Module Organiser: Dr Rubén Ruiz-Rufino  
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Office: Room 7.12 North East Wing Bush House

Lectures:  
Class: 1-2pm, Mondays, Semester I  
Location: S2.49, Strand Building

Seminars:  
Group 1: 2-3pm, Mondays at S2.49, Strand Building

OFFICE HOURS  
To book an appointment with me, please click on https://rubenruizrufino.youcanbook.me and you will see when I am free. You, then, can decide when and for how long you would like to meet with me. During this process, you will be asked to enter your email and the reason why you would like to see me. Please make sure that don’t forget to fill in this field since it will help me in preparing for your meeting. After completing the short form, you will receive an email confirming the appointment and I will get that date blocked in my calendar.  

My office hours during this term are Tuesdays from 2pm to 3.30pm and Wednesdays from 11.00am to 12.00pm. Appointments outside those hours should be first consulted with me by email. Also note that I have given you flexibility to decide the length of your appointment. This ranges from 10 minutes from 1 hour. Please, use this flexibility wisely and thinking about your fellow colleagues; if you book more time than what is needed, then other students may not be able to book with me.

KEATS  
I rely heavily on KEATS during the term. Important class announcements and updates are communicated via the Announcements Forum at KEATS. I also encourage online participation via the Class Forum. KEATS can be a useful tool to enhance your learning experience and I expect you to be an active participant.
RATIONALE AND AIMS

This module explores the importance of institutions to understand complex economic phenomena occurring in a context of increasing economic interdependence among countries. To do so, the module will begin by learning two key main concepts: globalization as a process of economic interdependence and how political institutions emerge and change. Secondly, the focus will be on analysing the relationship between democracy and globalisation. In this part of the module, the main topics will cover the relationship between globalisation and political accountability; the surge of technocracy and the tension with the democratic ideal of self-government; and the socio-economic consequences of globalisation. These topics will provide the basis to understand more complex problems like Brexit, the collapse of establishment parties or the rise of populism.

This module is ideal for students interested in understanding the political processes behind globalization. Although, this is a course dealing with the economic issues, I will use a political science approach. By this, I mean that most of the attention will rest in understanding political processes and the actors behind it. This course is, then, a perfect introduction for more advanced courses in comparative political economy or comparative politics.

This module is also demanding and I expect participants not only to do the readings but mostly to think critically on them. Students will be required to read technical articles and books which contain statistical analysis and some basic formal modelling. In this regard, I do expect students to apply and use the knowledge acquired in Statistics for Political Science I or Quantitative Methods.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

This module offers an introduction to issues of comparative political economy and aims to:

- Provide an overview of the main debates linking political and economic outcomes in the context of globalisation.
- Improve students’ understanding of the roles of political and economic institutions in a context of economic interdependence
- Introduce the logic of institutional formation and change.
- Enable students to understand the tension between globalisation and democracy.

By the end of this module students will be able to:

- Understand the main debates on the causes and consequences of globalization
- Understand the origin and change of political institutions
- Link how political institutions shape economic outcomes and how the economy may trigger institutional change.
- Understand quantitative and formal theory approaches when analysing the relationship between political institutions and economics.
LECTURES

Lectures will last 50 minutes. Every lecture will be dedicated to one particular topic and you will be expected to have done at least one reading prior to each session. The detailed description of each lecture (see below) lists a number of readings for each topic. Of course, you are welcome to go beyond these suggested readings, in particular, when writing your essay.

Participation is encouraged and I will offer several opportunities during the lecture to open a discussion. Students are however welcome to participate at any point, particularly if some ideas are not clear.

SEMINARS

Seminars will last 50 minutes and they will be based on the in-depth discussion of just one article. In some weeks, however, there will be two articles. Students are expected to read such article(s) and, when available, prepare for the seminar using the extra resources uploaded in KEATS. The seminar is expected to be highly participative and the main goal is to apply the content of the lecture on a similar or related topic. Please, make sure that you bring your own copy of the seminar article(s) to the seminar room as you will need such material to perform the different tasks during the session.

The best way to prepare for the seminar is by reading the assigned article and writing a short (one-page max) summary. The best way to write these summaries is by answering the questions listed in the file “Reading a scientific article” available on the module page on KEATS. Even though you may think that this is a time-consuming activity, I strongly encourage you to do this for the following reasons. Firstly, if you proceed in this way, you will take the most of this learning activity. Secondly, by writing these summaries you are positioning yourself in an optimum condition to write your essay as explained below.

ASSESSMENT AND MODULE REQUIREMENTS

Students will be assessed on the basis of one essay, an examination, and attendance and participation. The distribution of the total grade is as follows:

1. Essay: 50%
2. Exam: 50%

Your essay will be due on Friday, 6th April 2018 before 5pm.

The unseen exam will consist of answering two questions out of a menu of five options. You will be expected to use your theoretical, empirical and analytical knowledge when writing your exam answers.

