



1. Programme Title(s) and UCAS code(s):

BA Politics and Economics LL12

BA Politics and Economics with a Year Abroad*

*Students may only enter these degree programmes by transferring at the end of year 1

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study: Full-time

b) Type of study: Campus-based (ignite blended learning)

4. Registration periods:

The normal period of registration is 3 years.

The maximum period of registration is 5 years.

Year Abroad

The normal period of registration is four years

The maximum period of registration is six years

5. Typical entry requirements:

A/AS levels: BBB. (Two AS levels considered in place of one A level.)

GCSE: Maths at Grade B (5).

International Baccalaureate: Pass Diploma with 32 points minimum.

European Baccalaureate: Pass with 70% overall.

International Students require a minimum 6.5 IELTS (or equivalent).

BTEC Nationals: Full Diploma DDM.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning:

APL will not be accepted for exemptions from individual modules, however may be considered for direct entry to year 2, on a case by case basis and subject to the general provisions of the University APL policy.

7. Programme aims:

The programme aims to:

- Provide a coherent and attractive curriculum by utilising the teaching and research expertise of the Department of Politics and International Relations and the Department of Economics;
- Provide a rigorous programme of study, embodying a disciplinary flexibility, across both subjects and by exploring the intellectual synergies between Politics and Economics;
- Enable students to understand and apply theories and concepts to analyse and explain Politics within an economic and contemporary context;
- Develop student expertise in the key areas of both disciplines – allowing for dissertation specialisation in the final year;
- Provide a supportive, stimulating and challenging learning experience for students;

- Assist students to develop a range of cognitive and social skills relevant to their intellectual, vocational and personal development;
- Equip graduates with skills of research and analysis as a foundation for further study at postgraduate level in Politics, Economics and cognate disciplines.

For those on the Year Abroad:

- provide an opportunity for Leicester students to spend their third year abroad, studying at a partner institution in Europe as part of the European Erasmus framework exchange program or a partner institution on another continent as part of the Study Abroad exchange programme;
- develop study skills in another university following a guided programme of learning for the period spent abroad;
- provide an opportunity for exchange students from partner institutions in another country to study in the United Kingdom;
- provide and build on links between the University of Leicester and its partner institutions develop an awareness of Politics and Economics education in another country;
- develop a critical understanding of the different national, international and European dimensions of Politics and Economics;
- develop an appreciation of the different approaches to the study of Politics and Economics adopted by different types of scholars both in the United Kingdom and abroad;
- develop linguistic skills in a European language if the student goes to a partner university where the teaching language is not English.

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

- QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- QAA Benchmarking statement for Politics and International Relations:

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/SBS-politics-15.pdf>

- QAA Benchmarking statement for Economics:

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Subject-benchmark-statement-Economics.pdf>

- [University of Leicester Learning Strategy](#)
- University Employability Strategy
- University of Leicester Periodic Development Review Report (February 2014)
- External Examiners' Reports
- First Destination Survey
- Annual Developmental Review

9. Programme Outcomes:

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<i>(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies</i>		
<i>(i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge</i>		
Demonstrate mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge in Politics and Economics.	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, directed reading, computer classes, problem-solving exercises, individual consultations with staff, and independent research.	Formative coursework, summative coursework, essays, essay-based examinations, problem-based examinations, dissertations, written reports, seminar presentations, contributions to

<p>[Year Abroad] Acquire knowledge of another European language if the student goes to a partner university where the teaching language is not English.</p>	<p>Language classes provided during 2nd year; 3rd year abroad taught in some cases in a foreign language.</p>	<p>class discussions, problem-solving exercises, projects. Essays, examinations, seminar presentations and contributions to tutorial</p>
<p>(ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques</p>		
<p>Demonstrate the assimilation of core theoretical concepts and their application in Politics and Economics.</p> <p>Demonstrate a familiarity and engage critically with a range of approaches, models and concepts in both disciplines.</p> <p>[Year Abroad] As above.</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, tutorials, directed reading, problem-solving exercises, individual consultations with staff and independent research.</p> <p>As above.</p>	<p>Formative coursework, summative coursework, essays, essay-based examinations, problem-based examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to class discussions, problem-solving exercises and computer-based exercises.</p> <p>As above.</p>
<p>(iii) Critical analysis of key issues</p>		
<p>Develop and sustain arguments addressing questions and issues in Politics and Economics, formulating appropriate questions and drawing on evidence.</p> <p>Reflect critically on a range of historical and contemporary developments in the disciplines of Politics and Economics.</p> <p>Critically analyse arguments in Politics and Economics and relate them to contemporary policy issues.</p> <p>[Year Abroad] Demonstrate the ability to analyse through appropriate methodologies aspects of European politics and economies, and foreign political and economic structures & dynamics</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, tutorials, directed reading, group work, individual consultations with staff, and independent research.</p> <p>As above.</p>	<p>Formative coursework, summative coursework, essays, essay-based examinations, problem-based examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to class discussions, problem-solving exercises.</p> <p>As above.</p>

(iv) Clear and concise presentation of material		
Present issues and problems in Politics and Economics in a clear and concise way in a variety of written and oral formats. Produce clear and concise economic arguments and with reference to formal models.	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, directed reading, group work, individual consultations with staff, and independent research.	Essays, essay-based examinations, problem-based examinations, dissertations, written reports, seminar presentations and contributions to class discussions.
(v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight		
Develop and sustain arguments, formulating appropriate questions and utilizing evidence. Read, analyse and reflect critically and contextually upon major texts and other source materials in Politics and Economics. Critically appraise relevant economic research and appraise the results from quantitative economic analysis.	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, problem-solving exercises, computer-based exercises, individual consultations with staff, and independent research.	Formative coursework, summative coursework, essays, essay-based examinations, problem-based examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to class discussions, problem-solving exercises.
(vi) Other discipline specific competencies		
Plan, design, research and present a sustained and independently conceived piece of writing in Politics or Economics. [Year Abroad] Demonstrate inter-cultural awareness and understanding.	Dissertation supervisions, research methods classes and independent research. As above.	Independent research projects, dissertations and research presentations. As above.
(b) Transferable skill		
(i) Oral communication		
Develop clarity, fluency and coherence in oral expression of issues in Politics and Economics. Participate effectively as a student in group discussions. [Year Abroad] To display the ability to communicate in a European language in a fluent, accurate	Seminars, tutorials, group work, individual consultations with staff and feedback on presentations. Language classes.	Seminar presentations, contributions to class discussions, individual dissertation presentation. Exercise, oral presentations.

and appropriate manner if the student goes to a partner university where the teaching language is not English.		
(ii) Written communication		
<p>Develop and sustain arguments grounded in theories and case studies in Politics and Economics in a variety of written forms.</p> <p>Demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in written expression of issues in Politics and Economics.</p> <p>[Year Abroad] To produce texts of various types in a European language demonstrating accuracy and appropriate discourse conventions if the student goes to a partner university where the teaching language is not English.</p>	<p>Seminars, tutorials, problem-solving exercises, independent research, individual consultations with staff and feedback on coursework and assessed work.</p> <p>Language classes, formative coursework in partner institutions.</p>	<p>Essays, essay-based examinations, problem-based examinations, dissertations, written reports, seminar presentations, problem-solving exercises.</p> <p>As above.</p>
(iii) Information technology		
<p>Use IT to effectively support their studies in Politics and Economics, including use of word processing in preparation of written work, use of spreadsheets, use of specialist packages for statistical analysis.</p> <p>Integration of IT into presentations (e.g. PowerPoint) and research (e.g. Blackboard, online archives/sources).</p>	<p>Induction programme, computer practical classes, online learning resources, independent research, interaction with staff and peers via Blackboard and email.</p>	<p>Essays, independent research projects, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises.</p> <p>[Year Abroad] With regard to the 3rd year of the programme, communication with students abroad is conducted via the internet.</p>
(iv) Numeracy		
<p>Analyse data associated with Politics and Economics using statistical and graphical techniques.</p>	<p>Lectures, computer practical classes.</p>	<p>Independent research projects, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises.</p>
(v) Team working		

<p>Be able to work collaboratively to jointly explore issues and arguments in Politics and Economics, and to recognise the value of working closely with others.</p> <p>[Year Abroad] Be able to work collaboratively in an international environment</p>	<p>Interactive seminars, tutorials and group-work exercises.</p>	<p>Participation in group work, seminar presentations, role plays and simulations, contributions to class discussions, problem-based exercises.</p> <p>[Year Abroad] Plus equivalent forms of assessment in partner institutions.</p>
(vi) Problem solving		
<p>Address problems in Politics and Economics in depth using a range of primary and secondary sources.</p> <p>Synthesise differing approaches to both disciplines.</p>	<p>Seminars, tutorials and problem-solving exercises.</p>	<p>Essays, essay-based examinations, problem-based examinations, independent research projects, written reports, problem-solving exercises.</p>
(vii) Information handling		
<p>Gather and deploy evidence and data to find, retrieve, sort and exchange new information.</p>	<p>Seminars, tutorials, directed reading, specialist research methods workshops, practical problem-solving exercises and online learning resources.</p>	<p>Essays, independent research Projects, written reports, problem-solving exercises.</p>
(viii) Skills for lifelong learning		
<p>Demonstrate intellectual independence through the setting of research tasks and the solving of problems in Politics and Economics.</p> <p>Reflect upon own learning and achievements and plan for personal, educational and career development.</p> <p>[Year Abroad] To demonstrate strategies for self-monitoring and continued maintenance and development of skills in a European language if the student goes to a partner university where the teaching language is not English. Adaptation to a foreign environment.</p>	<p>All of the above particularly independent research.</p> <p>Tutorials, career development programmes, resource-based learning, personal development planning programme and individual consultations with staff.</p> <p>Development of metalinguistic awareness through language classes, tasks designed to expand a foreign language repertoire.</p>	<p>All of the above, particularly the dissertation.</p> <p>Portfolio, curriculum vitae.</p> <p>Language assignments, ability to self-correct.</p>

