



ucc

Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, Éire
University College Cork, Ireland

POLITICS IN THIRD YEAR 2025/2026

Administration Office: Room 2.50, Block B, O'Rahilly Building

Contact Information: government@ucc.ie or i.halpin@ucc.ie (Irene Halpin)

Useful websites/webpages:

Department of Government and Politics: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/government-and-politics/>

General overview of the Politics subject: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck101/politics/>

Programme requirements in relation to the Politics subject: <https://ucc-ie-public.courseleaf.com/programmes/bapol/#programmerequisitestext>

STUDENTS TAKE POLITICS CREDITS AS FOLLOWS:

For **50 or 40 credit** subject: Students must take **PO3001** (10 credits) and at least 5 credits from **each** of the three groups (see below).

For **30 credit subject: OPTION 1:** Students take PO3001 (10 credits) and at least 5 credits from **each** group **or** **OPTION 2:** take modules to the value of 30 credits, with at least 5 credits from each group

For **20 credit subject:** Students must take at least 5 credits from **each** group.

For **10 credit subject:** Students must not take **two modules from the same group**.

Group 1: ES4025, HI3045, HI3125, HI3128, HI3129 (5 credit modules)

Group 2: GV3109, GV3216, GV3217, GV4401, GV4409, GV4410, GV4414, GV4416, PO3005 (5 credit modules)

Group 3: PH3025, PH3036, PH3041, PH3042, PH3048 (5 credit modules).

N.B. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU TAKE A 5 CREDIT MODULE FROM EACH GROUP (DEPARTMENT/SCHOOL)

Group 1 – School of History – ES and HI modules

Group 2 – Department of Government and Politics – GV modules

Group 3 – Department of Philosophy – PH modules

IT IS UP TO EACH STUDENT TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE REGISTERED CORRECTLY AND HAVE PICKED THE APPROPRIATE MODULES.

IF YOU FAIL TO OBSERVE THE ABOVE REGULATIONS YOU WILL NOT PASS THE YEAR AND WILL HAVE TO REPEAT IN THE AUTUMN.

You also need to be aware that your third-year counts for two-thirds of your final degree mark. The other third comes from your second-year marks.

Please consult the [UCC Book of Modules](#) carefully when making your module choices and be sure to avoid timetable clashes when choosing electives. You can do this by referring to the university timetables at this [link](#).

PO3001 (10 credits) DISSERTATION (online module)

Lecturers: Dr Liam Weeks (l.weeks@ucc.ie) Department of Government and Politics; Dr Jérôme Aan De Wiel, (J.AanDeWiel@ucc.ie) School of History; and Dr Jason Dockstader (j.dockstader@ucc.ie), Department of Philosophy

Module Objective: To equip students with a detailed knowledge of one particular subject within politics; to develop students' capacity to undertake independent political research in their own research time and in consultation with an academic supervisor.

Assessment: Total Marks 200: (1,000-word research proposal (20 marks), 9,000-word dissertation (180 marks).

Lecture schedule:

ONLINE - Wednesday 1 – 2pm, **except** for first class which will be in-person in WGB_G03
-link for classes will be available on Canvas

NB: The first class will be in-person on **Wednesday 10th September 1-2pm – WGB_G03**

PO3001 classes are delivered in the first semester only. Student research continues in the second semester.

FIRST SEMESTER MODULES

ES4025 Ireland & International Relations: From Independence to Globalisation

Lecturer: Dr Mervyn O'Driscoll, School of History

Module Content: Irish foreign policy (political, diplomatic, and economic); role of regional and international institutions; case studies; the relationship between values, interests, identity, and foreign policy; foreign policy formulation; theoretical approaches.

Lecture Schedule:

Wednesday	12.00 – 13.00	C_WW_9
Thursday	15.00 – 16.00	C_PHARM_LG52*

HI3045 The Politics of Church and State

Lecturer: Dr Andrew McCarthy, School of History

Module Content: This course examines selected themes in the history of church-state relations and focuses on the role of the churches in the political, social, educational, and cultural life of the country. The lectures will also examine the question of tolerance in Irish society with particular reference to case studies.

Lecture Schedule:

Wednesday	15.00 – 17.00	C_CONN_S2
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GV3109 Climate Assemblies

Lecturer: Dr Clodagh Harris, Department of Government and Politics

Module Content: This module explores definitions of what is meant by a climate assembly and outlines their growth at the local, national, regional, and global levels of government. Finally, the role of climate assemblies in policy making processes is critically analysed.

Lecture Schedule:

Tuesday 11:00 13:00 C_ELECT_L2*

GV3216 Contemporary Ecological and Anti-Capitalist Politics

Lecturer: Dr Laurence Davis, Department of Government and Politics

Module Content: The module covers both political theory and practice. It begins with an examination of key features distinctive to contemporary green and anti-capitalist theories and proceeds to analyse the relationship between the two. The remainder of the module is focused on providing students with a structured overview of some of the major varieties of contemporary ecological and anti-capitalist politics.

Lecture Schedule:

Wednesday 14.00 – 16.00 C_FSB_322

GV4401 Global Governance I

Lecturer: Prof Andrew Cottey, Department of Government and Politics.

Module Content: The institutions of global governance and contemporary policy debates surrounding global governance.

Lecture Schedule:

Tuesday 14.00 – 16.00 C_WW_6

GV4409 Political Ideologies & Society Change

Lecturer: Dr Laurence Davis, Department of Government and Politics

Module Content: In this module students critically examine some of the leading political ideologies of our time and assess their significance as catalysts for social change. In addition to focusing on selected ideologies and the core commitments that underpin and give distinctive shape to them, the module also analyses contemporary popular mobilisations inspired by these ideologies and their linkages to on-going struggles for and against political power.

Lecture Schedule:

Wednesday 09:00 11:00 C_ORB_255_SR*

GV4414 Contemporary Debates in Ireland

Lecturer: Dr Liam Weeks, Department of Government and Politics

Module Content: This module examines debates around a number of contemporary issues in Irish politics. These primarily centre on institutional and behavioural issues, such as the constitution, the parliament, political culture, and elections.

Lecture Schedule: Tuesday 11.00 – 13.00 C_ORB_255_SR*

PH3025 Political Philosophy in Theory and Practice

Lecturer: Dr Vittorio Bufacchi, Department of Philosophy

Module Content: This module explores the problems involved with accomplishing political ideals (theory) in actual political institutions (practice).

Lecture Schedule:

Tuesday	16.00 – 17.00	C_FSB_322
Thursday	13.00 – 14.00	C_WGB_G14

PH3036 Moral Psychology 1

Lecturer: Dr Jason Dockstader and Dr Alessandro Salice, Department of Philosophy

Module Objective: To introduce students to some of the most influential thinkers and themes in the history of moral psychology.

Lecture Schedule:

Monday	12.00 – 13.00	C_ORB_212
Thursday	11.00 – 12.00	C_WW_9

Class on Monday, 8th Sept. will be a general introduction to BA Politics Year 3 and the HDip Arts (Politics).

PH3042 Professional Ethics

Lecturer: Dr Julie Reshe, Department of Philosophy

Module Objective: To provide an understanding of the key issues and challenges in professional and business ethics.

Lecture Schedule:

Monday	14.00 – 15.00	C_WW6
Wednesday	11.00 – 12.00	C_ORB_255_SR*

SECOND SEMESTER MODULES

HI3125 Nuclear Politics and Proliferation

Lecturer: Dr Mervyn O'Driscoll, School of History

Module Content: The concept of the 'First' and 'Second' nuclear ages are introduced in addition to questions about proliferation's impact on world security, crisis decision making, the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, deterrence, arms control, civil-military nuclear links, the non-proliferation regime, nuclear safeguards, and 'new' nuclear threats (smuggling and terrorism). Recent and contemporary case studies such as Iraq, Iran and North Korea will be considered.

Lecture Schedule:

Tuesday:	14.00 – 16.00	C_WW_6
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HI3128 Censorship in Twentieth Century Ireland

Lecturer: Dr Donal O Drisceoil, School of History

Module Content: This course examines key themes and events in the history of twentieth-century Irish censorship, from 1900 to independence and partition, and in the two Irish states after 1922. It covers the two main strands of censorship - cultural/moral and political/security - as they have related to literature and periodicals; film and theatre; and newspapers, radio, and television.

Lecture Schedule:

Monday 10.00 – 12.00 C_CONN_S5

HI3129 US Military Intervention and Memory after the Vietnam War (1975-2017)

Lecturer: Prof. David Ryan, School of History

Module Content: The Vietnam War had a profound impact on US society, culture, and foreign policy. The course will examine the impact of the Vietnam War on US intervention in regional conflicts since 1968, including the US interventions in Iraq and Afghanistan. The formation and impact of US collective memory on US policy makers had a profound influence on the choice of strategies and tactics pursued by the presidents from Ford to Obama, yet US leadership and credibility also remained central to their considerations.

Lecture Schedule:

Tuesday 13:00 14:00 C_CUMMINS_110**

Wednesday 12:00 13:00 C_WGB_G01

GV3217 Global Political Economy – Finance

Lecturer: Prof Theresa Reidy, Department of Government and Politics

Module Content: This module will explore contemporary issues of finance and security using a political economy framework. It will consider globalisation and its consequences for the operation of the international economy in the twenty first century.

