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1. Introduction

This student handbook provides some general information about the Government and International Relations Programme in the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, at BNU-HKBU United International College. Students can also find specific information about the programme curriculum, structure, degree requirements, etc. in this handbook. Students should read this handbook carefully and talk to their mentor, teacher, Programme Coordinator, or the Division Dean if they have any queries. The contents of this handbook are for reference only, and are subject to change without prior notice.

2. The Division of Humanities and Social Sciences

The primary academic objective of the Division is to provide students with a number of four-year Honours Degree Programmes. Six major programmes are currently offered:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Years of Study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cinema and Television</td>
<td>BA (Hons) (i)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government and International Relations</td>
<td>BSocSc (Hons) (ii)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Journalism</td>
<td>BA (Hons) (iii)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations and Advertising</td>
<td>BA (Hons) (iv)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work and Social Administration</td>
<td>BSWSA (Hons) (v)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching English as a Second Language</td>
<td>BA (Hons) (vi)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. The Government and International Relations Programme

The Government and International Relations Programme at UIC is committed to quality, leading-edge education, and research. It offers the Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) degree in Government and International Relations.

The degree will be awarded by the Hong Kong Baptist University: (i) Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Cinema and Television; (ii) Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Government and International Relations; (iii) Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in International Journalism; (iv) Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Public Relations and Advertising; (v) Bachelor of Social Work and Social Administration (Honours); (vi) Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Teaching English as a Second Language.
3.1. Teaching Methods and Medium of Instruction

Teaching will be mainly by formal lectures. Tutorials and laboratory sessions will also be organized to complement formal lectures. The most up-to-date IT tools will be used to aid teaching and learning. English is the medium of instruction for lectures, tutorials and laboratory classes, and for written assignments.

3.2. Programme Aims, Objectives and Learning Outcomes

In an increasingly globalizing world, this B.Soc.Sc. programme in GIR aims at enhancing knowledge of international affairs from the political and cultural point of view. Its role is to develop the understanding of government and politics from an international perspective, and to foster in China an interest and knowledge in other countries and regions of the world.

Its main objectives are:

(1) to provide students with analytical and practical skills required in social situations with an international dimension, in China and abroad;

(2) to provide students with the capacity to understand their environment from a political and social point of view, and to engage in political and social responsibility;

(3) to provide students with a depth of empirical knowledge, enhanced capacity to apply theoretical understanding to an array of practical issues and problems, and specific analytical skills in the areas of politics, political economy, and international relations. In the international community, there is an increasing demand in this era of changing global priorities and alignments for such qualified professionals, who can operate in transitional and multicultural situations;

(4) to prepare students to pursue postgraduate studies in Hong Kong or elsewhere.

The programme follows the College mission of creating and maintaining a learning environment that develops and sustains the whole person. After completing this programme students should be well-equipped with knowledge and understanding of key issues in politics and international relations.

Moreover, our graduates will be able to analyze political, economic and policy issues from national and international perspectives. Opportunities for employment for graduates of the GIR Major are provided by the mainland/Hong Kong civil service, international businesses, cultural exchange agencies and associations, non-governmental organizations (NGO) of many types, media businesses – print or electronic, as well as national and international research agencies.
At the end of this programme, students will be able to:

(1) Apply the theories acquired in the programme to the real world situations by
-identifying reliable and valid information for political and policy analyses;
detecting potential political and social unrest in specific regions;
-assessing the political risks involved.

(2) Conduct fieldwork and research in different regions of the world and
-propose feasible policy options for consideration;
demonstrate the comparative advantages of various regions.

(3) Accept different political, social and religious values and
-communicate and cooperate effectively with peoples from different regions and
cultures;
-show more concern for the future development of mankind.

4. Teaching Staff

Full-time teaching staff are recruited from all over the world. All professors recruited possess PhD or equivalent degrees and have relevant teaching, diplomatic, and research experience. Experts or specialists in the field of Government and International Relations, with exceptional skills and experience, are also recruited. Presently, Prof. Jeff Wilkinson is the Acting Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the GIR Programme Coordinator is Prof. Morton Holbrook III, J.D.

5. Programme Structure

The Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Government and International Relations is a four-year, full time degree programme, with considerable departure from traditional single discipline courses. In addition to the subjects of the main discipline, students are required to take supporting, interdisciplinary, general education subjects and the whole person education experiential learning modules of their own choice. In the final year of study, students undertake individual projects, in which they can gain detailed knowledge, develop basic research techniques, and experience during the course of thesis writing.

