



University of
BRISTOL

Undergraduate study

Politics and International Relations



Key highlights



Cutting-edge studies

Our leading research centres focus on topics from global insecurities to citizenship.



Enhanced skills

We partner with Bristol Q-Step to offer politics students career-enhancing skills training.



Excellent prospects

Our graduates succeed in roles with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, international NGOs, finance, law, the media, research, teaching, and public and voluntary sector work.

bristol.ac.uk/ug-study

Why study politics and international relations at Bristol?

Few subjects are as directly engaged with the big issues. To study politics and international relations is to study power, who exercises it, for whom, how it is unequally distributed, and with what consequences. At Bristol, you will study not only the politics of individual countries and governments, but also the relationships between individuals, communities and countries. Staff research interests and expertise are at the cutting edge of the discipline in a variety of areas, including security, European politics, gender, political philosophy (analytic and continental), international development, international organisations, environmental politics, and US and British politics.

What you will study

All of our courses include a mix of the following subjects:

- world politics and international relations
- comparative and national politics
- political theory
- approaches and methods.

Our first-year core units provide an introduction to key issues in politics, including concepts such as power, the state, democracy, freedom and citizenship; political institutions and practice in a range of different countries; theories and controversies in international relations; and how we go about studying and researching the 'political.'

The second year introduces students to the major subfields of the discipline: political theory, international relations, and comparative and national politics. Sample units cover an exciting variety and could include The Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa, Green Political Theory, Politics and Policymaking in the UK, and more.

The final year offers a wide choice from a changing menu of more specialist units, allowing you to really focus on what interests you most. Sample units may include:

- States and Markets
- Feminisms, Gender and International Relations
- The Politics of the Contemporary Labour Party
- Peace Building Theory and Practice
- Populism and Politics in India.

Single honours students will write a 10,000-word dissertation, which provides the opportunity to concentrate on a single topic of special interest. Joint honours students can choose to take the dissertation as an option.

Q-Step programme

We also offer the option of three- and four-year degree programmes combining core disciplinary learning with enhanced quantitative skills training in applied data analysis relevant to research in the social sciences. Find out more about our 'with Quantitative Research Methods' course offerings at: bristol.ac.uk/qstep.

Find out more

Entry requirements, course structure and units
bristol.ac.uk/ug2021-politics

'My experience at Bristol has given me the confidence that I can make the change I want to see in the world happen in the future.'

Marco (BSc Politics and International Relations)



Bristol is a politically engaged city, enriched with cultural diversity, which makes it a fascinating place to study politics and international relations.



You can choose to take a four-year Study Abroad degree, with a year studying in English at one of our partner universities overseas, or you could study Politics with a modern language and spend a year abroad immersed in that language.



Career destinations

Analyst
Management Consultant
Research intern
Civil Servant
Account Executive

Courses

BSc Politics and International Relations /
BSc Politics and International Relations with Study Abroad

BSc / MSci Politics with Quantitative Research Methods

BSc Politics with Quantitative Research Methods with Study Abroad

BA Politics and French / German / Italian / Portuguese / Russian / Spanish

BSc Economics and Politics /
BSc Economics and Politics with Study Abroad

BSc Philosophy and Politics

BSc Politics and Sociology

BSc Social Policy and Politics

Connect with the School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies

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This leaflet contains information for students planning to start university in autumn 2021. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (May 2020). However, since this information is subject to change, you are advised to check the University's website, bristol.ac.uk/ug-study for the latest updates. Any sample units listed are indicative and offerings may change due to developments in the relevant academic field. Unit availability varies depending on staffing, student choice and timetabling constraints.



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