

Department of POLIS

Options Booklet for Third Year papers Politics and International Relations 2023-24

Students must return preliminary paper choices by
Friday 19th May

Department of Politics and International Studies

Email: ugradadmin@polis.cam.ac.uk

In this booklet you will find information on the available POLIS papers for final year students of the HSPS and History & Politics Triposes. If you have any queries please contact your Director of Studies in the first instance.

Table of Contents

Important information for 2023-24	1
How to submit the paper choices	1
2023-24 Available Papers	1
Politics and International Relations	2
The Politics of the Future, 1880-2080.....	2
For HSPS Part IIB:	2
For History & Politics Part II	3
Paper Combinations.....	4
Politics and International Relations Paper Descriptions	5
POL6: Statistics and Methods in Politics and International Relations	5
POL9: Conceptual issues in politics and international relations	5
POL10: The History of Political Thought from c.1700-c.1890	6
POL11: Political Philosophy & the History of Political Thought Since c.1890	6
POL12: The Politics of the Middle East	7
POL13: British and European Politics	8
POL14: International Security	8
POL15: The Politics of Africa	9
POL16: The Politics of Global China.....	10
POL17: Politics and Gender.....	11
POL18: The Politics of the International Economy.....	12
POL19: Themes and Issues in Politics and International Relations.....	12
POL20: The Politics of Latin America.....	13
POL21: The Politics of the Future, 1880-2080	13
POL22: Politics and Public Policy	14
History Paper 6: States between states: The history of international political thought from the Roman Empire to the early nineteenth century	14
History and Philosophy of Science Paper 5: Epistemology and Metaphysics of Science.....	15
History and Philosophy of Science Paper 6: Ethics and Politics of Science, Technology and Medicine	15
Economics Paper 8: History and Philosophy of Economics.....	15
The Cold War and Its Aftermath in East Asia, EAS 2	16
Administrators	18

Important information for 2023-24

New paper numbers

POL16 will become the Politics of Global China

POL14 will become International Security, although this is an expansion of the topics covered by the paper, rather than it becoming a completely different paper

POL20 will become The Politics of Latin America

Assessment

POL6: examined by a 5000-word project report and a 2-hour exam

POL19: Themes and issues in Politics and International Relations will be examined by two 5000 word long essays only.

POL21: The Politics of the Future will be examined by two 5000 word long essays only.

Caps

POLIS will do its best to accommodate as many student preferences as possible. But there are some papers where it is plausible that we will have more student interest than we have supervisors to supervise them. If we have to cap papers, we will give priority in the first instance to those whose preferences reached us by the deadline of 19 May. Papers that may be affected include POL16 The Politics of Global China, POL21 The Politics of the Future, and POL22 Politics and Public Policy.

How to submit the paper choices

Please review this guide and discuss your choices with your Directors of Studies.

Submit your choices on the online system. The link will be circulated on 04 May 2023.

2023-24 Available Papers

Politics and International Relations

POL6	Statistics and methods in politics and International Relations
POL9	Conceptual Issues in Politics and International Relations

POL10	The History of Political Thought from c.1700-1890
POL11	Political Philosophy & the History of Political Thought since c.1890
POL12	The Politics of the Middle East
POL13	British and European Politics
POL14	International Security
POL15	The Politics of Africa
POL16	The Politics of Global China
POL17	Politics and Gender
POL18	The Politics of the International Economy
POL19	Themes and issues in Politics and International Relations
POL20	The Politics of Latin American
POL21	The Politics of the Future, 1880-2080
POL22	Politics and Public Policy
History 6	States between States: The history of international political thought from the Roman Empire to the early nineteenth century (<i>Historical Tripos</i>)
HPS 5	Epistemology and Metaphysics of Science (<i>History and Philosophy of Science Tripos</i>)
HPS 6	Ethics and Politics of Science, Technology and Medicine (<i>History and Philosophy of Science Tripos</i>)
Economics 8	History and Philosophy of Economics (<i>Economics Tripos</i>)
EAS 2	The Cold War and Its Aftermath in East Asia (<i>Asian and Middle Eastern Tripos</i>)
Dissertation	Up to 10,000 words on a topic chosen by the student

For HSPS Part IIB:

These are the other HSPS papers available. Please see advice from the corresponding departments regarding these papers.

