Postgraduate Study
MA Art and Politics
MA International Studies
MRes Political Science
MPhil and PhD

Politics
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This booklet gives information about the postgraduate programmes in the Department of Politics, Goldsmiths, University of London. For further details, please visit www.gold.ac.uk/politics.

We can supply information in alternative formats for people with a visual impairment or dyslexia. Please contact the Course Enquiry Team on +44 (0)20 7078 5300 or e-mail course-info@gold.ac.uk.
Introducing the Department

Politics is an essential activity in all societies. It comprises the institutions and ideas that shape power and conflict, and structures the decisions about how we live together.

Studying politics is an exciting and rewarding experience. It fosters insights into how society works (and sometimes fails to work well), and communicates skills that help us understand and resolve shared problems.

Dynamic and expanding, the Department of Politics provides teaching and research in various aspects of political life including: international studies; political theory; European and British politics; the politics of major non-Western countries; the relations between art and politics; political economy; and public policy.

‘Daring to think differently and to challenge the norms’ is central to Goldsmiths’ Mission Statement. ‘Working beyond the boundaries of preconceptions’ is how we get there in Politics. As part of a college with a reputation for the innovative use of new social theory, and for its commitment to interdisciplinarity, our greatest strength lies in pushing the boundaries of our discipline. You, as a Politics student, both benefit from, and are a driver of, Goldsmiths’ ground-breaking approach.

Innovation means our Politics courses link together three themes unique to Goldsmiths:

- Cultures – the impact of culture on politics, and the political culture of institutions;
- Conflicts – the causes and nature of conflicts;
- Crossing boundaries – making links between different parts of politics, and with other disciplines.

The Department is fully staffed, with 13 full-time and 3 part-time teaching/research staff, a Departmental Administrator and a Secretary.

Further information on our teaching staff and their research interests is on page 20 of this booklet.

Why choose Goldsmiths?
Politics is a successful department that continues to grow, with an extensive range of research areas and an expert academic team.

Our distinctive approach includes teaching and research on areas not covered at most other British universities, such as art and politics, postcolonial theory, the politics of India, China, Japan and Africa, as well as international studies, British politics, public policy, European politics, and political theory.

In the Department’s 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, 75% of our activity was rated as ‘recognised internationally in terms of originality, significance and rigour’, with some elements deemed to be “world-leading” and of “international excellence”.

Politics staff have succeeded in attracting a variety of awards from funding agencies, including the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), the British Academy the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), and the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation. These awards have funded research into a wide range of areas, such as urbanisation in Africa, the politics of knowledge production in Latin America, and so on.

Careers and employability
With its relevance to society and its interdisciplinary nature, a postgraduate degree in Politics provides an excellent entry point into a wide range of exciting careers. Graduates often go on to work in areas such as journalism, the civil service, local government, public policy and even in politics itself.
Research culture
Our research at Goldsmiths includes, but extends beyond, the traditional boundaries of the discipline of Politics. As well as providing a solid coverage of all the core fields, we have strong interests in topics outside the normal parameters of political research found at other universities. We undertake and supervise studies in post-colonial politics and theory – particularly in relation to South Asia, China, Japan and Africa – and also on the relationship between art and politics. In terms of methodology, we are especially interested in textual and discourse analyses, ‘hermeneutic’ and philosophical enquiry, and the examination of historical and contemporary aspects of cultures and societies.

This wide range of interests and approaches sets us apart from traditional political science departments. Our staff have received awards from the ESRC, the AHRC and the British Academy, and actively run various research organisations within the Department and the College. These include the Centre for Post-Colonial Studies, the Centre for the Study of Global Media and Democracy, and the Research Unit in Governance and Democracy (RUGD), and in Politics and Ethics (RUPE). All staff members are actively involved in research and have produced a variety of publications in their fields. We also have a growing community of full and part-time PhD students, some of them funded by ORS, AHRC or departmental scholarships.

Seminars
The Department holds regular research seminars during term-time where members of staff and nationally and internationally known scholars present their latest work. We encourage all postgraduate and research students to attend.

Details can be found on our website at www.gold.ac.uk/politics.
Application and admission
Application forms are available at www.gold.ac.uk/apply/pg and from the Admissions Office; contact details are given on page 24. Please see the Postgraduate Prospectus if you require further detail on the application process.

We recommend that you apply early in the academic year, especially if you intend to apply for funding. Admission to the MA Art and Politics normally includes an interview, except for those students residing outside the UK.

Entrance Requirements

MPhil and PhD
We prefer you to have a Master’s degree, or to be studying for one at the time of your application. However, we will consider applicants with a good undergraduate degree – please contact the Department about your eligibility.

