



PARTNERS ACADEMIC SUMMER SCHOOL 2025

Syllabus for Politics

Subject Area

This syllabus is for PARTNERS applicants seeking to progress to the degrees of:

- L200 BA Hons Politics
 - L250 BA Hons International Relations
 - L290 BA Hons Politics and International Relations
 - LL21 BA Hons Politics and Economics
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Aims

To allow students to demonstrate their potential to succeed in specified degree programmes by showing a grasp of entry-level subject-specific knowledge, understanding, cognitive and subject-specific skills.

Learning Outcomes

A good knowledge and understanding of ...

- Students will:
 1. Gain foundational knowledge concerning the study of Politics
 2. Gain practical skills concerning research and study skills used in Politics
 3. Gain an ability to engage with higher level cognitive skills concerning critical assessment of political issues and occurrences.

The ability to apply this knowledge and critical understanding to...

- Students will be given opportunities to think critically and demonstrate their understanding of topics in politics. Of particular importance will be fostering the students ability to form logical and coherent arguments using credible and academically rigorous evidence.

Competence in...

- Constructing a reasoned argument, synthesising relevant information, using critical judgement and communicating effectively both orally and in writing.
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Summer School Syllabus

Monday 30 June 2025

30th June 9-10: Politics Welcome: Meet the Politics strand leader and fellow students. Live zoom session.

30th June 10-11: All about Newcastle Politics via Canvas

30th June 11-12: Preparatory reading time for online lectures. Reading options will be found on Canvas.

30th June 1-2: Online lecture 'L200: Politics', on demand Canvas

30th June 2-3: Preparatory reading time for online lectures. Reading options will be found on Canvas.

30th June 3-4: Online lecture 'L250: International Relations', on demand Canvas

30th June 4-5: Dr Boyle's live office hour via Zoom

Tuesday 1st July 2025

1st July 9-10: Politics Formative Assessment Overview. Live zoom session.

1st July 10-11: Online lecture 'L290: Politics and International Relations', on demand Canvas

1st July 11-12: Online lecture 'LL21: Politics and Economics, on demand Canvas

Thursday 3rd July 2025

3rd July 9-10: Politics Welcome: Meet the Politics strand leader and fellow students.

3rd July 10-12: Lecture 1: What is Politics? This session will introduce students to the study of politics, focusing on traditional conceptions of politics, what constitutes 'political', followed by an exploration of the main fields of political study offered at Newcastle.

3rd July 1-2: Library Skills for Politics.

3rd July 2-3: Apply your skills - Politics group working time.

3rd July 3-4: Everything you need to know: Politics Q and A.

Friday 4th July 2025

4th July 10-12: Lecture 2: How to 'do' Politics In this session, students will unpack 'how politics is done'. This will include application of the various strands of political study, research methods and approaches, as well as research question framing.

4th July 1-2: Apply your skills - Politics Group Working time

4th July 2-4: Interactive Simulation Game

Activities for Personal Study

Students will be expected to read in preparation for sessions, and will be expected to engage fully in formative exercises.

On-Campus Teaching:

Wednesday 2nd July (PM only) Thursday 3rd July & Friday 4th July

Online Teaching:

Monday 30th June, Tuesday 1st

Formative Assessment Details

A short piece of writing as well as an annotated bibliography of sources
More details will be given during the event by your Academic Strand Lead.

Hand-in Method

Digital

Assessment deadline

Wednesday 9th July