

These programme regulations should be read in conjunction with the University's [core regulations for undergraduate programmes](#), and the [marking and classification conventions for undergraduate programmes](#).

**BA Politics & International Relations (L253)**

**BA Politics & International Relations with Placement Year (L254)**

**BA Politics & International Relations with Study Abroad (L255)**

1. This programme is available at Durham City, in a full-time mode of study.

**Level 1 (Certificate)**

2. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following modules:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Researching Politics and International Relations	<a href="#">SGIA1201</a>	20
Introduction to Comparative Politics	<a href="#">SGIA1211</a>	20
Introduction to International Relations	<a href="#">SGIA1221</a>	20
Political Theory	<a href="#">SGIA1231</a>	20

3. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 40 credits from List A:

<b>List A:</b>		<b>Credit value</b>
Democratic Political Systems	<a href="#">SGIA1191</a>	20
International Security	<a href="#">SGIA1251</a>	20
Perspectives of Political Economy	<a href="#">SGIA1241</a>	20
One module from those offered by the Centre for Foreign Language Study **		20
<b>OR</b>		
One open module from those offered by another Board of Studies		20

**Level 2 (Diploma)**

4. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following module:

		<b>Credit value</b>
Research Project #	<a href="#">SGIA2341</a>	20

5. Candidates shall study and be assessed in modules to the value of 20 credits from List B:

<b>List B:</b>		<b>Credit value</b>
Foundations of Western Political Thought	<a href="#">SGIA2171</a>	20
Analytical Politics	<a href="#">SGIA2361</a>	20

6. Candidates shall study and be assessed in modules to the value of 20 credits from List C:

<b>List C:</b>		<b>Credit value</b>
International Theory	<a href="#">SGIA2131</a>	20
International Organisations	<a href="#">SGIA2261</a>	20

7. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 60 credits from List D:

<b>List D:</b>		<b>Credit value</b>
International Theory	<a href="#">SGIA2131</a>	20
Politics and International Relations of East Asia *	<a href="#">SGIA2161</a>	20
Foundations of Western Political Thought	<a href="#">SGIA2171</a>	20
International Organisations	<a href="#">SGIA2261</a>	20
Sovereignty, State and Empire	<a href="#">SGIA2281</a>	20
Middle East in the International System *	<a href="#">SGIA2311</a>	20
Debates in Political Theory	<a href="#">SGIA2321</a>	20
Class, Nation and Party in British Politics	<a href="#">SGIA2351</a>	20
Analytical Politics	<a href="#">SGIA2361</a>	20

Challenges and Conflicts in European Politics *	<a href="#">SGIA2371</a>	20
Democracy, Conflict and American Politics	<a href="#">SGIA2381</a>	20
Capitalism: History and Theory	<a href="#">SGIA2401</a>	20
Middle East and the International System	<a href="#">SGIA2391</a>	20
Gender and Politics	<a href="#">SGIA2411</a>	20
One module from those offered by the Centre for Foreign Language Study **		20
<b>OR</b>		
One open module from those offered by another Board of Studies		20

### Level 3 (Degree)

8. Candidates shall study and be assessed in the following module:

Dissertation ~	<a href="#">SGIA3142</a>	<b>Credit value</b> 40
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9. Candidates shall also study and be assessed in modules to the value of 80 credits from List E:

<b>List E:</b>		<b>Credit value</b>
Muslims and Politics in the Modern World *	<a href="#">SGIA3271</a>	20
Theories of Liberty	<a href="#">SGIA3291</a>	20
China in Global Political Economy *	<a href="#">SGIA3381</a>	20
Elections and British Politics	<a href="#">SGIA3441</a>	20
Political Psychology in International Relations *	<a href="#">SGIA3511</a>	20
Democratic Practise in the US Campaigns, Elections and Voter Behaviour	<a href="#">SGIA3531</a>	20
Advanced Topics in International Relations *	<a href="#">SGIA3541</a>	20
Social and Political Philosophy *	<a href="#">SGIA3561</a>	20
Democracy and Discontent in the European Union	<a href="#">SGIA3571</a>	20
Global China: Domestic Transformations, International Rise *	<a href="#">SGIA3601</a>	20
Politics into Schools*	<a href="#">SGIA3591</a>	20
Women, Gender and Politics in the US *	<a href="#">SGIA3611</a>	20
Social Justice and Marginalised Groups	<a href="#">SGIA3631</a>	20
The Theory and Ethics of Political Violence *	<a href="#">SGIA3641</a>	20
Politics of Inequality	<a href="#">SGIA3671</a>	20
Poverty or Prosperity? The Political Economy of Development	<a href="#">SGIA3681</a>	20
Decolonising International Society	<a href="#">SGIA3741</a>	20
Global Politics in Anthropocene: Securing the Environment *	<a href="#">SGIA3731</a>	20
Climate, Nature and the Global Economy	<a href="#">SGIA3711</a>	20
Digital Democracy *	<a href="#">SGIA3721</a>	20
The Culture Wars: Past, Present, Future *	<a href="#">SGIA3811</a>	20
Crises, Governance, and Struggle: Finance and the World Economy	<a href="#">SGIA3751</a>	20
Intelligence, The State and International Security	<a href="#">SGIA3771</a>	20
Marx and Marxism *	<a href="#">SGIA3761</a>	20
Diasporas and Global Politics *	<a href="#">SGIA3781</a>	20
Advanced Topic in International Political Theory: The International Politics of the Everyday	<a href="#">SGIA3801</a>	20
Advanced Readings in Political Economy	<a href="#">SGIA3821</a>	20
The Politics of Deglobalisation *	<a href="#">SGIA3871</a>	20
Special Topic on the American Presidential Election *	<a href="#">SGIA3861</a>	20
Can Voters Make Democracy Work? *	<a href="#">SGIA3841</a>	20
Environmental Politics	<a href="#">SGIA3851</a>	20
Are Voters Really Rational? The Political Economy of Political Behaviour and Its Discontents *	<a href="#">SGIA3831</a>	20
The Dark Side of the Liberal International Order	<a href="#">SGIA3881</a>	20
Democracy and its critics	<a href="#">SGIA3891</a>	20
One open module from those offered by another Board of studies		20
<b>OR</b>		
One credit-bearing language module offered by the Centre for Foreign Language Study **		20

