BIC3042-A module descriptor	
Module Title	Politics and Society
Credit Level	10 credits (RQF Level 3)
Session	2026/7 academic year
BDA occurrence	Semester 1 available at University of Bradford
BDB occurrence	Semester 1 available at University of Bradford
BDA occurrence	Semester 3 available at University of Bradford
BDB occurrence	Semester 3 available at University of Bradford

Transparency notice

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BIC3042-A module aims

This module provides you with an introduction to the current British political system and its development over time with reference to other systems of government.

As well as explaining the electoral and party systems at local and national level, it explores key differences between the main political parties in the UK and encourages you to consider the wider relationships between political systems, ideologies and society.

BIC3042-A module learning outcomes

No.	Students completing the module will be able to:
01	Describe how British society and politics have changed and developed since 1945.
02	Describe the main contemporary political ideologies in the UK.
03	Explain the influence of the media, lobbyists and pressure groups on British politics.

BIC3042-A module outline syllabus

Government
the structure of the UK Government (Prime Minister, Cabinet, Committees and back bench) along with the Opposition and Civil Service

Elections
an introduction to the UK electoral system and the way in which people are appointed to office at local and national level

Political Parties
an overview of the main parties in the UK today and their principal ideological differences

Agendas
the key issues that have dominated UK political debate since 1945: the Welfare State and NHS, the end of Empire, market reform, education, Europe, devolution and immigration

Local government and politics
political structures at different levels and the rise of grass roots issue-based activism

Outside Influences
the influence on the UK political system and parties of the Union, the Commonwealth, the EU, the media and lobbyists/pressure groups

For more information, visit the VLE (**Canvas**) page, go to our **Reading Lists webpage for this module** or search **https://bradford.rl.talis.com** for this module.

BIC3042-A module notional learning hours

- 60 hours Directed Study
- 40 hours Lectures

The overall expected hours may include contact time, scheduled learning activity, directed and independent study and any minimum expectations for placement learning. Most learning at the University of Bradford has some online content and sessions which are delivered fully by virtual means are labelled as "online".

BIC3042-A module learning, teaching and assessment

Groups are small and classes are student-centred, task-based and interactive.

The classroom approach is explicitly designed to help international students acquire new knowledge and skills, to build their confidence and enable them to become more independent learners. By doing this consistently and across all modules, the programme provides them with a strong foundation for further study in their chosen subject area.

The approach is inclusive and recognises that students come from different backgrounds with a range of previous learning experiences and associated expectations, beliefs and behaviours. Teaching and learning methods are clearly explained so students understand why (where appropriate) they need to engage in new ways of learning and why those they have used or relied on up to this point may be less suited to supporting their ongoing development and their chances of success in UK Higher Education.

Formative work is an integral part of the approach. In class, students are set tasks that require them to apply their knowledge and skills, to think critically and to solve problems. The level of challenge is gradually increased as the students grow in confidence and Tutors help them to see that experimentation, trial and error are central to the learning process, providing constructive feedback on both what has been achieved and how.

Students are also expected to engage in independent study, to reflect on their own performance and to discuss this with their module tutor or personal academic tutor, who will provide support and advice and, when necessary, draw the attention of the Academic Management Team to a struggling student using the Students of concern process.

Assessment is designed to evaluate students' understanding of political institutions, ideologies and social change.

The essay (100%) assesses Learning Outcomes 1-3 through critical analysis of a political issue, event or policy debate. Formative activities include debates, policy discussions, essay planning workshops and peer review exercises.

Success is demonstrated through coherent argument, use of evidence, analysis of competing perspectives and effective academic writing.
To pass the module, students must achieve the University pass mark overall. Students who do not pass the first time will be given an opportunity to complete equivalent assessments that address the failed learning outcomes.

BIC3042-A mode of assessment

Type	Mode	Assessment description	Weight
Summative	Coursework - Written	Essay covering LO1, LO2 and LO3. 1000 words	100%

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