SOC ANTH: <https://www.socanth.cam.ac.uk/current-students/ug-part-two-a>

SOC ANTH: <https://www.socanth.cam.ac.uk/current-students/ug-part-two-b>

SOCIOLOGY: <https://www.sociology.cam.ac.uk/part-ii>

Social Anthropology:

SAN10	Anthropology of Post-Socialist Societies
SAN14	Anthropology of History, Memory and Time

Sociology:

SOC6	Advanced social theory
SOC7	Media, culture and society
SOC9	Global capitalism
SOC10	Gender
SOC11	Racism, race and ethnicity
SOC12	Empire, colonialism, imperialism
SOC13	Health, medicine and society
SOC15	Criminology, sentencing and the penal system

For History & Politics Part II:

Please see the list of History options available from the History & Politics options guide.

Paper Combinations

Paper choice rules for HSPS Part IIB Politics and International Relations track:

- (i) POL9;
- (ii) two papers chosen from POL10–22; one paper may be substituted by a dissertation on a subject approved by the Head of the Department of Politics and International Studies, which shall be submitted in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 19;
- (iii) one paper chosen from the following: B2–B4 from Part II of the Archaeology Tripos, SAN8–15, SOC6–15, Paper 5 or Paper 6 for the subject History and Philosophy of Science in Part II of the Natural Sciences Tripos, Paper 6 from Part II of the Historical Tripos, Paper 8 borrowed from Part II of the Economics Tripos, Paper EAS.2 from the Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, or a further politics paper chosen from POL6 and POL10–22;

Paper choice rules for HSPS Part IIB Politics and Sociology joint track:

- (i) two papers chosen from POL6, POL10–22;
- (ii) two papers chosen from SOC5–15;
- (iii) a candidate may substitute for one paper a dissertation on a subject within the field of Politics or Sociology approved by the Head of the relevant Department, which shall be submitted in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 19.

*Students will have chosen a track in their second year. They are **not permitted to switch tracks between Part IIA and Part IIB** unless they switch from a joint track to a single track (for example: Pol/Soc Part IIA to PolIR Part IIB).*

Paper choice rules for History & Politics Part II:

All students take HP3. Students can take up to three additional POLIS papers, though please check the rules in the 'H&P procedure for Part II choices' document.

Politics and International Relations Paper Descriptions

POL6: Statistics and Methods in Politics and International Relations

This paper introduces students to statistical methods used in the social sciences, illustrates how these methods can be used to study important issues in the study of politics and international relations, and gives students hands-on experience on using these methods and writing up the results of empirical research. The first part of the course introduces students to a variety of statistical concepts and methods – issues covered include descriptive statistics, bivariate association, multivariate linear regression, logistic regression and multilevel regression. These methods are illustrated through examples from research in politics and international relations. This part of the course is taught through lectures, practical sessions and supervisions, and is assessed by a two-hour exam at the end of the year (making up 50% of the overall mark for the course). The second part of the course consists of a data analysis project, on which students write a 5,000-word report that is due early in Easter term (which makes up the other 50% of the overall mark). For this project, students choose a topic from a list provided by the course leaders, design a research project based on available data related to the topic, and conduct the data analysis for the project. This paper will give students useful skills both for conducting social science research and for various career options in the public and private sector.

Selected readings:

- Michael Blastland and Andrew Dilnot, 'The numbers game: statistics and politics', Open Democracy (8 Oct 2007):
https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/the_numbers_game_statistics_and_politics/
- 'Prediction by the Numbers', PBS NOVA documentary (2018):
<https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x6fi9b3>
- Peter John, 'Quantitative methods', in D. Marsh and G. Stoker (eds), *Theory and methods in political science* (3rd ed) (Palgrave, 2010) [Chapter 13]
- Roger Tarling, *Statistical modelling for social researchers: Principles and practice* (Routledge, 2009) [esp. Chapters 1 and 2]

POL9: Conceptual issues in politics and international relations

This is solely an examination paper. Candidates are required to answer one from a choice of twelve general questions about different dimensions of politics and international relations. POL9 gives candidates the opportunity to think about different kinds of general questions in politics and international relations, and to use the knowledge and understanding they have acquired to reflect on these and develop arguments of their own at length. The paper is set to avoid advantaging or disadvantaging any particular choice of papers elsewhere in Part II. Some questions can be answered from a knowledge of political thought, some from a knowledge of international or domestic politics; most will encourage candidates to connect the two. There are classes for the paper in the Lent term.

POL10: The history of political thought from c.1700-c.1890 (Historical Tripos Part IB Paper T2/ Part II Paper 4) (Paper Coordinator: TBC)

From the Enlightenment, and extending from the American, French and Haitian revolutions to the advent of novel forms of constitutional government and political legitimacy, this paper explores the formation of the fundamental concepts of modern politics. The paper is divided into two sections. The first covers canonical political theorists through study of their major political writings and includes figures such as Montesquieu, Rousseau, Burke, Wollstonecraft, Hegel, Mill and Marx. The second section looks at key concepts and debates in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century politics. Topics covered include the relationship between history and progress; novel ways of thinking about the relationship between politics and culture; the rise of political economy as a way of understanding modern commercial societies; the concepts of 'revolution', of 'constitution', and of 'liberty'; debates about the status, social, cultural and political, of women; the modern concept of empire; the socialist critique of capitalism; and the mounting challenges to the institution of slavery.

POL11: Political Philosophy & the History of Political Thought Since c.1890

This paper explores some of the central texts and key ideas of twentieth and twenty-first century political thought, looking at both analytical concepts and their historical contexts and evolution. It provides the opportunity to trace the development of political ideas into the twentieth century and further into contemporary political philosophy. This includes many ideas that students will have encountered in other contexts – freedom, democracy, revolution, equality, international relations and global justice – as well as some ideas that may be new or less familiar – for instance, ecology, punishment or welfare. It also provides an opportunity to explore the history of political thought and political philosophy more generally, and to consider what studying politics historically or theoretically brings to our understanding of politics in practice.

The paper is divided into two parts, Section A covers a number of historical topics, Section B a variety of themes in contemporary political philosophy that have some historical, and some purely normative, elements. It is possible to concentrate on one side or other of the paper, but students will be required to answer at least one question from each section. Like the earlier History of Political Thought Papers, Section A encourages the contextual study of key political texts and debates. This section introduces students to important thinkers such as Nietzsche, Weber, Hayek or Rawls; to developments in the Marxist and liberal traditions of political thought; and to significant political debates, such as those accompanying the crisis of the Weimar Republic, or the emergence of American political science. Section B introduces students to themes in contemporary political philosophy. Through the study of such themes such as, for example, post-colonialism, property, sovereignty and obligation, students can explore how modern philosophical arguments can be simultaneously engaged both as a normative dialogue with a range of contemporary and classic texts, as well as

being seen to emerge as historically specific claims about politics and political ideas in their own right.

Overall then, this is a varied paper that offers a chance to explore some familiar ideas in more detail or in more contemporary contexts; to encounter new ideas; and to reflect on what political philosophy means for the study of politics in the round.

Introductory readings:

For Section A

- T. Ball and R. Bellamy (eds.) *The Cambridge History of Twentieth-Century Political Thought* (Cambridge, 2003) [available at www.histories.cambridge.org]

For Section B

- W. Kymlicka, *Contemporary Political Philosophy: An Introduction 2nd ed.* (Oxford 2001).

POL12: The Politics of the Middle East

This paper, on the politics and international relations of the modern Middle East, is based around three sets of lectures. The first section explores states in the Middle East through the lens of authoritarianism, its continuation and its reconfiguration. The second section is on the politics of identity in the Middle East, looking at the interplay of national, religious and gender affiliations within and across the politics of the countries of the region. The third section is on the Middle East in global politics, understanding the role of Middle Eastern states, movements and diasporas within international political debates and their place within global political imaginaries.

These series cover the Arab states (including those of North Africa), Iran, Israel and Turkey. In addition, there are a few special lectures or seminars focusing on the politics of specific themes of present-day relevance. Usually, two or three such themes are taught per year, with the choice depending on events of interest as the course starts. Recent and projected future themes include how the Gaza Strip becomes a flashpoint in the Israel-Palestine conflict, China's role in the Middle East, and the politics of Lebanon's economic crisis from 2019. These additional lectures and seminars give students the opportunity to engage in detailed knowledge of specific sets of contemporary issues alongside the broader themes and theories in the other parts of the paper.

The paper builds upon the POL4 option on Syria and Iraq, and knowledge of those two countries is presupposed in the teaching. Those who have not studied this option or taken other historically-oriented courses on the modern Middle East will be at a disadvantage if they take this paper.

Selected readings:

Eugene Rogan, *The Arabs: A History* (London: Penguin, 3rd edition, 2018)

Joseph Sassen, *Anatomy of Authoritarianism in the Arab Republics* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016)

POL13: British and European Politics

European politics has always been a vibrant subject, and has been in considerable flux in recent years. In fact, the word 'crisis' is frequently used to describe various aspects of European politics - from the 'crisis of the post-war settlement' and the 'crisis of the welfare state' to the 'crisis of political parties', the 'Eurozone crisis', the 'migration crisis', and now the impact of Covid. The UK's departure from the European Union has also raised profound questions about the relationship between Britain and continental Europe, the effectiveness of the UK's political institutions, and the long-term prospects of the EU itself.

POL13 examines these questions through two modules, one on British Politics and one on The Politics of the European Union: the exam will be an undivided paper, so students can specialize in one module or study them in combination. The British Politics module explores politics in the UK since 1945, including the rise and fall of the post-war settlement, Thatcherism and New Labour, changes to the constitution and policymaking, and electoral behaviour up to the 2019 general election. The Politics of the European Union module examines key aspects of the process of European integration, such as the nature of the European Union, the distribution of power within (and political mobilisation against) the EU, monetary integration and its problems, EU enlargement, and the EU's role in international affairs. The paper will enable students to engage critically with the scholarly literature in these fields and to develop a comparative and historical perspective on British and European politics.

Selected readings:

- Tony Judt, *Postwar: A History of Europe since 1945* (London: Pimlico, 2005)
- David Edgerton, *The Rise and Fall of the British Nation: A Twentieth Century History* (2018)
- Julie Smith, *The UK's Journeys In and Out of the EU: Destinations Unknown* (London: Routledge, 2017)

POL14: International security

"Security" is a contested concept in international relations. To some analysts, it refers primarily to issues related to the use and control of military force. Others contend that this definition is unhelpfully narrow, and suggest that climate change, migration, and other transnational phenomena should also be understood as security issues. Much is at stake here: what we label security issues and what we don't may have serious implications for how we prioritize and approach different policy problems.

This paper introduces students to the academic field of “security studies”, broadly conceived. Much of the focus of the paper will be on “traditional” security issues. Why do wars happen, and how do they end? What do nuclear weapons deter, and how might a conventional conflict escalate to a nuclear exchange? How should we think about the influence of rapid changes in military technology on crisis stability? Questions like these are particularly pressing in today’s geopolitical context, and the paper will accordingly devote substantial attention to them. However, the paper also explores alternative perspectives on security, and helps students to think about the security implications of issues like global climate change and pandemic disease.

The paper will be taught in four parts. Part I will explore the causes, conduct, and termination of interstate war; Part II will focus on coercive diplomacy; Part III will introduce students to various aspects of “great power competition”; Part IV will explore alternative understandings of international security, and the politics of the process by which some issues become understood as security problems while others do not.

Selected readings:

- Stephen Walt, “The Renaissance of Security Studies,” *International Studies Quarterly* vol. 35, no. 2 (1991)
- Alex Weisiger, *Logics of War: Explanations for Limited and Unlimited Conflicts* (Cornell University Press, 2013)
- Caitlin Talmadge, *The Dictator’s Army: Battlefield Effectiveness in Authoritarian Regimes* (Cornell University Press, 2015)
- Neta Crawford, *The Pentagon, Climate Change, and War: Charting the Rise and Fall of U.S. Military Emissions* (MIT Press, 2022)

POL15: The Politics of Africa

This paper explores the rich and diverse politics of this century's fastest growing continent (in population terms). From the past to the present, it probes the domestic and international factors that have influenced the social, economic and political trajectories of African states and citizenries. Bringing a perspectival approach to political studies, students will consider how the study of Africa can challenge ways of understanding politics that have been grounded primarily in the western experience, as well as how discourses on ‘Africa’ or ‘the global south’ relate to the economic, strategic and ideological projects of those who shape and deploy them. Students are also encouraged to seek out and understand political experience through the agency and voices of African peoples and political actors, alongside the powerful external actors and knowledge-creators on the continent from colonialism until the present day.

The course is taught thematically, examining central themes such as state formation and political organisation, state and society relations, violence and war, identity and ideology,

mobilisation and authority, economic development, global political order, resistance and struggle, etc, through historical and contemporary lenses. Students develop case study knowledge of the diverse range of African countries' experiences through readings, essays and seminars.

The paper begins with a critical reflection on where 'Africa' fits into world politics. We consider the continuities and changes in Africa's position in the global order, from European colonialism through independence and the Cold War, to humanitarian and security agendas of recent western policy, the rise of China and the emergence of south-south solidarity. This understanding of the international context will frame our analysis of the history of state formation on the continent, looking at precolonial and colonial systems of rule, the ideologies and strategies of anti-colonial struggle, and their legacies in post-independence politics. We will then probe deeper into the nature of political authority, mobilisation and legitimacy in independent Africa, and how these relate to different forms of political participation and domination, order and disorder: one-party rule, multiparty democracy, popular protest and conflict. Finally, we chart different African futures as anticipated in the present, including youth and urbanisation and changes brought about through digital communications.

Selected readings:

- Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth* (Penguin, 1961)
- Mahmood Mamdani, *Citizen and Subject: Contemporary Africa and the Legacy of Late Colonialism* (Princeton University Press, 1996).
- Nanjala Nyabola, *Digital Democracy, Analogue Politics: How The Internet Era Is Transforming Kenya* (Zed Books, 2018)

POL16: Politics of Global China

China's increasingly prominent role in the world has attracted all kinds of attention, ranging from adulation to anxiety and war-mongering. Despite the spotlight given to Global China, much of it uncovers only glimpses and shadows. The reason for this is that it focuses on only part of the picture. It is difficult, if not impossible, to disentangle China's global aspirations from its domestic politics. This paper will begin with an overview of twentieth-century history in China, with special attention given to pivotal moments in the history of the People's Republic of China. During the Michaelmas Term, the paper will delve into the core issues of domestic politics, including: legitimisation, ideology, and discourse; organisation and institutions; political economic models and their internal tensions; energy and environmental politics; as well as, China's borderlands and minority nationalities. In the Lent Term, the paper will expand its scope to track several of the multiple trajectories and disputed impacts of China's presence across the globe. Throughout the paper, it will be necessary to reflexively grapple with how concepts and narratives come with their own sedimented histories and normative inscriptions. Any engagement with Global China requires an attentiveness to multiple voices and perspectives, which are too often submerged in the framing of US-China rivalry.

Selected Readings:

Rebecca Karl, *China's Revolutions in the Modern World: A Brief Interpretive History* (Verso, 2022).

Julia Chuang, *Beneath the China Boom: Labor, Citizenship, and the Making of a Rural Land Market* (University of California Press, 2020).

Ching Kwan Lee, *The Specter of Global China: Politics, Labor, and Foreign Investment in Africa* (University of Chicago, 2018).

POL17: Politics and Gender

Human security, liberty, political voice, economic status, education, health, war and political violence, freedom of expression, access to markets and public spaces, as well as institutional behaviour are all fundamentally shaped by gender. This paper aims to introduce students to the various ways in which gender impacts on contemporary political debates, as well as introduce students to some of the politics of 'gender' itself. We will address the debates and controversies over how 'gender' is understood from various feminist, LGBTQ+, intersectional and decolonial perspectives, and consider how these insights shape how we understand key issues in politics.

Lectures will be structured by seven themes: Political Representation, Rights, Inequality, Power and the Body, Conflict and Violence, Development and Humanitarianism, and finally Social Movements and Radical Politics.

Selected Readings:

- Butler, Judith (2019) 'Gender in Translation: Beyond Monolingualism'. *PhiloSOPHIA* 9, no. 1 (2019): 1–25.
- Gilreath, Shannon (2014) *The End of Straight Supremacy: Realizing Gay Liberation*. Cambridge University Press.
- Fraser, Nancy (2014) *Fortunes of Feminism: From State-Managed Capitalism to Neo-liberal Crisis*. Verso Press.
- Hill Collins, Patricia (2017) The Difference That Power Makes: Intersectionality and Participatory Democracy. *Investigaciones Feministas* 8(1) pp 19-39.
- Rao, Rahul (2020) *Out of Time: The Queer Politics of Postcoloniality*. Oxford University Press.

POL18: The Politics of the International Economy

This paper looks at modern politics in the context of the international economy. It considers the political opportunities and the political constraints that participation in different kinds of international economies create under changing geopolitical and energy conditions. It puts today's debates about the nature of the international economy and its implications for modern politics in a historical context. The paper develops an historical understanding of arguments about economic life and its relationship to geopolitics, government decisions in response to international economic issues, and the political reactions to those decisions. It uses this understanding to illuminate different aspects of the domestic and international politics of a wide range of modern nation-states today in a world going through a transformative energy transition.

Selected Readings:

- Helen Thompson, *Disorder: Hard times in the 21st century* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022).
- Jeffry A. Frieden, *The fall and rise of global capitalism* (New York: W.W. Norton, 2006).
- H. M Schwartz, *States versus markets: the emergence of a global economy*. (Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2009).

POL19: Themes and Issues in Politics and International Relations

This paper consists of two essays of up to 5,000 words each, which are both formally assessed. There is no exam or general teaching (other than an introductory session at the start of Michaelmas term) for this paper, and students will have three supervisions for each of their essays. The essays will address questions chosen from a list provided by the Department. The questions on this list focus on a wide range of theoretical and empirical issues covered in the study of Politics and International Relations. This paper is, therefore, an opportunity for students to explore in some depth two issues in Politics and International Relations of their interest.

POL20: The Politics of Latin America

This paper examines the politics of Latin America, past and present. Since the conquest of the Americas in the fifteenth century, the region has been uniquely embedded in the global economy and society. The paper traces Latin America's political development, focusing on state-society relations, inequality, political institutions and participation, and international relations. What explains the prevalence of political instability in the region? How do the joint legacies of colonialism and authoritarian rule influence democracy today, and how do social movements participate in it? Why does this region stand out as 'the world's most violent'? Why do its police kill so much, and what might that have to do with organised crime? What role does Latin America play in shaping international institutions and the human rights regime? How has the region conceptualised and implemented development projects, and with what results? Moreover, what do its economies and

political regimes reveal about the enduring forces of colonialism, racialisation, and capitalism? Lectures on this paper consider these and other questions across theory, empirics, and engagement with the everyday life of citizens. Drawing on a wide range of scholarship from politics, political economy, and ethnographic and interpretivist approaches, this paper raises crucial questions about political life and society in this distinctive and vibrant region.

Selected readings

Michel Gobat, 'The Invention of Latin America: A Transnational History of Anti-Imperialism, Democracy, and Race', *The American Historical Review*, 118 (2013), pp. 1345-1375.

Mala Htun, *Inclusion without Representation in Latin America: Gender Quotas and Ethnic Reservations* (Cambridge University Press, 2016).

Diana Kapiszewski, Steven Levitsky and Deborah J. Yashar, *The Inclusionary Turn in Latin American Democracies* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021).

Gerardo L. Munck and Juan Pablo Luna, *Latin American Politics and Society: A Comparative and Historical Analysis* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022).

POL21: The Politics of the Future, 1880-2080

Political thinkers have long sought to imagine better worlds. The most famous texts in the Western tradition include *Plato's Republic* and Thomas More's *Utopia*, the latter of which gave this style of thinking a name. This course explores the modern utopian tradition. It examines accounts of the future produced in Britain and North America from the 1880s to the present. Combining work in literature, political theory, and intellectual history, the course encompasses both utopian and dystopian visions, as well as recurrent attempts to produce a social science of the future. To do so, we read a sample of important utopian/dystopian speculative writings – from William Morris and H.G Wells, through George Orwell and Ursula Le Guin, to Margaret Atwood and William Gibson – as well as theoretical literature on the nature and value of utopian thinking.

The course proceeds in a broadly chronological fashion. It is divided into 3 broad periods: 1890–1925; 1925–1970; 1970–the present. Each concentrates on two main themes though it is important to recognise that these are cumulative, each building on the previous sections. Section I traces the intellectual and imaginative impact of Darwinism and debates over possible socialist societies. Section II focuses on attempts to make sense of totalitarianism and nuclear war. Section III turns to the potential of bio-technological transformation and of environmental catastrophe, culminating in discussion of Artificial Intelligence and the possible emergence of post-human beings. Particular attention is paid to the gendered and racialised dimensions of future visions.

Throughout the course we will reflect on three broad themes:

how writers – whether novelists, philosophers or public intellectuals – (1) imagined alternative social, political, and economic structures; (2) reimagined the self in relation to new technologies and forms of political association; and (3) debated the possibilities and the value of thinking about the future. The course is not intended to be an exhaustive survey of modern utopian thought; rather, the aim is to identify and explore the most significant foci for writing and thinking about the future.

POL22: Politics and Public Policy

This paper introduces the politics of democratic policymaking, with the aim of laying the foundations for empirically substantiated and critical evaluation of the actions of governments. It is structured in two parts. Part one, in Michaelmas term, introduces conceptual and theoretical tools that can help us make sense of how governments in different countries respond to social and economic pressures. We will explore, in turn, the interests, ideas, and institutions that shape the behaviour of key actors in public policymaking. Part two, in Lent term, is an opportunity to delve deeper into some specific policy issues. We will analyse four policy challenges that are of pressing importance in the 21st century, in a series of guest lectures and seminars delivered by experts from the Bennett Institute for Public Policy. There will be two revision sessions in Easter Term.

Introductory readings:

Dodds, A. (2018) *Comparative Public Policy*. London: Palgrave. Second Edition.

Kingdon, J. (2013) *Agendas, Alternatives and Public Policies*. Essex: Pearson. Second Edition.

Scheve, K. & Stasavage, S. (2016) *Taxing the Rich. A History of Fiscal Fairness in the United States and Europe*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

BORROWED PAPERS –

History Paper 6: States between states: The history of international political thought from the Roman Empire to the early nineteenth century

This paper looks historically at the different ways in which this ‘international’ space has been constructed. We begin in ancient Rome, with a word, Imperium, that of itself crosses the inside/out divide, being both a word for ‘internal’ rule and a word for the concrete, ‘external’ extension of rule – the ‘empire’; and we end with intellectual challenges to European conceptions and practices of empire in the early nineteenth century. Importantly, however, the intellectual history of the ‘inter-political’ or ‘international’ is not simply the intellectual history of imperial formations. As the paper shows, this dimension of the history of political thought involves all sorts of ‘inter-political’ concepts, ‘states between states’: unions, federations, confederations, composite monarchies, leagues, alliances, friendly states, hostile states; as well as new spaces of ‘inter-political’ citizenship.

Further information on the course is available:

History and Philosophy of Science Paper 5: Epistemology and Metaphysics of Science

This paper considers a series of central questions in the philosophy of science. Topics covered include whether we should believe that our best scientific theories are true, whether there are fundamental laws and what they might be, the role of various forms of simplification and idealisation in science, issues around the alleged unity of the sciences and of scientific method, and the relationship between scientific knowledge and practical interventions.

History and Philosophy of Science Paper 6: Ethics and Politics of Science, Technology and Medicine

Science, technology and medicine play a central role in the modern world. However, there are many on-going political and ethical controversies over the role they ought to play. These include debates over whether, when and how, ethical and political values should shape scientific research and practice, and over when and how scientific results and new technologies should be used. Furthermore, these important disputes relate to more fundamental questions about the relationship between truth, values and objectivity. The aim of this paper is to introduce students to both practical and theoretical debates over the politics and ethics of science and to examine their inter-relationships.

Economics Paper 8: History and Philosophy of Economics

The paper is intended to help the students fully appreciate the strengths and weaknesses of the economic theories contained in other courses in the Tripos. It aims to do so by teaching them: (i) the major theoretical innovations and debates that have marked the evolution of economics (history of economics); and (ii) the key issues involved in the assessment of different methods of economic investigation (philosophy of economics).

At the end of the Paper, students will acquire: (i) the knowledge of the main innovations in economic theory and how they have emerged and evolved in response to real world problems as well as to intellectual debates; (ii) the knowledge of how economic theories have affected the world, not just by reforming economic policies but also by changing the way people look at the world; (iii) the understanding of relative strengths and weaknesses of different methods of investigation in economics; (iv) the appreciation of the importance – and also the blind spots – of the economic theories that they learn in the rest of Tripos; and (v) a more sophisticated understanding of the current debates in economics, based on the knowledge of the historical roots and the philosophical underpinnings of different economic ideas.

The paper consists of 30 lectures (16 for the history of economics and 14 for the philosophy of economics).

The 'History of Economics' part of the Paper will be examined by a 2,500-word essay (which will count for 50% of the final mark). The 'Philosophy of Economics' part of the Paper will be examined by a 2-hour examination, in which students will be expected to answer two of the four questions (which will count for the other 50%).

Selected Readings

- Chang, H-J., *Economics: The User's Guide*, ch. 4
- Medema, S., *The Hesitant Hand*
- Lawson, T., (2019) *The Nature of Social Reality: Issues in social Ontology* (Routledge)
- Reiss, J., (2013) *Philosophy of Economics: A Contemporary Introduction* (Routledge)

The Cold War and Its Aftermath in East Asia, EAS 2

This combined part II undergraduate /graduate level seminar course available to FAMES and POLIS undergraduates and FAMES and History graduate students examines the Cold War in post-1945 East Asia. It approaches the subject from a variety of vantage points, including contemporary controversies, regional issues and bilateral relations of particular importance to the United States. Drawing on the work of both Western and Asian writers, it stresses the importance of viewing the Cold War and its Aftermath from a broad perspective that encompasses not only diplomatic history, but also distinctive contributions from the social sciences, including international relations, political science, anthropology and cultural studies. The aim is to set the Cold War in East Asia in an international context, analysing the view from Washington (important given the central role played by the United States), while also considering the contrasting outlooks of other regional players, both allies and adversaries of the U.S. The course seeks also to concentrate, where possible, on new and recent historiographical insights, especially those provided by non-English writers. The aim is to develop a genuinely international and multi-cultural outlook and thereby better appreciate the diversity of new findings in this rich and rapidly changing field of scholarship.

The course is structured around three broad thematic issues: *the impact of pre-1945 international relations and the establishment of the Cold War system; the system's fracturing in the context of the Sino-Soviet split; and the significance of alliances, regionalism and the transformation of the Cold War system*. Topics covered include the Occupation of Japan, the "Loss of China"; the Korean and Indochina Wars; the Cultural Revolution, genocide, and the Cambodian conflict; US alliance relations with Japan and the Republic of Korea; US-India relations in response to the challenge of China post-1949; ASEAN and regionalism; North Korea as a contemporary strategic challenge; history and identity politics in contemporary East Asia; and multilateralism and competing definitions of order in East Asia. The course also engages with the different theoretical and methodological approaches employed by historians and international relations specialists in analysing these issues.

The course is assessed by an examination at the end of the year, in which students answer three questions.

Administrators

If you have queries about a particular subject, or need to notify us of any changes, please contact the relevant Administration Team using the shared mailbox addresses below:

Politics & International Relations	ugradadmin@polis.cam.ac.uk
Social Anthropology	undergraduate-enquiries@socanth.cam.ac.uk
Sociology	undergrad@sociology.cam.ac.uk
History & Politics	lh696@cam.ac.uk
HSPS Teaching Administrator	facultyteachingadmin@hsps.cam.ac.uk