

<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Introduction to Political Theory</b>
<b>Programme(s)/Course</b>	BA Politics
<b>Level</b>	4
<b>Semester</b>	1
<b>Ref No:</b>	
<b>Credit Value</b>	20 CAT Points
<b>Student Study hours</b>	Contact hours: 45 Student managed learning hours: 155
<b>Pre-requisite learning</b>	
<b>Co-requisites</b>	
<b>Excluded combinations</b>	
<b>Module Coordinator [Name + e mail address]</b>	Adrian Budd <a href="mailto:buddam@lsbu.ac.uk">buddam@lsbu.ac.uk</a>
<b>Parent Department</b>	Social Sciences
<b>Parent Course</b>	BA Politics
<b>Description [100 words max]</b>	This module introduces students to key ideas and concepts in political theory. These include democracy, freedom, justice and power. These ideas and concepts are explored in the social and historical contexts in which they developed. Students will also be encouraged to explore the way that these ideas and concept have been transformed historically and the manner in which they are mobilised in contemporary political debates.
<b>JACS Code</b>	
<b>Aims</b>	<p>The module aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide students with a clear overview of the contribution of political theory to the study of politics and society;</li> <li>• introduce the main themes of the tradition of Western political theory and major criticisms of Western thought;</li> <li>• enable students to understand the issues posed for political theory by the central political reality of institutional and social powers, including the power of the state;</li> <li>• encourage in students an appreciation of the complexities of the relationship between political theory and contemporary political practice;</li> <li>• demonstrate the inter-connectedness of political ideas and the social and historical contexts in which they develop and are mobilised.</li> </ul>
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p><b>Knowledge and Understanding</b></p> <p>On successful completion of the module students will have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• acquired a deeper body of knowledge relating to political theory;</li> <li>• developed an ability to analyse and discuss the major concepts and arguments of political theory;</li> <li>• become acquainted with the distinctive procedures and methods of the main forms of political theory;</li> <li>• developed an awareness of the complexities of the relationship between political theory and political practice and of the problems involved in seeking to realise the conclusions of theory and their impact on society.</li> </ul> <p><b>Intellectual Skills</b></p>

	<p>On successful completion of the module students will have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• developed the habit of careful, critical reading of political texts;</li> <li>• enhanced their conceptual and critical thinking about political theory and its relevance to contemporary debates and disputes;</li> <li>• developed a critical awareness of political concepts and their application in a variety of political contexts and circumstances;</li> <li>• Developed the ability to detect defects in argument, with regard both to the justification of the premises and the question of logical structure.</li> </ul> <p><b>Practical Skills:</b> On successful completion of the module students will have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• shown the ability to present, in written form, a coherent and reasoned piece of academic work;</li> </ul> <p><b>Transferable Skills:</b> At the end of the module, which will devote some time specifically to study skills, students will have developed and enhanced a number of skills, including: effective oral and written communication; use of IT; efficient time management and working to deadlines; ability to participate co-operatively in group discussions.</p> <p>Students may be directed to appropriate classes and study materials available through the university's skills support unit.</p>
<b>Employability</b>	This module develops skills that will enhance the employability of students. In particular it will demonstrate their ability to think analytically, to meet deadlines, to search for academic materials, and to write a piece of coursework within a given word-length
<b>Teaching &amp; Learning Pattern</b>	Lectures (2 hours per week) Seminars (1 hour per week)
<b>Indicative content</b>	Democracy Freedom Justice Rights Equality Power Legitimacy Participation and obligation Social difference and political identity Secularisation and the revival of religiosity The nation-state and globalisation
<b>Assessment method</b>	1 piece of coursework of 1500 words requiring students to write short answers to 10 questions covering the main issues addressed in the lecture programme
<b>Indicative Reading</b>	Bellamy, R. & Mason, A. (eds) <u>Political Concepts</u> (2003) Birch, A. <u>The Concepts and Theories of Modern Democracy</u> (3 <sup>rd</sup> ed 2007) Boucher, D., & Kelly, P., <u>Political Thinkers: From Socrates to the Present</u> (2 <sup>nd</sup> ed. 2009) Dryzek, J., et al <u>The Oxford Handbook of Political Theory</u> (2008)

	<p>Heywood, A. Hoffman, J. and Graham, P.</p> <p>Jones, T. (2002)</p> <p>Mackenzie, I. (ed)</p> <p>McKinnon, Morrow, J.</p> <p>Zwolinski, M.</p>	<p><u>Political Theory: an introduction</u> (2004)</p> <p><u>Introduction to Political Theory</u> (2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 2009)</p> <p><u>Modern Political Thinkers and Ideas</u></p> <p><u>Political Concepts – a reader and guide</u> (2005)</p> <p><u>Issues in Political Theory</u> (Oxford, 2008)</p> <p><u>History of Western Political Thought: A Thematic Introduction</u> (2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 2005)</p> <p><u>Arguing about Political Philosophy</u> (London, 2009)</p>
<b>Other Learning Resource:</b>		