MRes in Political Science and all MA programmes
For our MRes and MA programmes, you should normally hold, or expect to achieve, a good undergraduate degree in a relevant subject. Our interdisciplinary approach means that this can include degrees in history, anthropology, philosophy and literature, to give some examples. The Department is committed to widening participation: we encourage you to apply if you have substantial relevant work experience, but lack formal qualifications. In such cases, entrance is by interview and submission of an essay on a topic determined by the Department. Applicants who do not have a relevant first degree are encouraged to approach the Department informally before submitting an application.

English language requirement
If English is not your first language, you must obtain evidence of your English Language competence. Tests considered appropriate include:

- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) – pass with at least 6.5 overall and a minimum of 6.0 in the written element;
- TOEFL score of at least 580 including 4.5 in the Test of Written English (TWE), or 237 in the Computerised Test (CT) including 4.5 in the essay component, or 92 in the Internet-based Test (IBT) with a minimum of 23 in the written element;
- International GCSE (IGCSE) English as a second language at Grade C or above;
- Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency of English (CPE) Level 5 at Grade C or above;
- Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE) Level 4 at Grade B or above.

For further information, please visit www.gold.ac.uk/pg/apply/english-language. International candidates may be accepted without an interview.

Fees
For information about fees, please see the Postgraduate Prospectus or visit www.gold.ac.uk/costs. Please note: fees quoted are per year of study.

Attendance
Teaching takes place between 9.00am and 8.00pm. Please contact the Department for information regarding specific teaching days (see page 24).

Visiting
College-wide open days for all programmes across the university are usually held three times a year in spring, summer and autumn. We also hold weekly campus tours during term time to show students around the university. For further information, and to book please visit www.gold.ac.uk/opendays.
Innovative and dynamic, the MA in Art and Politics was launched in 2009 and has already become a leader in its field. It was inspired by appeals to ‘situate’ practice in terms of current contemporary discourse, which has increasingly led to the incorporation of political and social theory into art school courses. While our intention is to keep the focus on art, our main aim is to extend that process of contextualisation by running a programme which views both art and politics differently.

The course gets to the heart of a range of issues in contemporary cultural politics: the global ‘war on terror’; rising levels of ethnic, religious and civic conflict; issues of human rights and humanitarian intervention; and concerns about environmental degradation and the global effects of financial turmoil. In such a climate, questions about the ‘autonomy’ and the political character of art are being posed with renewed vigour and urgency. What is art’s role in times of political and cultural crisis? Does ‘committed’ or ‘political art’ merely aestheticise and trivialise that which can never be communicated? The course will equally look at contemporary arts practices which are increasingly claiming ‘political’ origins and motivations, and political parties which seek artistic ‘endorsements’ and the involvement of art and artists of all kinds.

The MA in Art and Politics provides students with the opportunity to explore these issues and practices in a genuinely interdisciplinary setting. Working from a strong theoretical basis, the programme aims to better understand a range of empirical, aesthetic and conceptual issues which traverse and exceed both ‘art’ and ‘international politics’. It aims further to explore those strategies of intervention and those practices and modes of thought which are, as yet, uncertainly situated and to consider how we, as participants in a variety of cultural and public spheres, may yet be able to affect what can be seen, said and thought.

What do you study?
The MA programme will cover the following courses:

**Core**
Art and Politics 1: History, Theory, Event (30 credits)
Group Project (30 credits)

**Compulsory**
Dissertation (60 credits)

**Options**
In addition, you take a course or courses to the value of 60 credits. 30 credits of these must be made up of courses from within the Department. A list of course options is provided by the department at the beginning of the academic year. In past years, elective options have included:

- An(Other) China: Postcolonial Theory, Postmodern Concerns (30 credits)
- Continental Political Theory: The Politics of Violence (30 credits)
- European Union and Immigration: The Contours, Politics and Economics of the New Policy Domain (30 credits)
- Global Political Cultures 1: Knowledge, Power and Culture (15 credits)
- Global Political Cultures 2: The Body, Gender and Politics (30 credits)
- Individual Project (15 credits)
- Memory and Justice in Post-Conflict Societies (30 credits)
- Political-Economic Governance of the European Union (30 credits)
- Politics of the African City (30 credits)
- Rhetoric and Political Speech (30 credits)
- Risk and Contemporary Politics (30 credits)
- Technology and Political Mobilization (30 credits) (subject to approval)
- Theories of International Relations (15 credits)

Students should note that the availability of particular option courses varies from year to year and depends on a minimum level of take up and on staff sabbaticals.
The remaining 30 credits can be made of courses from within Politics OR from other departments in the college approved by the Programme Convener, but not amounting to more than 30 CATS from outside the Department of Politics.

