Programme Specification (Undergraduate) FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2023/24

Date created: 26/02/2021 **Last amended:** 06/06/2025 **Version no.** 2

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

BA Politics and Economics
BA Politics and Economics with a Year Abroad*
BA Politics and Economics with a Year In Industry*
*Students may only enter these degree programmes by transferring at the end of year 1 or year 2

a) HECOS Code

HECOS Code	%
100491	50%
100450	50%

b) UCAS Code

LL12

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 Politics and Economics]

The normal period of registration is 3 years

The maximum period of registration 5 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

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. **HS**
European Baccalaureate: Pass with 70% overall.

International Students require a minimum 6.5 IELTS (or equivalent).
BTEC Nationals: Full Diploma DDM.

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.

[Insert details or state n/a]

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 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.

For those on the Year In Industry variant:

- 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 Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- QAA Benchmarking statement for Politics and International Relations:
- QAA Benchmarking statement for Economics:
- University Education Strategy
- University Assessment Strategy
- University of Leicester Periodic Development Review Report (February 2014)
- External Examiners' Reports
- First Destination Survey
- Annual Developmental Review

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 in Politics and Economics. [Year Abroad] Acquire knowledge of another European language if the student goes to a partner university where the teaching language is not English.	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, directed reading, computer classes, problem-solving exercises, individual consultations with staff, and independent research. Language classes provided during 2nd year; 3rd year abroad taught in some cases in a foreign language.	Formative coursework, summative coursework, essays, essay-based examinations, problem-based examinations, dissertations, written reports, seminar presentations, contributions to class discussions, problem-solving exercises, projects. Essays, examinations, seminar presentations and contributions to tutorial

ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate the assimilation of core	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, directed reading, problem-solving exercises, individual	Formative coursework, summative coursework, essays, essay-based examinations, problem-based examinations,

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
theoretical concepts and their application in Politics and Economics. Demonstrate a familiarity and engage critically with a range of approaches, models and concepts in both disciplines. [Year Abroad] As above.	consultations with staff and independent research. As above.	dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to class discussions, problem-solving exercises and computer-based exercises. As above.

iii) Critical analysis of key issues

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Develop and sustain arguments addressing questions and issues in Politics and Economics, formulating appropriate questions and drawing on evidence. Reflect critically on a range of historical and contemporary developments in the disciplines of Politics and Economics. Critically analyse arguments in Politics and Economics and relate them to contemporary policy issues. [Year Abroad] Demonstrate the ability to analyse through appropriate methodologies aspects of European politics and economies, and foreign political and economic structures & dynamics	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, directed reading, group work, individual consultations with staff, and independent research. As above.	Formative coursework, summative coursework, essays, essay-based examinations, problem-based examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to class discussions, problem-solving exercises. As above.

iv) Clear and concise presentation of material

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present issues and problems in Politics and Economics in a clear and concise way in a variety of written and oral formats.	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, directed reading, group work, individual consultations with staff, and independent research.	Essays, essay-based examinations, problem-based examinations, dissertations,

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Produce clear and concise economic arguments and with reference to formal models.		written reports, seminar presentations and contributions to class discussions.

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. 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

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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 skills

i) Oral communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Develop clarity, fluency and coherence in oral expression of issues in Politics and Economics. Participate effectively as a student in group discussions. [Year Abroad]	Seminars, tutorials, group work, individual consultations with staff and feedback on presentations.	Seminar presentations, contributions to class discussions, individual dissertation presentation.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
To display the ability to communicate in a European language in a fluent, accurate and appropriate manner if the student goes to a partner university where the teaching language is not English.	Language classes.	Exercise, oral presentations.

ii) Written communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Develop and sustain arguments grounded in theories and case studies in Politics and Economics in a variety of written forms. Demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in written expression of issues in Politics and Economics.	Seminars, tutorials, problem-solving exercises, independent research, individual consultations with staff and feedback on coursework and assessed work.	Essays, essay-based examinations, problem-based examinations, dissertations, written reports, seminar presentations, problem-solving exercises.
[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.	Language classes, formative coursework in partner institutions.	As above.

iii) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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. Integration of IT into presentations (e.g. PowerPoint) and research (e.g. Blackboard, online archives/sources).	Induction programme, computer practical classes, online learning resources, independent research, interaction with staff and peers via Blackboard and email.	Essays, independent research projects, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises. [Year Abroad] With regard to the 3rd year of the programme, communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
		with students abroad is conducted via the internet.

iv) Numeracy

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Analyse data associated with Politics and Economics using statistical and graphical techniques.	Lectures, computer practical classes.	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 jointly explore issues and arguments in Politics and Economics, and to recognise the value of working closely with others. [Year Abroad] Be able to work collaboratively in an international environment	Interactive seminars, tutorials and group-work exercises.	Participation in group work, seminar presentations, role plays and simulations, contributions to class discussions, problem-based exercises. [Year Abroad] Plus equivalent forms of assessment in partner institutions.

vi) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Address problems in Politics and Economics in depth using a range of primary and secondary sources. Synthesise differing approaches to both disciplines.	Seminars, tutorials and problem-solving exercises.	Essays, essay-based examinations, problem-based examinations, independent research projects, written reports, problem-solving exercises.