Lecture Schedule:

Monday 09.00 – 11.00 C_AL_G30*

GV4410 Democracy: Theories and Innovations

Lecturer: Dr Clodagh Harris, Department of Government and Politics

Module Content: Students will examine contemporary 'democratic malaise' and discuss competing definitions and theories of democracy. They will then be introduced to the various models of democracy examining them normatively, empirically and in praxis. This will include an examination of democratic innovations that have emerged in recent decades both nationally and internationally to widen and deepen citizens' participation in political decision making.

Lecture Schedule:

Wednesday 09.00 – 11.00 C_ORB_212

GV4416 European Security

Lecturer: Prof Andrew Cottey, Department of Government and Politics

Module Content: Theoretical perspectives on European security; European security institutions (in particular NATO and the European Union); relations between Russia and the West; contemporary European security issues.

Lecture Schedule:

Tuesday 12.00 - 14.00 C_PHARM_LG51*

PO3005 Issues in Irish Politics

Lecturer: Dr Fiona Buckley, Department of Government and Politics

Module Content: This module examines current issues in Irish politics, specifically understanding of contemporary political behaviour and decision-making.

Lecture Schedule:

Tuesday 10.00 - 12:00 CONN_S5

PH3041 Moral Psychology 2

Lecturer: Dr Jason Dockstader, Dr Alessandro Salice, Department of Philosophy

Module Content: This module introduces students to current philosophical debates in moral psychology, including how and why the human disposition to make and act on moral judgments evolved, on relationships between moral emotions and reasoning about moral judgments, and on the role of moral feelings, opinions, and expressions in social and political psychology.

Lecture Schedule:

Tuesday 16.00 – 17.00 C_WW_6
Thursday 10.00 – 11.00 C_KANE_G18

PH3048 Moral Philosophy in Theory and Practice

Lecturer: Dr Kian Mintz-Woo, Department of Philosophy

Module Content: Students will gain a clearer understanding of foundational moral theories. The module will explore basic concepts and theories of moral philosophy. This will provide the basis for critical discussion of issues such as the difference between theories focussed on rights, on goodness, and on virtue. Students will consider various contemporary cases where the theories can have different implications.

Lecture Schedule:

Wednesday 10.00 – 11.00 C_BOOLE_6
Thursday 15.00 – 16.00 c_ORB_123

STUDENTS ARE ADVISED TO TAKE PARTICULAR NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION ARRANGEMENTS AND THE UNIVERSITY'S PLAGIARISM POLICY:

Work which is submitted late shall be assigned a mark of **zero** (or a Fail Judgement in the case of Pass/Fail modules).

University Policy on handling plagiarism

- a) As soon as possible after the submission, the lecturer reviews the assignments and checks for plagiarism.
- b) Where plagiarism is suspected, the lecturer informs the Head of Department (HoD) and the relevant administrator.

- c) Where plagiarism is established, a meeting is scheduled with the student to outline/explain the case of plagiarism and the penalty to be applied. This meeting is attended by lecturer and HOD (or HOD's nominee). The penalty to be applied is at the discretion of the HOD.
- d) The lecturer advises the relevant administrator of the outcome of the meeting. Communication is sent to the student by the HoD/Administrator.
- e) In cases where the plagiarism is adjudged to be particularly egregious, the HoD and the team will complete the Student Records and Examinations Office (SREO) policy template report and forward it to the SREO. Communication is sent to the student to outline what was discussed at the meeting and the penalty to be applied. This communication will also advise the student of their options under the University's Breach of Examination Regulations process.

University policy on academic integrity and the use of AI

"Academic Integrity is breached if students submit the products of GenAI as their own work without acknowledgement or without authorisation to use GenAI in fulfilling the task".

For more information, please see the university's policy:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/academicgov/policies/standards/academicintegrityforexaminationsandassessmentspolicy2025-2026/>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All students must subscribe to the **SGPP list**. This will allow you to keep up to date with any notices, announcements, and information relevant to your studies. You can click [here](#) to subscribe.

Other useful university services include:

Boole Library	https://libguides.ucc.ie/library
Career Services	https://www.ucc.ie/en/careers/
Disability Support	https://www.ucc.ie/en/dss/
Graduate Studies Office	https://www.ucc.ie/en/study/postgrad/contactus/
IT Student Support	https://www.ucc.ie/en/sit/
Mardyke Arena	https://www.mardykearena.com/
Student Experience Office	https://www.ucc.ie/en/studentexperience/
Student Health and Wellbeing	https://www.ucc.ie/en/studenthealth/
UCC Societies	https://societies.ucc.ie/
UCC Skills Centre	https://www.ucc.ie/en/skillscentre/
Student Financial Supports & Advice	https://www.ucc.ie/en/sfsa/