Popular choices in the past have included:
- Centre for Cultural Studies
- Cultural Theory
- Interactive Media Critical Theory
- Media and Culture Industries
- Cultural Studies and Capitalism
- Theories of the Culture Industry
- Practices of the Culture Industry
- Text and Image
- Media Philosophy
- Biopolitics and Aesthetics
- Mediating the Social

**Sociology**
- Mapping Capitalism
- Consumer Citizenship and Visual Cultures

**History**
- Seeking a Good Death: The Cultural History of Death and Bodily Disposal
- Ethnic Conflict and Reconciliation in Modern Europe
- Conflict, Trauma and Memory in the Modern Balkans
- A Troubled Culture: Northern Ireland since 1921

**Please note:** owing to staff research interests and sabbaticals, not all the above courses will be available in any one year.

**Dissertation and research supervision**
You are also required to write a dissertation of not more than 10,000-words in the general area of politics or public policy, the precise topic to be selected with the approval of your supervisor.

You are assigned a member of staff qualified to supervise your research throughout your course.

Please see page 24 for details of the teaching staff and their research interests. You can find out more about our staff publications at www.gold.ac.uk/research/.

**Project work**
You are required to undertake project-based work in accordance with your own political and artistic interests. The purpose of this project work is to find ways of ‘doing’ politics which employ ‘artistic’ strategies and interventions in their realisation. Projects have a student-centred material focus, complementing the theoretical emphasis of core and optional modules, and will seek to raise awareness of particular issues and draw attention to their position in the public arena. They may be written, broadcast, performed, curated, made, or involve any other kind of appropriately documented submission. Training in digital and genetic media will be provided where necessary. Project training is monitored and co-ordinated by the artist-in-residence in the Politics department – who will oversee students’ individual needs while ensuring that there is continuity of support and opportunities to identify and build upon individual strengths and weaknesses.
“I applied for the MA International Studies in order to get a broader view of international politics. Goldsmiths enhances critical thinking and individuality. I like the inspiring atmosphere at the university.”

Victoria, MA International Studies
The events of 9/11, wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, change and conflict in Africa, and the growing economic and political importance of China, Japan and India, and problems in the Eurozone highlight the way in which the ‘international’ is now something that affects us all. This MA gives you the opportunity to explore the character of the contemporary world in an interdisciplinary manner, and equips you with the analytical tools with which to understand the changing face of global politics in the 21st century. It allows you to study not only the West, but also Asia and Africa, and it includes an option to gain practical experience through internships. The degree is also designed to allow you the option to study subjects offered in departments other than Politics.

This programme differs from MA degrees in international relations offered elsewhere, because although your study of the international and global will include the study of relations between nation-states, it will also encompass the study of how culture and knowledge impinge upon, and are reshaped by, globalisation. Unlike most other such programmes, the ‘international’ here includes the option of studying the politics of major non-western countries.

The MA provides the requisite skills for those seeking a career in international corporations, teaching, non-governmental organisations, the United Nations, international organisations, diplomatic services, defence and other areas of government. It is also especially relevant to those seeking to work in areas where an understanding of international politics is essential (journalism, for example), or who are considering further study at PhD level.

What do you study?
The programme covers the following courses:

Core courses
Global Political Cultures 1: Knowledge, Power and Culture (15 credits)
Theories of International Relations (15 credits)
Dissertation (60 credits)

Options
You choose courses to the value of 90 credits from:

Either
A list provided by the Department of Politics at the beginning of the academic year.
or
A combination of units from:

a) a list provided by the Department at the beginning of the academic year, and
b) other units from other departments in the College approved by the Department of Politics, but not amounting to more than 30 credits.

Please see pages 14-19 for the details of the core courses and options available.

Dissertation and research supervision
You are also required to write a dissertation of not more than 10,000 words in the general area international studies, the precise topic to be selected with the approval of a member of staff acting as your supervisor.

Please see page 20 for details of teaching staff and their research interests. You can find out more about our staff publications at www.gold.ac.uk/research/.
The MRes in Political Science offers training in quantitative and qualitative research methods through the Graduate School, providing a firm foundation for later MPhil/PhD research. It also aims to develop skills that will be valuable in a wide range of careers.

Beyond the core units dealing with how to carry out research, and tackling key issues in British/European politics/policy, which cover three units, you are given a range of choices for one optional unit, including the politics of the European Union, aspects of contemporary British politics, global politics, the politics of China, and political theory.

Aside from those wishing to pursue MPhil/PhD research, the MRes is especially relevant to those making their careers in political research or in research management. Civil servants and public officials in the early years of their career, as well as researchers or political assistants, are likely to find the MRes particularly relevant to their personal and professional development. Mid-career public servants at local and national levels will benefit from the in-depth training provided.

What do you study?

Full-time and part-time study

Full-time students complete the programme in one calendar year. Part-time students take the three courses in Research Methods, Advanced Statistical Techniques and Politics and Welfare in Britain and Europe in their first year, and one full course option or two half-unit options together with the dissertation in the following year. The dissertation must be completed and submitted by mid-September of the year of completion.

