Learning, Citizenship and Employability. Birmingham: C-SAP
* Dewey, J. (1910). How We Think. Massachusetts: DC Heath and Company
* Doherty, L. (2013), 'Gender Mainstreaming in Political Science Experiential Learning Programs', Politics & Gender, 9:02
* Helyer, R. (2010). The Work-based Learning Students Handbook. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan
* Koehler, C. T. (1980), 'The Intern and the Internship: "From Beginning to End"', Teaching Political Science, 7:3.
* Kolb, D. (1983). Experiential Learning: Experience as the Source of Learning and Development London: Prentice Hall
* Moon, J. (2004). A Handbook of Reflective and Experiential Learning: Theory and Practice. London: Routledge
* Moon, J. and Schokman, W. (2000). ‘Political Science Research Internships and Political Science Education’ Politics, 20:3
* Norton, Phillip (Lord Norton of Louth). (2008). Parliamentary Placements: The Benefits and Challenges’ Enhancing Learning in the Social Sciences, 1:1

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours: 14

Total work based hours: 60 minimum

Private study hours: 70

Total study hours: 150

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

* Essay, 3000 words, 50%
* Portfolio, 35%
* Presentation, 10-15 minutes, 15%

13.2 Reassessment methods

Reassessment instrument: 100% coursework

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section12) and methods of assessment (section 13)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.4 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **x** |
| Internship | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Group workshops | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |  |  |  | **x** |  |
| Seminars | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |  |  |  | **x** |  |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay |  |  |  |  |  | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Portfolio | **x** |  |  | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  | **x** |
| Presentation | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |  |  |  | **x** |  |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

Examples of international contexts and organisations will be used where applicable to illustrate the subject content. Students will have the opportunity to develop the ability to think globally and have an understanding of international cultures through working with team members and students within their cohort, from diverse range of backgrounds.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Revised FSO Feb 2018

1. See Appendix 1 for the full application and selection process [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. An example contract generated by the School of Politics and IR in conjunction with Kent Innovation and Enterprise / the Careers and Employability Service can be provided on request [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Students on approved internships will be covered by the University of Kent’s Travel and Personal Accident Insurance <https://www.kent.ac.uk/finance-staff/services/insurance/forms/student-travel.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. An appropriate health and safety check will be undertaken by the School before the commencement of the internship. This check will be commensurate with both University and ASET guidance <http://www.asetonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/ASET-Good-Practice-Guide-Health-Safety-2014.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)