### **Assessment, progression and award**

10. Modules marked with ~ must be passed at 40% or above for the award of an honours degree. A mark of 30 – 39% cannot be compensated.
11. Modules marked with # must be passed at 40% or above in order to proceed to the next level of study.
12. Module marked with # SGIA2341 Research Project must be taken at Level 2 and must be successfully completed in order to undertake SGIA3142 Dissertation at Level 3.
13. Modules marked with \* are not available in 2026-27.
14. Optional modules are subject to timetable compatibility. Not all optional modules will run every year

### **Year Abroad**

15. Students admitted to the BA Politics & International Relations (L255) are able to apply to transfer to the BA Politics & International Relations (with Year Abroad) programme (L255). Students undertaking the BA Politics & International Relations (with Year Abroad) (L255) programme will undertake an approved study placement in an overseas university taking a course of study chosen in consultation with the programme director and the host institution. During the year abroad students will be assessed at module level by the host University. Assessment does not contribute to the marks used to determine the award of the degree but successful completion is required to qualify for the BA Politics & International Relations with Year Abroad.
16. Candidates wishing to transfer to the BA Politics & International Relations (with Year Abroad) (L255) must:
  - a. have successfully completed Level 1 of the BA Politics & International Relations (L253) and progressed to Level 2 of the programme; and
  - b. during the first term of Level 2 study, apply to the Board of Studies in the School of Government and International Affairs to be admitted to the BA Politics & International Relations (with Year Abroad) (L255) and have their application approved by the Chair of the Board of Studies in the School of Government and International Affairs; and
  - c. successfully complete Level 2 of the BA Politics & International Relations (L253) so as to be eligible to progress to Level 3 of the BA Politics & International Relations (L253) programme; and
  - d. meet any specific academic requirements necessary for transfer to the partner institution.
17. Students who the Board of Examiners for the School of Government and International Affairs deem to have made satisfactory progress on the year abroad will continue to Level 3 of the BA Politics & International Relations (with Year Abroad) (L255). Students who have not made satisfactory progress on the year abroad will not be permitted to continue on the BA Politics & International Relations (with Year Abroad) (L255) programme, but must instead proceed to Level 3 of the BA Politics & International Relations (L253) programme.

### **Placement Year**

18. Students admitted to the BA Politics & International Relations programme (L253) are able to apply to transfer to the BA Politics & International Relations (with Placement Year) programme (L254). Students taking the BA Politics & International Relations (with Placement Year) (L254) will undertake an approved placement in a UK or overseas organisation consisting of at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience.
19. During the placement year, students will be required to successfully complete the placement assessments outlined in the Faculty Placement Year module (FSOC3099) to determine whether the programme learning outcomes have been met. Assessment does not contribute to the marks used to determine the award of the degree but successful completion is required to qualify for the BA Politics & International Relations (with Placement Year) (L254). If a student fails, they will transfer to the BA Politics & International Relations programme (L253).
20. Candidates wishing to transfer to the BA Politics & International Relations (with Placement Year) (L254) must:

- a. have successfully completed Level 1 of the BA Politics & International Relations programme (L253) and progressed to Level 2 of the programme; and
  - b. secure a Placement Year opportunity comprising at least 40 weeks of professional-level work experience, approved by the Departmental Placement Year Convenor and Faculty Placement Manager; and
  - c. successfully complete Level 2 of the BA Politics & International Relations programme (L253) so as to be eligible to progress to Level 3 of the BA Politics & International Relations (L253).
  - d. to have a minimum record of 80% attendance at both Level 1 and Level 2, unless there are any serious adverse circumstances that explain lower attendance and have successfully completed 240 credits at Level 1 and 2. Students who fail to meet these criteria will continue to Level 3 of the BA Politics & International Relations programme (L253).
21. Students whom the Board of Examiners for the School of Government and International Affairs deem to have fulfilled the programme learning outcomes and who successfully pass the three required on-placement assessments will continue to Level 3 of the BA Politics & International Relations (with Placement Year) (L254). Students who fail will not be permitted to continue on the BA Politics & International Relations (with Placement Year) (L254) programme, but must instead proceed to the final year of the BA Politics & International Relations programme (L253).