The MRes consists of three core units and optional unit (up to 30 credits).

Core courses

- Qualitative Methods for Research Students (30 credits)
- Quantitative Methods for Research Students (30 credits)
- Risk and Contemporary Politics (30 credits)
- Dissertation (60 credits)

Options

You choose 30 credits from a list provided by the Department of Politics at the beginning of the academic year.

Please see pages 14-19 for the details of the core courses and options available.

Please note: owing to staff research interests, not all the above courses will be available in any one year.

Research supervision

You are assigned a member of staff qualified to supervise your research throughout your period of registration.

Please see page 20 for details of teaching staff and their research interests. You can find out more about our staff publications at www.gold.ac.uk/research/.
We accept research students into the Department on the basis of a match between your proposed research and the current research interests of a potential supervisor, as well as an assessment of qualifications and suitability for a research degree. Initial discussions about supervision are therefore on the basis of a brief research proposal prepared by prospective students before a formal application is made.

The Department offers research supervision in all areas of politics. We have particular expertise in postcolonial politics (especially China, India, Africa and Japan); art and politics; contemporary political theory; European politics; and political economy.

We recommend that all prospective applicants make informal enquiries with a potential supervisor whose interests cover the proposed area of research. The staff list gives an indication of who may be appropriate. For general enquires, Please contact Professor James Martin, Director of Postgraduate Studies. For enquiries concerning research in our specialist areas, contact one of the following:

- Professor Michael Dutton for postcolonial politics
- Dr Bernadette Buckley for art and politics
- Professor James Martin for political theory
- Dr Carl Levy for European politics
- Dr Georg Menz for political economy

Fees and funding
Please visit www.gold.ac.uk/fees-funding for up-to-date information on fees and funding currently available at Goldsmiths.

Registration and study
Initially, you register for a Master of Philosophy (MPhil) programme to train you in the research methods necessary to complete a PhD. You can apply to upgrade to PhD registration when you have satisfactorily completed an agreed part of the research and training programme; this usually happens before 18 months if you are studying full-time, or before 36 months if part-time. You should aim to complete and submit your PhD thesis within an agreed period, usually three to four years for full-time students, and four to six years for part-time. If you decide not to upgrade to PhD registration, you can submit your thesis for an MPhil after two years if you are studying full-time, or after three years if part-time. With the agreement of your supervisor, you can change your registration from full to part-time or vice versa.

North American applicants especially should note that the British system does not include preparatory taught classes or examinations as part of the MPhil/PhD programme, except for an initial course in research methods.

Research supervision
You will be assigned two members of staff qualified to supervise your research during the period of your registration, although often one will be the main supervisor. Supervision involves regular meetings throughout the period of study, and ideally involves the development of an intensive intellectual relationship between you and your supervisors, from which all parties gain.

Research training
All research students who have not already completed an MRes or MPhil degree will have to attend courses on quantitative and qualitative research methods held in their first year of study and delivered by the Graduate School. This involves an induction course, introduction to information technologies and the use of library and bibliographic resources, basic training in quantitative research methods, and sessions on research planning, presentation skills and ethics.
Goldsmiths collaborates with Queen Mary, University of London, in providing a Doctoral Training Centre (titled ‘London Social Science’) to deliver compulsory social science training to students funded by the ESRC. The general and ‘core’ Politics elements are also available on a voluntary basis for all other students undertaking doctoral study. This currently includes specialist doctoral workshops in areas such as postcolonial politics and conducting research ‘in the field.’

Optional elements
Regular seminars are held within the Department, which you are most welcome to attend. Also, you may, after consultation with your supervisors, audit the appropriate postgraduate options from any of the taught MA/MRes programmes offered in the Department. This involves participating in seminar discussions and/or writing coursework, but not being formally assessed for the course.

Facilities
Research students in the Department have a dedicated open access computer room. In addition you have access to Goldsmiths’ Graduate School, containing an open-access computer room and other facilities. The School hosts a series of seminars and other activities during the year, which are open to all postgraduate research students and staff in the College. The Graduate School Office is based in the Whitehead Building 117. Our staff oversee research students’ progress and well-being and co-ordinate the generic training courses for postgraduate research students, whilst the Graduate Study Space is based in Whitehead Building 144.

Assessment
Examination of the MPhil and PhD is by a longer thesis (60,000 words maximum for an MPhil and 100,000 words maximum for a PhD) and a viva voce.
Please note: in some instances, core courses for one programme may be chosen as options for others. Your choice of options may be restricted. Owing to staff research interests, options may not all be available in any one year.

Art and Politics 1: Theory History Event
This is a core module for MAAP, meaning that it is compulsory for all students taking the MA in Art and Politics. The central function of Art and Politics 1 is to offer an advanced foundation in both interpretative practices and theoretical concepts in Art and Politics as an emerging sub-discipline. Its purpose is to establish a common intellectual, historical and theoretical framework for students coming from diverse disciplines.

