PPEC1001

Introduction to Politics, Philosophy and Economics

Term One // 2020

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Fengshi Wu	Fengshi.wu@unsw.edu.au	Thursdays 2:00-4:00pm and by appointments	Rm 133, Morven Brown Bldg.	9385-3619

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

Room 159

Morven Brown C20

email: soss@unsw.edu.au

phone: 02 9385 1807

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

This course introduces the disciplines of Philosophy, Politics and Economics, and more specifically the synergies and tensions surrounding their distinctive approaches to knowing the world. The major challenges facing policymakers today – from inequality to geopolitical instability – are at once political, economic and philosophical. How these challenges are understood and addressed rest on ideas and methods developed by foundational thinkers in Philosophy, Politics and Economics, and especially by those whose thought embraced these three disciplines. In this course, you will study the ideas and methods of these three disciplines, and the critical interactions between them, in order, firstly, to identify their central role in contemporary public debates, and, secondly, to assess their relevance to current problems, questions and challenges. Through the analysis of specific case studies, you will engage with the multidimensional nature of global challenges, and will consider the desirability and difficulty of multi-disciplinary approaches to addressing them.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Describe the key foundations of philosophical, political and economic approaches to knowing the world, in local and global context.
2. Analyse particular case study examples of philosophical, political and economic approaches, actors and practices, in local and global context.
3. Identify the synergies and tensions between philosophical, political and economic approaches to and practices of knowing the world, in local and global context.
4. Connect the study of PPE to historical and contemporary philosophical, political and economic challenges, debates and problems, in local and global context.

Teaching Strategies

The course is taught through a two-hour lecture, a one hour tutorial and .6-hour of online learning activities per week.

The weekly lecture introduces key concepts and problems, providing background material, analysis and discussion. Lectures are interactive and dynamic learning activities, providing for the treatment of topics through the introduction of intersecting ideas, intellectual histories and case studies in and of Philosophy, Politics and Economics. The weekly one-hour tutorial is student-led, consisting of activities based on informed discussion, problem-solving and current affairs-based research. Tutorial discussion is designed to develop your understanding of the required research material, your ability to grasp empirical and conceptual issues, and your communicative and interpretative skills. The online learning activities may vary and are facilitated through Moodle.

Preparation for all learning activities consists of the completion of weekly web-based online learning activities, reading print materials, including peer-reviewed scholarly texts such as books and journal articles, the interpretation of a selection of primary and secondary sources, such as online resources, public debates, short and documentary films, engagement with current affairs and newsmedia artefacts, and independent research. You must complete all essential readings and online learning activities in preparation for weekly learning activities. You should supplement your preparation at all points of the

course with appropriate and relevant independent research.

The design of the teaching mode and contact hours reflect both a commitment to face to face teaching and engagement with various aspects of blended learning, as outlined in the UNSW 2025 Strategy Theme A2: Educational Excellence

Assessment

Your written assessments in PPEC1001 must only use the Harvard system of referencing, according to the guidelines set out in the School of Social Science's Referencing Guide, which is available at on the Moodle page for PPEC1001.

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Blog Post	20%	21/03/2020 05:00 PM	4
Case Study Paper	40%	25/04/2020 05:00 PM	2,4
Examination	40%	Not Applicable	1,3,4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Blog Post

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 750

Details: Students must submit a 750 word blog post. This activity is worth 20% of the final grade. Students should select a theme for their blog post based on relevant and contemporaneous current affairs and/or newsmedia debates and apply relevant concepts introduced by the lectures. Written feedback, including a rubric and numerical grade, will be provided within 10 working days of submission. Students will be provided with guidelines on assessment expectations, made available through the course's Moodle page.

Additional details:

This 750-word Blog Post is essentially a short reaction essay on relevant and contemporaneous current affairs and/or news media debates and applies relevant concepts introduced by the lectures from week 1 to 5. You must engage with the lecture content and required readings.

This Essay is worth 20% of the final grade. To prepare for the final draft, you are required to submit a short note of no more than 100 words in Week 4 so that you may receive some specific feedback from the course convenor. Meanwhile, you can also use the Moodle Forum function (listed under Week 5) to raise any questions about how to write this Essay.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 2: Case Study Paper

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 2000 words

Details: Students must submit a 2,000 word case study paper. This paper is worth 40% of the final grade. Weeks 5 to 9 of the course are devoted to case study analysis and students should select a case study of their own choosing to reflect on relevant course themes, debates, intellectual histories and their practical application. Written feedback, including a rubric and numerical grade, will be provided within 10 working days of submission. Students will be provided with guidelines on assessment expectations, made available through the course's Moodle page.

Additional details:

Write a 2,000-word case study paper to apply the conceptual ideas covered in the course in analysing a real-world situation/phenomenon and relate the findings of the case back to theoretical knowledge building. You might choose to focus on a moment in time or period in history (for example, global financial crisis of 2008), a theme that has struck you as pertinent across your studies (for example, imperialism, neo-liberalism, intergenerational justice), or a type of actor (for example, the Asian Development Bank, the anti-globalization movement, the Green Climate Fund).