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.	Seminars, tutorials, directed reading, specialist research methods workshops, practical problem-solving exercises and online learning resources.	Essays, independent research Projects, written reports, problem-solving exercises.

viii) Skills for lifelong learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate intellectual independence through the setting of research tasks and the solving of problems in Politics and Economics.	All of the above particularly independent research.	All of the above, particularly the dissertation.
Reflect upon own learning and achievements and plan for personal, educational and career development.	Tutorials, career development programmes, resource-based learning, personal development planning programme and individual consultations with staff.	Portfolio, curriculum vitae.
[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.	Development of metalinguistic awareness through language classes, tasks designed to expand a foreign language repertoire.	Language assignments, ability to self-correct.

Year in Industry
For the Year In Industry variant, these additional programme outcomes apply.

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 or second 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.

Year in Industry
For the Year in Industry variant, these additional progression points apply.

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.

The University recognises that undertaking a work placement as part the programme of study can enhance career prospects and provide added value, and as such this programme includes a 'year in industry' variant.

By experiencing real-world scenarios and applying skills and knowledge to a professional environment, students can gain a unique insight into how their studies can be utilised in industry.

This will not only showcase their abilities to future employers but will also enhance their studies upon returning to university to complete your programme.

To understand the special features for year in industry undergraduate programme variants, this programme specification should be read in conjunction with the programme specification content which can be found here. This outlines details including programme aims, support, progression and duration.

13. Indications of programme quality

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

14. External Examiner(s) reports

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

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

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Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

Updates to the programme

Academic year affected	Module Code(s)	Update
2023/24	PL1019	Module title changed from Politics, Power and Ethics

BA POLITICS AND ECONOMICS

Level 4/Year 1 2023/24

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

FIRST YEAR MODULES

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	EC1000	Microeconomics	15 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	EC1005	Maths for Economics 1	15 credits
Sem 1	PL1019	Introduction to Politics	30 credits

SEMESTER 2

Core Modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	EC1001	Macroeconomics	15 credits
Sem 2	EC1008	Maths for Economics II	15 credits

And Two optional modules in Politics from

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	PL1011	Political Concepts	15 credits
Semester 2	PL1012	Comparative European Politics	15 credits
Semester 2	PL1021	Power in the World Economy	15 credits

Notes

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

Level 5/Year 2 2024/25

Route A: With Politics Dissertation

Credit breakdown

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

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	EC2045	Intermediate Microeconomics	15 credits
Sem 1	EC2046	Intermediate Macroeconomics	15 credits
Sem 2	EC2034	Economic History	15 credits
Sem 2	PL2095	Preparing for your dissertation	30 credits

Semester 1 – Two 15 credit optional modules from the list below
Semester 2 – One 15 credit optional module from the list below

Route B: With Economics Dissertation

Credit breakdown

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

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	EC2045	Intermediate Microeconomics	15 credits
Sem 1	EC2046	Intermediate Macroeconomics	15 credits
Sem 2	EC2034	Economic History	15 credits

Semester 1 – Two 15 credit optional modules from the list below
Semester 2 – Three 15 credit optional modules from the list below – must be Economics modules

Semester 1
Optional Modules

History Modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HS2329	A World Connected: Economy, Wellbeing and Sustainability since 1950	15 credits

Politics and International Relations Modules

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 2

Optional Modules

Economics Modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	EC2051	Money and Central Banking	15 credits
Sem 2	EC2052	Labour Economics	15 credits
Sem 2	EC2053	Environmental & Resource Economics	15 credits

Politics and International Relations Modules

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
Sem 2	PL2027	Contemporary Political Philosophy: Theories of Justice	15 credits

Level 6/Year 3 2025/26

With Politics Dissertation

Credit breakdown

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

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	PL3094	Dissertation 1	15 credits
Sem 2	PL3095	Dissertation 2	30 credits

Semester 1 – Three 15 credit optional modules from the list below
Semester 2 – Two 15 credit optional modules from the list below

FINAL YEAR OPTIONAL MODULES

SEMESTER 1

Economics Modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	EC3057	Management Science	15 credits
Sem 1	AF3077	Investment Management	15 credits
Sem 1	EC3066	International Trade	15 credits

Politics and International Relations Modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	PL3060	Feminism	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3071	The American Presidency	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3098	The Conservatives: Ideology, Statecraft and Party Change	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3106	Parliamentary Studies	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3122	Political Legacies of Conflict in Northern Ireland	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3129	The Politics of Nuclear Weapons	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3148	Comparative Public Opinion	15 credits
Sem 1	PL3155	Animals and the Environment	15 credits

SEMESTER 2

Economics Modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	EC3089	Behavioural Economics	15 credits
Sem 2	EC3080	Public Economics	15 credits
Sem 2	EC3067	International Finance	15 credits
Sem 2	EC3044	Economics of Education	15 credits
Sem 2	EC3004	Communicating Economics	15 Credits

History, Politics and International Relations Modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	HS3614	The Imperial Economy: Britain and the Wider World 1830-1914 new version with France	15 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	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

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 University's Study Abroad programme . 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 undergraduate module specification database [login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).

Appendix 3: Skills matrix