Using a variety of historical, theoretical and aesthetical perspectives, the module explores the nature of the relationship between Art and Politics. It considers opposing attempts in the 20th and 21st centuries to prevent and/or cement the emergence of an explicit relationship between art and politics. In so doing, it provides opportunities to consider a range of topics in the field of political ideas, aesthetico-political theory, art practices and strategies. Broadly, it considers key questions regarding the (so-called) ‘aestheticisation of politics’ and the ‘politicisation of aesthetics’ as emergent in the 20th and 21st centuries. More narrowly, it cuts across historical trajectories in order to focus upon four major themes central to Art, Politics and the relationship between them. These are:

1. Aesthetics and Autonomy
2. Pain War Conflict Terror
3. Power and Globalisation
4. Agency/Affect/ Activism

Underlying these four themes is a single meta-theme - that of change. Each section, in its own way, asks if and/or how it is it possible for particular aesthetico-political theories and practices to affect larger socio-political regimes and structures. Assessed by one essay.

An(Other) China: Postcolonial Theory, Postmodern Concerns
This subject is built around glimpses of, and insights into, the lives of ordinary Chinese people and the rules and rituals that govern their existence. You will discuss the ways everyday life was governed under socialism and the ways that control is now breaking down with the emergence of a consumer culture, enabling a close scrutiny of the politics of everyday life. Picking up on themes as diverse and quirky as Mao badge fetishists, hoodlum slang, and the role of the tattoo, the subject examines the way a range of people not only live but resist dominant social discourse. This subject also employs an array of critical thinking from Western social theorists and it is this that is highlighted through themes such as ‘commodities and collection’, ‘authorship and biography’, questions of power, violence and excess as well as themes of fore-thrownment sacrifice and desire. You will gain a grounding not only in the politics of everyday life in China but also in Western theoretical engagements with the everyday. This course will give you an insight into different values systems and political forms and in taking up the issue of politics in a culturally different way gaining an understanding of the heuristic value of certain schools of social, cultural and political theory. Assessed by one essay.

Continental Political Theory: The Politics of Violence
This course examines the relationship between violence and politics. While liberal political theory aims to keep these two domains separate, the intractable nature of violence and what seems like its intensification today - religious fundamentalist terrorism, ethnic cleansing, racial antagonisms, urban violence, the permanent ‘war on terror’ - suggests that this distinction may not be so clear cut. This ambiguous relationship will be explored through the work of a number of major Continental thinkers - Hobbes, Freud, Georges Sorel, Hannah Arendt, Carl Schmitt, Frantz Fanon, Michel Foucault, Giorgio Agamben and others. Themes covered will be political sovereignty, violence and the international system, totalitarianism, revolutionary politics, psychoanalytic explanations of violence, racism, decolonisation, war and terrorism. Assessed by one essay.
Dissertation
The Politics Master’s Dissertation is an extended piece of written work of ten thousand words on a research topic of your choice (but subject to approval). It is compulsory for all MA and MRes students who have passed all written papers and is undertaken after the Summer term (ie during the ‘vacation’ period). The dissertation comprises a critical review of the literature and/or original analysis of documentary and/or other evidence on a chosen topic within the fields of your programme. Your work for the dissertation will be supervised by a member of staff with particular expertise or interest in the area chosen for study. The dissertation counts as one full course unit. Assessed by one 10,000-word dissertation including a 200-word abstract.

European Union and Immigration: The Contours, Politics and Economics of a New Policy Domain
Immigration is rapidly emerging as one of the key concerns for public policy makers in the 21st Century in Europe and beyond. Net immigration levels to Europe have increased dramatically since the fall of the Iron Curtain. This has spawned pressing questions about national identity, multiculturalism, integration and assimilation, the role of religion, language and symbolic marks of common representation.

While pragmatic policy-makers are rediscovering the benefits of labour migration, nativist, nationalist and chauvinist parties from the Far Right are making electoral inroads based on radical measures stopping or even reversing immigration. Arguments about labour shortages and demographic considerations encounter nativist reservations towards the prospect of fresh immigration. Humanitarian channels of migration, especially asylum, are facing a somewhat uncertain future. The European Union has created the foundations of a Common Asylum and Migration Policy (CAMP) and rapidly developed a complex network of policies that overlap, modify and in some instances change substantially national policies in this domain. This course examines the politics and economic of immigration throughout Europe and beyond, exploring actors, symbols, politics and policies that coalesce to form a complex pattern of regulation of one of the most politicized policy domains.

In addition to the weekly lecture, there will also be a weekly two hour discussion-based seminar sessions for postgraduate students. Alongside these seminars, there are plans for a series of guest lectures. Assessed by one essay.

Global Political Cultures 1: Knowledge, Power and Culture
This course aims to raise questions about whether the concepts and categories through which we usually study the ‘international’ or ‘global’ are adequate to the task. It critically examines categories of the social sciences and humanities that are usually simply presupposed and ‘applied’, and which, despite their Western or European origins, are assumed to be ‘universal’. It does this by closely examining some of the most important theoretical writings of the post-WWII period, focusing upon books and debates which had repercussions far beyond their immediate disciplinary boundaries, including books by Kuhn, MacIntrye, Foucault, Said, and others. Students explore the claim(s) that far from being objective and universal, our knowledge is shaped by culture, history and politics. In seminars we ask, can different ‘paradigms’, ‘traditions’ or ‘epistemes’ be compared to see which one is better, or are they incommensurable? Do theories and explanations triumph over rival theories because they are ‘better’- or for other reasons? Does knowledge serve to unmask power, or is it always caught up with and complicit with power? This course requires students not simply to advance their knowledge of politics, but to explore the politics of knowledge, and to do so, in particular, by enquiring into whether the categories and concepts of the social sciences are genuinely international and universal, or merely modern/Western and parochial. Assessed by one essay.
“Goldsmiths and its instructors offer a refreshingly alternative critique to the changing world around us that I would not have found at another UK institution.”

Christine, MA International Studies
Global Political Cultures 2: Body, Gender and Politics
From western antiquity until modern times, the body has been aestheticised, vilified, eroticized and pathologised. How and why has the body, historically, been the site for larger social, political and cultural anxieties and desires? This course seeks to answer some of these questions by exploring a number of interconnected themes - the body as a site for different modes of fashioning and disciplining the self and society, the emergence of sexuality as a discourse and the implications this has for the formation of new identities, the gendered nature of nudity as an aesthetic, the metaphoric and literal conception of the body politic, the correlation between the body and the carnivalesque and so on. The course also focuses on case studies from the non-western world, in order to question and destabilize many of our common assumptions, which we assume to be universal, manifesting themselves across time and place in a uniform manner. These assumptions, whilst masquerading as universal, in fact draw upon a very specific history, which is squarely European in its provenance. We examine the discourses on race, orientalism, colonialism and nationalism through particular non-western gendered practices such as female circumcision, foot-binding and veiling, and consider how these multivalent practices with complex histories are brought into the service of modern political agendas. Assessed by one essay.

Group Project (MA Art and Politics students only)
This requires students to collectively develop and present a group project in an appropriate form and public context. Students are required to document this project extensively and present it in a public context. The Group Project is assessed in two parts - students receive a Group Mark (50%) and an Individual Mark (50%). Assessed by The Group Mark is the same for all students participating in the project, as it represents the success of the project overall. Each student is also awarded an Individual Mark for the Group Project. The Individual Mark is worth 50% of the overall mark for the Group Project. The Individual Mark is awarded on the strength of students’ presentations/individually written reports of their role in the project.

Internship (MA International Studies Students only)
This optional unit will involve spending two days each week in the spring term as an intern in a placement provider engaging with ‘the international’ or ‘global’ in a sustained way. Although taken in one term, the option will count as a full unit. The particular focus is on organisations that engage with the international realm, whether through formal political channels (eg governmental organisations), informal ones (eg NGOs) or which engage the international in altogether different ways (eg art galleries and museums). A number of internships will be available, but not all students wishing to exercise this option will be able to do so. We will encourage other students to take the opportunity to find a placement and will support them in that process. In fairness to hosts, we will have to be confident that students’ levels of attendance and achievement while at Goldsmiths suggest that they can benefit from the internship. Assessed by one essay and a report from the placement supervisor.

Memory and Justice in Post-Conflict Societies
This course focuses on how societies emerging from different types of conflict (such as genocide, partition, violent ethnic conflict and grave human rights abuses) engage in the process of ‘coming to terms’ with their past. It examines both official mechanisms of ‘traditional justice’ – notably trials and truth commissions – and civil society-led processes, expressed through the media, popular culture and various other initiatives ‘from below’. By exploring the complex relationship between conflict, memory and justice in various cross-cultural settings, it seeks to provide an understanding of the ways in which such processes can promote or hinder reconciliation and the rebuilding of social, inter-communal and international ties. The course will also assess the role of external factors (as for example, through the creation of international war crimes tribunals) in terms of how they have affected such internal processes of facing the past. Various case studies, including post-Second World War Germany and Japan, post-partition India, post-Apartheid South Africa, post-conflict former Yugoslavia and post-genocide Rwanda will inform the theoretical discussions and provide a comparative perspective. Assessed by one essay and a formal essay proposal.
Politics of the African City
This course focuses on the African city as a specific site to explore politics in various dimensions and expressions. The course considers the precolonial, colonial and postcolonial African city as a concrete site which hosts and is shaped and reshaped by changing and contradictory power relations, ideologies, struggles, economies and cultures. The course considers a variety of case studies and contexts such as Maputo, Johannesburg, Kinshasa, Dar Es Salaam, Nairobi, Accra, Lagos, Dakar. With the help of urban theory and postcolonial theory as well as the literature on African cities, we explore themes such as the politics of urban space and the spatial articulation of power; African and Western cultures of planning and organisation of urban life; the character of colonial urbanism, and its legacy in the postcolonial, neoliberal present; the city as site of resistance, everyday life and popular culture. The later part of the course explores the treatment of these themes and experiences in postcolonial African film, novels and art. The final seminar explores Africa’s presence in this postcolonial city of London. Assessed by one essay.

Rhetoric and Political Speech
Politics entails the power to persuade, to convince an audience not only of the correctness of a point of view but of its desirability also. But what are the techniques of persuasion in contemporary politics and what are their limits? What makes for effective argument and how can we distinguish that from manipulation? How might power and domination be resisted through democratic speech? This course explores the powers of political speech and communication by means of the discipline of rhetorical studies. It sets out the essential elements of rhetorical analysis and applies these to examples of contemporary political speech. Assessed by one essay.

Risk and Contemporary Politics
This course treats risk as the core notion in framing and exploring contemporary politics. The course is aimed at exciting student interest in the relationship between politics and the assessment, communication and management of risk. It invites students to explore the ways in which the management of risk has become one of the most pressing concerns in contemporary politics and encourages them to consider the leading role ideas about risk play in shaping political debate, the formulation and evaluation of public policy and the coverage of politics in the popular media. The study of risk is a multi-disciplinary enterprise and the course takes as its starting point the proposition that: ‘Risk politics affords students a highly rewarding and stimulating opportunity to consider the ways in which political analysis interacts with and draws upon social psychology, media studies, economics, sociology, legal studies, and sub-disciplines in the natural sciences, such as toxicology’. The course is designed to provide students with knowledge and understanding of key concepts and findings from empirical studies of human risk perception, risk management and the scientific analysis of risks. The significance of risk analyses and their impact upon contemporary political discourse and action serve as the prime focus for the course. Risk and Contemporary Politics aims to foster the student’s ability to critically evaluate the growth and development of risk politics in response to specific risks and to consider the ways in which particular risks have been politicised. Although the course will draw on the UK political system for many of its examples it will pursue risk related issues, including global warming and the possibility of global pandemics, which will be of interest to students of international politics. Assessed by one essay.

Qualitative Methods
Offered by the Graduate School, this course is designed as an introduction for those with little or no previous experience of this methodology. The main aims will be to give you an understanding of some of the main forms of qualitative research, offer you opportunities to develop the necessary skills for conducting qualitative research and help you in reading and assessing research publications. Assessment by: a written assessment on one of the topics covered in the course.

Quantitative Methods
Also offered by the Graduate School, this course covers the quantitative elements of the ESRC’s generic training requirements for social science research students. These envisage that students should acquire an understanding of not just research techniques that relate to their current research but rather go broader than that. Formulating quantitative questions sampling and validity as well as the use of statistics, it will include the most commonly used descriptive and inferential statistics, including how to calculate and interpret them using the SPSS software package available on the College’s computers. Assessment by: short coursework assignments and two ‘take home’ exams.
Technology and Political Mobilisation (subject to approval)
This course provides a historical overview of the role that different technologies – from the invention of writing, to the printing press, radio, television, transport technology, cellphone technologies and more recently internet based technologies – have played in different forms of political organisation and mobilisation. Focusing in particular on a series of key historical as well as contemporary moments surrounding popular uprisings, riots, revolutions, elections and wars, the course will reflect on the promises and limits of technology as well as its impact on the redistribution of power in society. Assessed by one essay.

Theories of International Relations
This course provides a survey of the classical, critical and newly emerging theories of international relations, namely: realism/neorealism, liberalism/neoliberalism, Marxism, constructivism, post-modernism, feminism, post-colonialism, the aesthetic turn in IR and theories of justice. The course approaches each of these theories through the concept of power, seeking to explain the radical shifts that have occurred both in our understanding of power as well as the role that it plays in international politics in the last century. The course combines its examination of theory with debates on contemporary case-studies that serve to showcase the link between theory and practice. Assessed by one essay.
Dr Bernadette Buckley BA PGDip MLitt MA PhD
Lecturer in International Politics
Research interests: the relationship between art and politics; the connections between art, war and terrorism; autonomy/ism in art and politics; the politics of everyday life; aesthetic and political theory including Rancière, Chantal Mouffe, Francis Beradi etc.


Dr Rekha Diwakar BSc MSc MRes PhD
Lecturer in Politics
Research interests: comparative politics, especially electoral competition and voting behaviour, the size of the Indian party system, civil service reforms in developing countries, and research methods in political science.


Dr Jasna Dragovic-Soso BA DES DEA PhD
Senior Lecturer in International Relations
Research interests: politics of the former Yugoslavia and its successor states; nationalism, conflict and international intervention; post-conflict justice and reconciliation; the social construction of memory.


Professor Michael Dutton BA PhD
Professor of Politics
Research interests: Chinese politics; postcolonialism; social and political theory.


Dr Simon Griffiths BA PhD
Lecturer in Politics
Research interests: history of British political thought; UK party politics; public service reform.


Dr Branwen Gruffydd Jones BA MA DPhil
Lecturer in International Political Economy
Research interests: African politics and international relations; African cities; African political thought; colonialism, imperialism, postcolonialism; international political economy.

Dr Carl Levy BA MA PhD
Reader in European Politics
Research interests: European politics; European Union politics and policymaking; comparative modern European history; modern Italy since 1870; history of ideas.


Dr David Martin BA (Hons), PhD
Lecturer in visual and international politics
Research interests: Politics of the Visual, CounterMapping, Postcolonial Theory, Politics of space and bodies, Theories and critiques of modernity.


Professor James Martin BA MA PhD
Research interests: Continental political theory; rhetoric; psychoanalysis.


Dr Georg Menz BA MA PhD
Reader in Political Economy
Research interests: Political economy; political economy of the European Union; international political economy, the politics of immigration.


Dr Saul Newman BA PhD
Reader in Political Theory
Research interests: contemporary social and political theory; postanarchism and radical politics; continental political thought; the politics of violence and terrorism; human rights.


Dr Rajyashree Pandey BA MA PhD
Reader in Politics
Research interests: gender, body and sexuality; Japanese popular culture, religion and politics.

Dr Anca Pusca BA MA PhD
Senior Lecturer in International Studies
Research interests: revolutions, post-communist transitions, European Union enlargement, the politics of the visual, Walter Benjamin studies.


Mr Ed Randall BA MSc (Econ)
Senior Lecturer in Social Policy
Research interests: Health and health policy; liberal democracy and public policy; European Union and health policy; IT resources for teaching social policy; local government policies and policy-making.


Dr John Reardon BA MA PhD
Lecturer in Politics
Research interests: democracy as ideology and practice, particularly as this bears upon the practices of contemporary art, and their relationship to architecture and the built environment.

Major work: a wide range of internationally-recognised works and exhibitions including Monument to a Dead Parrot, Image Machine, Disappearing Mural and Zoo Arts Fair.

Professor Sanjay Seth BA PhD
Head of Department and Professor of Politics
Research interests: Indian history and politics; social and political theory; postcolonialism.


Administrative staff
Elaine Webb, Departmental Administrator
Helen Keogh, Departmental Secretary
If you have specific questions, once you have read this booklet and the Postgraduate Prospectus, please contact the individual Admissions Tutors listed below, or contact the Department on +44 (0)20 7919 7741, fax 020 7919 7743 or e-mail politics@gold.ac.uk.

**MPhil and PhD**
Postcolonial Politics: Professor Michael Dutton, e-mail m.dutton@gold.ac.uk
Art and Politics: Dr Bernadette Buckley, e-mail b.buckley@gold.ac.uk
Political Theory: Professor James Martin, e-mail j.martin@gold.ac.uk
European Politics: Dr Carl Levy, e-mail c.levy@gold.ac.uk
Political Economy: Dr Georg Menz, e-mail g.menz@gold.ac.uk

**MRes in Political Science**
Dr Rekha Diwakar, e-mail r.diwakar@gold.ac.uk.

**MA in International Studies**
Professor Sanjay Seth on +44 (0)20 7919 7741 or e-mail s.seth@gold.ac.uk.

**MA in Art and Politics**
Dr Bernadette Buckley, e-mail b.buckley@gold.ac.uk.

If you have questions about entry qualifications, admissions, or arranging interviews, please contact us as follows:

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We would welcome any comments you have about the content or design of this booklet.
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Goldsmiths has joined the Carbon Trust’s Higher Education Carbon Management programme, and is participating in the national 10:10 campaign, demonstrating a commitment to cutting carbon emissions. Goldsmiths’ efforts in the field of carbon management and emission reduction have been recognised by the government.
At Goldsmiths we believe that an understanding of sustainability in terms of environmental, social and economic matters is fundamental to holistic learning, and we acknowledge that protection of our environment is an integral part of good and sustainable institutional practice. We recognise that the College can contribute towards environmental protection and conservation by improving our own environmental practices and promoting awareness of both corporate and individual responsibility to all students and staff. We have resolved to achieve a continual improvement in how we measure and minimise our own environmental impacts.

Our Mission

We offer a transformative experience, generating knowledge and stimulating self-discovery through creative, radical and intellectually rigorous thinking and practice.