You will use the case study you have chosen to answer particular questions (questions you deem to be relevant and important) and to show how and why theories/approaches/ideas covered in PPE are relevant to understanding the case, and what they can reveal about the case at hand. You are required to apply theories/concepts from more than one discipline covered by PPE in your case analysis, and you are encouraged to think beyond the disciplinary boundaries.

This paper is worth 40% of the final grade. To prepare for the final draft, you are required to submit an outline (no more than 400 words, including a title, the case, central theoretical frameworks/concepts, and tentative analysis/arguments) by Week 8 so that you can receive some specific feedback from the tutor. Face-to-face discussion can be arranged if there is a need.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 3: Examination

Start date: Not Applicable

Details: Students are required to sit a 2-hour final exam during the University's examination period. The examination is worth 40% of the final grade. The examination will evaluate a student's ability to think synthetically and critically about the material in the course. It requires students to engage with content across the course while asking them to demonstrate their achievement of the course learning outcomes. Examination scripts will be marked but not returned to students. Students receive a numerical grade and can request from the School of Social Sciences to see their examination paper. This is the final assessment for this course.

Additional details:

The University's Examination Period in T1 2020 will be held between 6th and 18th May 2020. The date of your Exam will be released via MyUNSW. It is your responsibility to make sure you are available to sit any Examination scheduled during the Exam Period. The Examination in PPEC1001 is the **final assessment** in this course, and is therefore the assessment that will be graded at zero if you do not meet the attendance requirements for this course.

You may bring into the Examination room: 2 pages of double-sided, **handwritten** notes. All notes must

be submitted with your Exam responses.

Turnitin setting: This is not a Turnitin assignment

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings*.*

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 17 February - 21 February	Topic	**Course Introduction and Understanding What's at Stake (1): Individuals and Nation-States**
	Lecture	
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	Familiarise yourself with: 1. UNSW Library's website. Be able to explain where to locate research databases for, e.g., how to use the Library's e-journal and e-book services. 2. The School of Social Sciences Referencing Guide (attached below). 3. UNSW University policy concerning academic integrity. Be able to explain what plagiarism means and how it impacts academic work. (https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism)
Week 2: 24 February - 28 February	Topic	**Understanding What's At Stake (2): Markets and Organisations**
	Lecture	
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	This week and in fulfilment of next week's OLA also, you are required to complete the Learning Centre's interactive Moodle module, 'Working with Academic Integrity'.
Week 3: 2 March - 6 March	Topic	**Understanding What's At Stake (3): Globalisation(s)**
	Lecture	
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	As per the requirements of last week's OLA, you are required to complete the Learning Centre's interactive Moodle module, 'Working with Academic Integrity'.
Week 4: 9 March - 13 March	Topic	**Exploring Interconnections (1): What is Political Philosophy?**
	Lecture	
	Tutorial	

	Online Activity	Decide the central point(s) for your Blog Post, which is a short reaction piece on any main concept, argument or theory/theoretical framework covered in the lectures from week 1 to 5. Please decide about what you want to focus on and outline at least three main points you want to elaborate in no more than 100 words, e.g., whether you (dis)agree and why, how you find a particular concept useful/intriguing/counter intuitive and why.
Week 5: 16 March - 20 March	Topic	**Exploring Interconnections (2): What is Political Economy?**
	Lecture	
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	This week's online learning activity is dedicated to asking any questions you might have as you finalise your Blog Post.
	Assessment	Blog Post: due by 5pm, Saturday, 21st March
Week 6: 23 March - 27 March		No teaching week. Mid-term reading and reflection.
Week 7: 30 March - 3 April	Topic	**Theme (1): European Imperialism and Liberal Government**
	Lecture	
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	Mid-term feedback
Week 8: 6 April - 10 April	Topic	**Theme (2): Development**
	Lecture	
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	Submit an outline of your ideas for your case study paper (no more than 400 words)
Week 9: 13 April - 17 April	Topic	**Theme (3): Crisis**
	Lecture	
	Tutorial	
	Online Activity	This week's online learning activity is for you to receive and think over the feedback from your tutor regarding your case study.
Week 10: 20 April - 24 April	Topic	**Theme (4): Climate change**
	Online Activity	**Read the file on final exam and raise any questions.**
	Assessment	Case Study: due by 5pm, Saturday, 25 April
	Lecture	
	Tutorial	

Resources

Prescribed Resources

All required readings (e.g., journal articles, commentaries and book chapters) are either listed on the Moodle page for PPEC1001 or can be found and accessed via UNSW Library's online catalogue, ejournal and ebook services.

Recommended Resources

Please check Moodle for suggested readings and additional resources.

Course Evaluation and Development

Student evaluative feedback is gathered periodically using the University's 'MyExperience' survey. Informal feedback is also important, and welcome, throughout the semester. Your feedback is used to help guide tutorials, lectures and to help you approach your assessments. Student feedback is taken seriously and continual enhancements are made to learning and teaching activities on the basis of student feedback. This includes making changes to the assessment regime, tutorial activities, weekly readings, Moodle content, and so on. There is also a short Midterm review scheduled in Week 7 for students to raise their concerns about learning and teaching.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.
http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/

Image Credit

Synergies in Sound 2016

CRICOS

CRICOS Provider Code: 00098G