10. Progression points:

Senate Regulation 5: Regulations governing undergraduate programmes of study.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course.

Application to Transfer from BA Politics and Economics to BA Politics and Economics with a Year Abroad

Students are invited to apply at the end of their first year to transfer to the BA Politics and Economics with a Year Abroad.

Progression from 2nd year to year abroad

Students may progress to the year abroad with no more than 30 credits of failed modules in year 2. Good attendance and observation of academic obligations must continue to be maintained throughout year 2. Failure to do so may result in the opportunity to study abroad being withdrawn and the student being transferred to the BA Politics and Economics (without year abroad) or withdrawn from the course entirely.

For the year abroad year students are required to complete the equivalent of 60 ECTS if studying at a European partner institution.

For a student to progress to the final year of the BA with a Year Abroad programme the following will apply:

i) If the student is studying and being assessed in a foreign language he/she has to pass at least half of his/her second semester modules in the partner institution. This requirement emphasises that the year abroad is to be taken seriously as a period of study but is not so onerous as to negatively impact students on this programme. If a student has failed to pass half the credits in his/her second semester during the year abroad, including resit options as per the partner institution's rules, by the Board of Examiners, the Board will consider whether the student should have to transfer on to the BA Politics and Economics (without year abroad) for their final year, taking their overall attendance and observation of academic obligations into consideration.

ii) If the student is studying and being assessed in English he/she has to achieve an average of 50% for the whole year. If a student has failed to achieve an average of 50% for the year, including resit options as per the partner institution's rules, by the Board of Examiners, the Board will consider whether the student should have to transfer on to the BA Politics and Economics (without year abroad) for their final year, taking their overall attendance and observation of academic obligations into consideration.

iii) If the student is studying and being assessed in a combination of English and a Foreign Language the progression rules used will be based on the language used to teach the majority of modules. Therefore, if the majority of modules are taught in English the rules described in ii) above will apply, and if the majority of modules are taught in a Foreign Language the rules described in i) above will apply.

The year abroad will not contribute towards the overall classification, and will therefore be assessed on a pass or fail basis.

11. Scheme of Assessment:

Scheme of Assessment: This programme follows the standard scheme of award and classification set out in Senate Regulation 5.

12. Special features:

Students learning experience is enhanced by both Departments' strong commitment to developing synergy between its research and teaching activities.

Students may apply to transfer to the BA Politics and Economics with a Year Abroad after successful completion of the first year and subsequent successful completion of the second year.

The BA Politics and Economics with a Year Abroad provides for students spending their third year at one of our partner institutions and then returning to Leicester for their final year.

13. Indications of programme quality

Consistently positive feedback from External Examiners over a number of years.

14. External Examiners:

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports can be found [here](#).

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

BA POLITICS AND ECONOMICS

FIRST YEAR MODULES

			SEMESTER 1	
Core Modules				Credits
	EC1000	MICROECONOMICS		15
	EC1005	MATHS FOR ECONOMICS I		15
	PL1319	POLITICS, POWER AND ETHICS		30
			Semester Total	60

			SEMESTER 2	
Core Modules				Credits
	EC1001	MACROECONOMICS		15
	EC1008	MATHS FOR ECONOMICS II		15

And Two optional modules in Politics from:

	PL1011	POLITICAL CONCEPTS		15
	PL1012	COMPARATIVE EUROPEAN POLITICS		15
	PL1021	POWER IN THE WORLD ECONOMY		15
			Semester Total	60

SECOND YEAR MODULES

			SEMESTER 1	
Core modules				Credits
	EC2045	INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMICS		15
	EC2046	INTERMEDIATE MACROECONOMICS		15

Two optional modules in Politics from:

	PL2094	POLITICAL ANALYSIS 1: UNDERSTANDING POLITICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH (Mandatory for students taking a final year dissertation in Politics)		15
	PL2011	POLITICAL IDEAS		15
	PL2019	THE MAKING OF CONTEMPORARY US FOREIGN POLICY		15
	PL2020	POLITICAL PARTIES IN CONTEMPORARY BRITAIN		15
	PL2021	SEX AND GENDER IN GLOBAL POLITICS		15
	PL2029	POLITICS OF THE GLOBAL SOUTH		15

Semester Total **60**

			SEMESTER 2	
Core modules				Credits
	PL2043	ECONOMIC HISTORY		15

One optional module in Economics from:

	EC2051	MONEY & CENTRAL BANKING		15
	EC2053	ENVIRONMENTAL & RESOURCE ECONOMICS		15
	EC2052	LABOUR ECONOMICS		15

Two optional modules in Politics from:

	PL2095	POLITICAL ANALYSIS 2: PREPARING FOR YOUR DISSERTATION (Mandatory for students taking a final year dissertation in Politics)		15
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PL2016	EUROPEAN UNION POLITICS	15
PL2022	FOREIGN POLICY ANALYSIS	
PL2024	GOVERNING SOCIETIES IN CONFLICT	15
PL2027	CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY: THEORIES OF JUSTICE	15
PL2028	LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS	15
Semester Total		60

THIRD YEAR MODULES

SEMESTER 1

Core Module (if student is taking a Politics Dissertation)		Credits
PL3094	POLITICS DISSERTATION 1 (if PL3095 to be taken in Semester 2)	15
Optional Modules	<u>Three optional modules if student is taking a Politics Dissertation or four optional modules if student is taking an Economics Dissertation ^</u>	45/60
Semester Total		60

SEMESTER 2

Core Modules		Credits
EC3004	EITHER ECONOMICS DISSERTATION OR	15
PL3095	POLITICS DISSERTATION 2 (if PL3094 taken in Semester 1)	30
Optional Modules	<u>Two optional modules if student is taking a Politics Dissertation or three optional modules if student is taking an Economics Dissertation ^</u>	30/45
Semester Total		60

^Over the final year as a whole, students must take 60 credits in Politics and 60 credits in Economics

FINAL YEAR OPTIONAL MODULES

SEMESTER 1

Three Optional Modules if student is taking a Politics & International Relations Dissertation, or Four Optional Modules if taking an Economics Dissertation.

Optional Modules in Politics & International Relations:

PL3060	Feminism
PL3071	The American Presidency
PL3103	The Politics of War and Peace: Northern Ireland after 1972
PL3106	Parliamentary Studies
PL3107	Brexit and British Politics
PL3137	The Politics of Contemporary British Foreign Policy
PL3140	Climate Change: Ethics, Issues, Justice
PL3142	Politics of the International Drug Trade
PL3146	Corruption, Informality and Scandal
PL3148	Comparative Public Opinion

Optional Modules in Economics/SoB:

EC3057	Management Science
EC3077	Investment Management

EC3066	International Trade
MN3145	Managing in a post-Crisis World (MN mod.)

SEMESTER 2

Two Optional Modules if student is taking a Politics & International Relations Dissertation, or Three Optional Modules if taking an Economics Dissertation.

Optional Modules in Politics & International Relations:

PL3076	Politics and the Environment
PL3098	The Conservatives: Crisis and Recovery
PL3114	American Political Development
PL3121	The Politics of Slavery
PL3122	The Political Legacies of Conflict in Northern Ireland
PL3127	Political Participation in Britain
PL3136	Democracy and EU Membership in Post-Communist Europe

Optional Modules in Economics/SoB:

EC3089	Behavioural Economics
EC3080	Public Economies
EC3067	International Finance
MN3127	Organisations in an Economic Context (MN mod.)
EC3044	Economics of Education

THIRD YEAR (YEAR ABROAD)

The third year will be spent abroad either taking approved courses amounting to 120 Leicester credits in an institution associated with the Department of Politics and International Relations under the Erasmus framework student mobility programme, (European institutions), or under the University's Study Abroad programme (institutions outside the European Union). Students will be required to complete the approved courses satisfactorily. Passing examinations in those courses shall be regarded as evidence of the students having completed them satisfactorily. Students who, in the opinion of the Board of Examiners, have not satisfactorily followed the approved courses at the overseas institution will not normally be allowed to proceed to the final year of the course, but may be permitted to transfer to the final year of BA Politics and Economics without year abroad.

The year abroad will not contribute towards the overall classification, and will therefore be assessed on a pass or fail basis.

List of partner institutions:

[Université de Liege, Belgium](#)

[Justus-Liebig-Universität Giessen, Germany](#)

[Univerzita Komenského Bratislava, Slovakia](#)

[Maastricht University, Netherlands](#)

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See module specification database <http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation>

Appendix 3: Skills matrix

See separate file

