## KentVision Code and title of the module

POLI6008 Dictatorships

## Division and School/Department or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module

Division of Human and Social Sciences, School of Politics and International Relations

## The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)

Level 6

## The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents

15 (7.5 ECTS)

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

Autumn or Spring

## Prerequisite and co-requisite modules and/or any module restrictions

None

## The course(s) of study to which the module contributes

***Optional to the following courses:***

* BA (Hons) Politics and International Relations
* BA (Hons) Politics and International Relations (Bidiplôme)
* BA (Hons) Politics and International Relations with a Placement Year
* BA (Hons) Politics and International Relations with a Foundation Year
* BA (Hons) Politics and International Relations with a Year in Continental Europe or North America
* BA (Hons) Politics and International Relations with a Language
* BA (Hons) Politics and International Relations with a Year in Asia-Pacific
* BA (Hons) Politics and International Relations with Quantitative Research
* BA (Hons) Economics and Politics
* BA (Hons) History and Politics
* BA (Hons) Philosophy and Politics
* BA (Hons) Sociology and Politics
* LLB (Hons) Law and Politics

Also available as an elective module and to short term credit students

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

8.1 Identify and assess different kinds of authoritarian regimes and how they have been studied in political science

8.2 Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the origins of authoritarian regimes and the rise of dictators

8.3 Identify, describe and evaluate patterns of popular support and resistance within authoritarian regimes

8.4 Understand and evaluate the means and conditions by which authoritarian regimes retain or lose power

8.6 Critically evaluate the policies of the international community towards authoritarian regimes and their demise

8.7 Critically evaluate sources of evidence about the politics and society of authoritarian regimes.

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

9.1 Gather, organize and deploy evidence, data and information from a variety of secondary and some primary sources

9.2 Identify, investigate, analyse, formulate and advocate solutions to problems

9.3 Develop reasoned arguments, synthesise relevant information and exercise critical judgement

9.4 Reflect on, and manage, their own learning and seek to make use of constructive feedback from peers and staff to enhance their performance and personal skills

9.5 The ability to communicate effectively and fluently organise information clearly and coherently; use communication and information technology for the retrieval and presentation of information, including, where appropriate, statistical or numerical information.

## A synopsis of the curriculum

Dictatorships are rising around the world. According to the Varieties of Democracy Institute, in 2022 just over one quarter of the world’s population were living in a full democracy, a number that has fallen dramatically in the 21st century. But what is dictatorship, autocracy, authoritarianism? In this module we will analyse the different forms that non-democratic rule takes. We will examine the rise of these kinds of regimes and their leaders, as well as the support and the resistance of their citizens. We will explore how dictatorships persist, why they fall, and the role of the international community. The module will explore case studies of dictatorship from China to Iraq, and draw on films, documentaries, books, and cutting-edge political science studies.

## Reading list

The University is committed to ensuring that core reading materials are in accessible electronic format in line with the Kent Inclusive Practices.

The most up to date reading list for each module can be found on the university's [reading list pages](https://kent.rl.talis.com/index.html).

## Contact Hours

Private Study: 128

Contact Hours: 22

Total: 150

## Assessment methods

* 1. Main assessment methods

Seminar Reading Response (1000 words) (30%)

Research Paper (3000 words) (70%)

13.2 Reassessment methods

100% coursework

## Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)

**Module learning outcomes against learning and teaching methods:**

| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 8.7 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lectures | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Seminars | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Private study | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

**Module learning outcomes against assessment methods:**

| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 8.7 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Seminar Response | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Research Paper | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

## Inclusive module design

The Division 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

## Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered

Canterbury

## Internationalisation

The module covers authoritarianism from a comparative perspective across place and time so internationalisation is embedded throughout.

**DIVISIONAL USE ONLY**

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

| Date approved | New/Major/Minor revision | Start date of delivery of (revised) version | Section revised (if applicable) | Impacts PLOs (Q6 & 7 cover sheet) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 05.12.22 | New | September 2023 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |