Programme Specification (Undergraduate)   FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2025/26

Date created: 19/02/2021   **Last amended:** 04/04/2025   **Version no.** 1

1. **Programme title(s) and code(s):**

    BA History and Politics
    BA History and Politics with a Year Abroad*
    BA History and Politics with a Year in Industry*
    * Students may only enter this degree programme by transferring at the end of year 1 or year 2.

[HECOS Code](#)

HECOS Code	%
[100753]	[50]
[100491]	[50]

   a) **UCAS Code (where required)**

    VL12

2. **Awarding body or institution:**

University of Leicester

3. a) **Mode of study**

Full-time

   b) **Type of study**

Campus-based

4. **Registration periods:**

    BA History and Politics

    The normal period of registration is three years

    The maximum period of registration five years

    Year Abroad

    The normal period of registration is four years

    The maximum period of registration six years

    Year in Industry

    The normal period of registration is four years

    The maximum period of registration six years

5. **Typical entry requirements**

    ABB at A level, or BBB at A level plus B in Extended Project Qualification.
    International Baccalaureate – Pass Diploma with 30 points including at least one subject with 6 points at higher level.

    For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the GCSA Year Abroad please see
    https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad

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

• enable students to explore their interest in, and aptitudes for, a range of themes, approaches and periods in both History and Politics;

• encourage powers of independent thought and critical analysis;

• develop skills in the accessing of information and the understanding and use of a wide range of primary and secondary sources;

• develop the ability to marshal cogent and relevant arguments, and present these with clarity in both oral and written form;

• organise written work effectively, and be able to produce this to professional standards of accuracy, literacy, and bibliographic reference;

• foster self-organisation, individual responsibility and the development of independent learning skills;

• enable a spectrum of students to achieve their full potential;

• develop transferable skills of reasoning, evaluation and communication which will equip graduates for a wide range of career opportunities;

• equip graduates with skills of research and analysis as a foundation for further study at postgraduate level in History, Politics and cognate disciplines.

In addition to the aims of the programme outlined for the 3 year degree in History, the 4 year degree also aims to:

• broaden students' learning experience in an international context;

• provide students with the opportunity to develop their language skills by studying for a year in a European country – this does not apply to those students opting to study in Australia or North America;

• widen students' cultural experience by living and studying abroad;

• develop students' transferable skills in order to enhance their employability.

• Intended learning outcomes for the year will be those of the modules they take at the Higher Education Institution they attend during their year abroad.

In addition, for the 'with Industry' variants

• The 'Year in industry' variant of this programme is offered in accordance with the University's standard specification for year in industry programme variants.
• To provide experience of applications of professional and discipline-specific skills in Industry and to reinforce knowledge through its use in different environments.

8. **Reference points used to inform the programme specification**

• QAA Benchmarking Statement for History

- [QAA Benchmarking statement for Politics and International Relations](#)
- QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
- [University of Leicester Education Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy](#) [Login required]
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

9. Programme Outcomes

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge of political and social development in both past societies and the contemporary world	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, resource-based learning.	Essays, essay-based examinations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, dissertations.

ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate understanding of a range of approaches, issues and concepts in both History and Politics, with particular emphasis upon the late-modern and contemporary periods.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, team problem-solving exercises.	Essays, essay-based examinations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises, dissertations.

iii) Critical analysis of key issues

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Analyse the history and politics of different countries, societies, or cultures	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem-solving exercises	Essays, essay-based examinations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises, dissertations.

iv) Clear and concise presentation of material

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present problems and arguments in a variety of written and oral formats.	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem- solving exercises.	Writing tasks, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, podcasts, posters.

v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Develop and sustain arguments, formulating appropriate questions and utilizing evidence.	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem-solving exercises.	Essays, essay-based examinations, seminar presentations, independent research projects, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises.
Read, analyse, and reflect critically and contextually upon primary and secondary source materials.	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer-aided learning, computer practical classes, team problem-solving exercises.	

vi) Other discipline specific competencies

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present referencing and bibliographic material to appropriate subject-specific standards	Course and module handbooks, tutorials, seminars, feedback on coursework	Essays, projects, dissertations. Independent research projects, dissertations
Design, research and present a sustained and independently conceived piece of historical or politically-based writing.	Independent research, tutorials, workshops.	

b) **Transferable skills**

i) Oral communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in oral expression of historical and political issues.	Seminars, tutorials, team problem solving exercises.	Seminar presentations, contributions to discussions podcasts.

ii) Written communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Develop and sustain historical and political arguments in a variety of literary forms. Demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in written expression of historical and political issues, with clear and appropriate referencing and bibliography.	Seminars, tutorials, team problem- solving exercises. Course and module handbooks, seminars, tutorials, independent research.	Essays, essay-based examinations, seminar presentations, independent research projects, dissertations, posters.

iii)   Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Use IT effectively to support their historical and political studies, including using IT for bibliographic and archive searches, data analysis and written/visual presentation of evidence.	Induction programme, computer practical classes, independent research, dissertation preparation.	Bibliographic surveys, essays, independent research projects, computer-based exercises, podcasts, reflective journals, problem-based exercises.

iv)   Numeracy

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Consider the uses of numerical data in historical and political analysis	Lectures, tutorials and numeracy classes. Skills workshops	Independent research projects, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises.

v)   Team working

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Be able to work collaboratively to explore historical and political issues and arguments, and to recognise the value of working closely with others.	Tutorials, seminars, team problem-solving exercises.	Team-based seminar presentations, contributions to team problem-solving exercises.

vi)   Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Address historical and political problems in depth using contemporary sources and advanced secondary literature.	Tutorials, seminars, team problem- solving exercises.	Essays, independent research projects, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises, dissertations.

vii)   Information handling

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Gather and deploy evidence and data to find, retrieve, sort and exchange new information	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, team problem-solving exercises.	Bibliographic surveys, essays, independent research projects, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises.

viii)   Skills for lifelong learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate intellectual independence	All of the above, particularly independent research.	All of the above, particularly the dissertation.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
through the setting of research tasks and the solving of historical and political problems.		Portfolio, curriculum vitae.

Year in Industry

[In addition, for the Year in Industry' variants the additional programme outcomes apply](#)

10. **Progression points**

For HS coded modules, certain modules include qualifying elements which students have to pass in order to obtain credits for the module. Please refer to individual module specification forms for further information.

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

Year in Industry

For the Year in Industry variant, the [additional progression points apply](#)

11. **Criteria for award and classification**

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 the close links between the research and teaching activities of members of staff in the School of History, Politics and International Relations. The School includes one of the largest groups of historians in the UK. History was rated excellent for teaching by TQA and 85% of its output was judged at 4* and 3* standard in Ref 2014 (the highest proportion in the UK). Students' learning experience is enhanced by the School's strong commitment to developing synergy between its research and teaching activities.

For the Year in Industry variant, [the additional Special Features apply](#)

13. **Indications of programme quality**

In profiles of degree class results, a consistently high proportion of students graduate with 1st class and 2.1 results. External Examiners' reports have consistently commended the quality of the degrees and of student attainment.

14. **External Examiner(s) reports**

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

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Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

Updates to the programme

Academic year affected	Module	Update
2025/26	HS1012 Global History: Connections and Cultures in a Changing World	Optional module not offered
2025/26	HS1016 Europe 1861-1991	New optional module

BA History and Politics

Level 4/Year 1   2025/26

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	60 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	30 credits

120 credits in total

SEMESTER ONE

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HS1000	Making History	15 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HS1002	The Shock of the Modern	15 credits
Sem 1	PL1019	Introduction to Politics	30 credits

Semester total 60

SEMESTER TWO

Core Module

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	HS1001	Medieval and Early Modern Europe: People, Power, Faith, and Culture	15 credits
Sem 2	PL1012	Comparative European Politics	15 credits

15 credits of approved Politics and International Relations modules:

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	PL1011	Political Concepts	15 credits
Sem 2	PL1016	Order and Disorder: International Relations, from 1989 to the Present	15 credits

15 credits of approved History modules:

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	HS1013	Modern Britain: c1700-Present	15 credits
Sem 2	HS1016	Europe, 1861-1991: Emancipation and Subjugation	15 credits

Level 5/Year 2   2026/27

Credit breakdown with History Dissertation

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	15 credits	15 credits
Optional	n/a	45 credits	45 credits

120 credits in total

Credit breakdown with Politics Dissertation

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	15 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	45 credits	30 credits

120 credits in total

SEMESTER ONE

ROUTE A: with History Dissertation

Core module

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HS2401	Perceiving the Past	15 credits

Choose 15 credits of History Options:

    i)   **History Options:**

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HS2302	Blood, Position and Power: The Nobility of Later Medieval England, 1066-1485	15 Credits
Sem 1	HS2329	A World Connected: Welfare, Economy and Government since 1945	15 credits
Sem 1	HS2354	Beastly Histories	15 credits
Sem 1	HS2362	Living with Dictatorship: European Societies, 1918-1941	15 credits
Sem 1	HS2368	Fight the Power! Race, Rights and Protest in the USA	15 credits
Sem 1	HS2369	Digital Histories	15 credits

Choose 30 credits of Politics Modules:

ii) **Politics and International Relations Options:**

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	PL2011	Political Ideas	15 credits
Sem 1	PL2020	Political Parties in Contemporary Britain	15 credits
Sem 1	PL2021	The Curious Feminist: Gender in Global Politics	15 credits

SEMESTER TWO

Core Module

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	HS2502	Becoming the Historical Researcher	15 credits

15 credits of approved History modules as follows:

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	HS2027	The Latin World: Ancient, Medieval and Modern	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2307	Madness, Monarchy and Politics in Georgian Britain	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2311	Domestic Revolutions: Women, Men and the Family in American History	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2314	Imperialism and Decolonisation	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2328	Jack-the-Ripper: Crime, Popular Culture and Policing in Victorian Times	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2348	Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2360	History in the Classroom	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2802	Working with History: The Heritage Field Project	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2803	World's End: Historical Perspectives on Contemporary Environmental Crises	15 credits

30 credits of Politics/IR Options:

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	PL2016	European Union Politics	15 credits
Sem 2	PL2019	Foreign Policy Analysis	15 credits
Sem 2	PL2024	Governing Societies in Conflict	15 credits

Note: Over the Second Year as a whole, students must take 60 credits in History and 60 credits in Politics & International Relations

ROUTE B: with Politics & International Relations Dissertation:

SEMESTER ONE

Core Module

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HS2401	Perceiving the Past	15 credits

15 credits of approved History modules and 30 credits of approved Politics/IR modules.
See Route A (above) for a list of approved Options

SEMESTER TWO
Core Module

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	PL2095	Preparing for your dissertation	30 credits

45 credits in approved History and Politics/IR modules.
See Route A (above) for a list of approved Options
Note:
1. **Over the Second Year as a whole, students must take 60 credits in History and 60 credits in Politics & International Relations**
2. **Students taking their final year Dissertation in Politics and International Relations must take at least one History option module in the Second Year**

Level 6/Year 3   2027/28

FINAL YEAR MODULES
**Note: Over the course of their final year, students must take at least 60 credits in the discipline of their dissertation, and no more than 75 credits in that discipline.

ROUTE A: with History Dissertation

Credit breakdown

Option 1 (With Special Subject)

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	15 credits	30 credits
Optional	30 credits	30 credits	15 credits

                                                      120 credits in total

Option 2 (Without Special Subject)

Status	Year Long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	15 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	45 credits	30 credits

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HS3505	History Dissertation I	15 credits
Sem 2	HS3506	History Dissertation II	30 credits

SEMESTER 1

Either 45 credits in approved optional modules (see below):

    i.History approved Options

   ii.Politics & International Relations approved Options

    OR

One History Special Subject and 30 credits in approved optional modules

i. History approved Options

Politics & International Relations approved Options

SEMESTER 2

Either 30 credits in approved optional modules (see below):

    i.History approved Options

   ii.Politics & International Relations approved Options

    OR

    One History Special Subject and 15 credits in approved optional modules

    i. History approved options

    ii. Politics & International Relations approved Options

ROUTE B: with Politics & International Relations Dissertation

Credit breakdown

Option 1 (With Special Subject)

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	15 credits	30 credits
Optional	30 credits	30 credits	15 credits

120 credits in total

Option 2 (Without Special Subject)

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	15 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	45 credits	30 credits

120 credits in total

SEMESTER 1

Core Module

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	PL3094	Dissertation 1	15 credits

Either 45 credits in approved optional modules (see below):
   ii. History approved Options
iii.   Politics & International Relations approved Options
    OR
One History Special Subject and 30 credits in approved optional modules
i. History approved Options
ii. Politics & International Relations approved Options

SEMESTER 2

Core Module

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	PL3095	Dissertation 2	30 credits

Either 30 credits in approved optional modules (see below):
   ii. History approved Options
iii. Politics & International Relations approved Options
    OR
    One History Special Subject and 15 credits in approved optional modules
    i. History approved options
    ii. Politics & International Relations approved Options

HISTORY SPECIAL SUBJECTS

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year Long	HS3766	Ideals of Womanhood in 19th-Century America	30 credits
Year Long	HS3768	The British Antislavery Movement, 1787-1833	30 credits
Year long	HS3771	After Hitler	30 credits
Year long	HS3777	The Presidency of Franklin D. Roosevelt	30 credits

HISTORY FINAL YEAR OPTIONS

Semester One

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HS3627	The Civil Rights Movement, 1945-1968	15 credits
Sem 1	HS3634	Apocalypse Then: The USA and the Vietnam War	15 credits
Sem 1	HS3646	Fourteenth-Century Crisis in England?	15 credits
Sem 1	HS3653	The Death Penalty and its Abolition: A Global History	15 credits
Sem 1	HS3677	Sport and the British	15 credits
Sem 1	HS3681	You are what you Wear? Clothing, Fashion & Belonging in the Modern World	15 credits
Sem 1	HS3694	Diasporas and Migrations in the Modern World	15 credits

SEMESTER TWO

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	HS3614	Britain's Imperial Economy: Power, Wealth and Colonialism 1830-1939	15 credits
Sem 2	HS3620	What Difference did the War Make? British Society and the Great War, 1900-1939	15 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	HS3682	Daring to be Free: The Women's Movement, 1850s to 1970s	15 credits
Sem 2	HS3808	Gender, Crime and Deviance in Eighteenth-Century Britain	15 credits

POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FINAL YEAR OPTIONS

SEMESTER ONE

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	PL3060	Feminism	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3071	The American Presidency	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3098	Conservatives: Crisis and Recovery	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3106	Parliamentary Studies	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3118	Global Justice and Human Rights	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3122	Political Legacies of Conflict in Northern Ireland	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3137	The Politics of Contemporary British Foreign Policy	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3143	International Migration in the Age of Securitisation	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3147	Emotions in Conflict and Cooperation	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3148	Comparative Public Opinion	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3155	Animals and the Environment	15 credits

SEMESTER TWO

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	PL3107	Brexit and British Politics	15 credits
Sem 2	PL3114	American Political Development	15 credits
Sem 2	PL3121	The Politics of Slavery	15 credits
Sem 2	PL3150	Politics, Conflict and Statecraft in Africa	15 credits
Sem 2	PL3152	Grenfell: Violence and the Possibility of Nonviolence	15 credits
Sem 2	PL3153	Race, Caste and Political Theory	15 credits
Sem 2	PL3154	The Political Theory of Disobedience and Protests	15 credits

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE

Joint degree students may study abroad at one of the following partner institutions for one semester, taking modules equivalent to those the students would have taken at Leicester, ensuring appropriate academic progression. The following are the approved partner institutions: Flinders University, Australia, La Trobe University, Australia and James Madison University, Virginia, USA. Students should contact the School of History, Politics and International Relations for further information.

BA HISTORY AND POLITICS WITH A YEAR ABROAD

The above four-year degree is also available. Students may only enter the four-year variant of the relevant three-year programme by transferring at the end of the first or second-year and on the recommendation of the heads of the divisions concerned. Transfer is conditional on successful completion of first and second-year modules. The programme structure is as for first, second and final year modules for the three-year programme (above). The third year is spent abroad at an approved partner institution. In order to proceed to the fourth year of the course students must pass their year abroad. The year abroad does not otherwise count towards the final classification of the degree.

The programme is assessed as a Four Year Programme with a year out, with the year abroad treated as the 'year out'. The year out does not count towards the final classification, but a student must pass all modules taken during the year abroad to proceed to the final year of the programme. The second and fourth years are used in determining the degree class, according to the standard scheme for three-year programmes.

To take part in the Year Abroad programme students must pass all modules in years 1 and 2, and achieve a credit weighted average of 55% in year 2. They must also have learned the language of the destination country, providing the Office with a language certificate as evidence of satisfactory

completion of training through the 'Languages at Leicester scheme' or an appropriate alternative. Failure to meet these criteria will lead to the School recommending transfer to the 3- year degree which the student would otherwise have taken.

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See undergraduate [module specification database](#) [Login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).