SUBMISSIONS OF ASSESSMENT

Please note the change of policy regarding late submission of coursework. According to the new regulation, Work submitted within 24 hours of the deadline will be marked but the mark awarded will be no greater than the pass mark. Work submitted after the 24 hour deadline will receive a mark of zero; such a student may, at the discretion of the relevant Assessment Sub Board, be permitted to attempt the assessment again if the regulations for the programme permit such reassessment. You can find all relevant information at the undergraduate handbook, available online at: https://internal.kcl.ac.uk/sspp/stu/dpe/ug/Programmehandbook.aspx
GUIDELINES TO WRITE YOUR ESSAY. – PLEASE READ THIS SECTION CAREFULLY.

You will be required to write a 2500-words original essay. You have two options to write your assessed work.

Option A – Answer the following question:
   a) Why a decision to leave the EU occurred only in the UK?

Option B – Identify a relevant empirical research question related to one of the topics covered in this module and develop your own testable theoretical framework. Examples of questions can be:
   a) Does globalisation account for the rise of populist parties? Or
   b) Are social-democratic parties less able to accommodate economic shifts pushed by globalisation than conservative parties? Or
   c) Is globalisation compatible with democracy?

The following guidelines are intended to give you a more precise idea about what is expected from your essay:

If you decide to choose option A, you are expected to put special emphasis on:

1. Motivating the importance of the question. Motivations can be based on simple descriptive data comparing the UK with other countries, for example. But it also needs to contain some theoretical account.

If you decide to choose option B, you are expected to:

1. Identify a problem/question/puzzle for which you think a better answer can be provided. Such problem/question/puzzle must come from the readings that you have done and the topics we have covered in the module. Ideally your essay question should be something like: “Why X is not convincing in explaining Y?”, “How are X and Y related?” and similar approaches.

Regardless of choosing option A or B, you are expected to:

1. Critically review the readings related to the research question and highlight why and how those existing explanations can be improved. This improvement can be due to:
   a. omitting a relevant variable in the explanation, or
   b. some theoretical flaw in the development of the argument, or
   c. something else.
2. Once you have identified the weaknesses of the existing literature, then, you must build your own theoretical explanation. To do this, use the literature that you think back your argument. This literature may not be in the readings of the module but they will need to be related to them.
3. Think empirically. Your theoretical explanation needs to state clearly how your dependent and independent variables are related. In other words, develop a theoretical explanation from which a set of testable hypotheses could be inferred.
4. To clarify, your essay should just be about developing the theory behind the empirics, hence, you are NOT expected to do any empirical analysis to test your hypotheses.
5. However, you are welcome to use any descriptive statistics that you may think support the development of your theory and/or enhance the justification of your research question.
6. In terms of word allocations, I would expect about 40-50% of critical discussion of the existing literature and 60-50% of highlighting the main basis of your own argument.

7. Be aware that you will probably read more than what you probably need. Choose your readings well and allow some time to think about what you intend to do. It is not a question of reading a lot; it is a matter of selecting the key readings which are related to your question and how these readings will help to build your own argument.

8. I do not expect to read a repetition of what it has been said in the literature. Rather, I expect a critical analysis of those readings as a first step to develop your own explanation.

9. You are strongly encouraged to discuss your research ideas with the module convenor well in advance.

10. Below is an indicative structure of your essay that reflects what I would expect:
   a. Introduction – What is your research problem? How does the problem originate? Try to provide an illustration of your problem.
   b. Discussion of the literature – What do we know already about this particular problem? Why is the existing knowledge not fully convincing?
   c. Your contribution – Given what we know in the literature, what is your contribution to answer your research question? In other words, what is the alternative explanation that you would like to test to make your argument empirically valid?
READING LIST (* indicates required reading; ‡ indicates optional reading)

Week 1 – Introduction: Outline of the course (15th January)

Week 2 – What is globalisation? (22nd January)
Lecture:

Seminar:

Week 3 – What are institutions? (29th January)
Lecture:

Seminar:
Week 4 – Institutions, Development and regime change (5th February)

Lecture:

Seminar:

Week 5 – Globalization, nations-states and democracy (12th February)

Lecture:
- Stiglitz –chaps 6-8

Seminar:

Reading week (19th February)
Self-assessment: Time to think about your essay!
Week 6 – Winners and Losers of Globalisation. (26th February)

Lecture: Social and economic consequences of Globalisation


Seminar: Understanding Brexit


Week 7 – Governance in a globalised world (5th March)

Lecture:


Seminar:


Week 8 – Globalisation and Political outcomes (12th March)

Lecture: Accountability

➢ Hellwig, Timothy. 2015. Globalization and mass politics: Retaining the room to maneuver: Cambridge University Press.
Seminar: The collapse of establishment parties

Week 9 – The political consequences of managing financial crisis in supranational contexts.
(19th March)
Lecture: Hyperglobalisation and individual disillusionment.

Seminar: Populism

Week 10 – Conclusions (26th March)
Lecture:

Seminar:
- Q/A
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<td>2</td>
<td>22 Jan</td>
<td>Globalisation</td>
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<td>05 Feb</td>
<td>Development and Regime Change</td>
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