Students are normally expected to complete 140 credits within the curriculum structure below.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjects (科目)</th>
<th>Credits (学分)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major Core Subjects</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(专业必修课)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Elective Subjects</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(专业选修课)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Required Subjects</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(通识教育必修课)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Elective Subjects</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(通识教育选修课)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole Person Education Experiential Learning Modules</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(全人教育体验学习课程)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (合计)</strong></td>
<td><strong>140</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 5.1 Major Core Subjects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Chinese Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS1010</td>
<td>Foundations of Political Science</td>
<td>政治学导论</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS2010</td>
<td>Chinese Legal System</td>
<td>中国法律体制</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS2020</td>
<td>Foundations of International Relations</td>
<td>国际关系学导论</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS2030</td>
<td>Introduction to Political Economy</td>
<td>政治经济学导论</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS2040</td>
<td>Introduction to Research Methods</td>
<td>研究方法导论</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS2060</td>
<td>The Political System of China</td>
<td>中国政治体制</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3010</td>
<td>Principles of International Law</td>
<td>国际法原理</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3020</td>
<td>China and the World</td>
<td>中国与世界</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3030</td>
<td>Contemporary Europe and Asia</td>
<td>当代欧洲与亚洲</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3040</td>
<td>Globalization and World Order Issues</td>
<td>全球化及国际秩序问题</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3100</td>
<td>Government and Politics of the United States</td>
<td>美国政治</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3130</td>
<td>Political Philosophy: Chinese and European</td>
<td>政治哲学：中国及欧洲</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS4091</td>
<td>Final Year Project I</td>
<td>毕业论文 I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS4092</td>
<td>Final Year Project II</td>
<td>毕业论文 II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Total**                                      | **42**  |
5.2 Major Elective Subjects

The availability of major elective subjects each semester is subject to minor changes and adjustments depending on staff availability.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Chinese Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EURO3010</td>
<td>The Political Economy of the European Union</td>
<td>欧盟政治经济学</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EURO3020</td>
<td>Comparative Politics of Central and Eastern Europe</td>
<td>中、东欧比较政治</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS2050</td>
<td>Statistical and Survey Methods for Political Science</td>
<td>政治学的统计与调查方法</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3050</td>
<td>Government and Politics of France</td>
<td>法国政治</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3060</td>
<td>Government and Politics of Germany</td>
<td>德国政治</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3070</td>
<td>Government and Politics of Japan</td>
<td>日本政治</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3080</td>
<td>Government and Politics of Russia</td>
<td>俄罗斯政治</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3090</td>
<td>Government and Politics of the United Kingdom</td>
<td>英国政治</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3110</td>
<td>International Organizations</td>
<td>国际组织</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3140</td>
<td>International Relations of Modern South Asia</td>
<td>南亚地区的国际关系</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3150</td>
<td>Democratization in East and Southeast Asia</td>
<td>东亚地区的民主发展</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3160</td>
<td>Ideology and Socialism in China</td>
<td>意识形态在中国的变迁</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3170</td>
<td>Social and Political Developments in Contemporary China</td>
<td>近代中国的社会及政治发展</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS3180</td>
<td>Government and Politics of Hong Kong</td>
<td>香港特别行政区的政治</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS4010</td>
<td>Advanced Research Methods</td>
<td>高级程度研究方法</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS4020</td>
<td>Topics in Asian Politics</td>
<td>亚洲政治专题</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS4030</td>
<td>Topics in Comparative and Global Politics</td>
<td>比较政治与国际政治专题</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS4040</td>
<td>Political Cultures and Economies in Transition</td>
<td>过渡期的政治文化与经济</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS4050</td>
<td>Topics in European Politics</td>
<td>欧洲政治专题</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.3 General Education Required (GER) Subjects

Students should complete the required subjects under each of the following GER categories. For detailed subject offerings, please see Appendix I.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GER Category</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Language</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Language</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I.T. Knowledge</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics and Statistics</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>39</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.4 General Education Elective (GEE) Subjects

All students are required to take 30 GEE credits. They should complete at least one subject from the category of Chinese Culture and Society, and the remaining credits from any of the following GEE categories, preferably subjects outside their own specialization. For detailed subject offerings, please see Appendix I.

GEE Category
Chinese Culture and Society
Business and Communication
Foreign Languages and Cultures
Humanities
Social Sciences
Science and Technology

5.5 Whole Person Education (WPE) Experiential Learning Modules

Within the WPE structure, 8 modules are grouped into 5 sections. Each module is worth one credit unit. Students should earn at least one credit from each section in order to meet
the WPE graduation requirements.

Please see Appendix II for information about the 8 WPE modules.

6. Subject Descriptions

6.1. Major Core Subjects

POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): None

Subject Description: This is a first-year, first semester subject which introduces to students a comprehensive review of the field of political science. Basic concepts, political theories and methodologies, political institutions, political parties are all examined. The subfields of comparative politics and international relations are also integral parts of this subject so as to lay down the foundation for further studies. Political developments in Europe, America and Asia are frequently employed as examples to the introduction of political ideas.

POLS2010 CHINESE LEGAL SYSTEM (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): None

Subject Description: This subject aims to introduce to students some of the major areas of the Chinese legal system. It traces the historical and political backgrounds leading to the current Chinese legal system. Major areas covered include the basic subjects such as constitutional, civil, commercial, administrative and criminal laws, as well as the court system and the legislative process.

POLS2020 FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Subject Description: This is a second-year, first semester subject which introduces students to the basic concepts, methods and processes of International Relations by focusing on four major “perspectives” that have framed analytical work in the field, namely “Realism-Power Politics”, “Dominance-Dependence”, Transnationalism-Interdependency” and “Cultural Interactionism”. International Relations seek to build upon and integrate the disciplinary foundations students obtained in their first-year Political Science and Political Economy subjects.

POLS2030 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL ECONOMY (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): None

Subject Description: Political economy, with its roots in the European 17th and 18th centuries, was the forebear of what developed in the twentieth century into the two
separate disciplines of political science and economics. However, it has become defined in the last twenty years as that sub-discipline of political science and economics which examines the relationship of the individual to society, the economy, and the state with a particular focus on state-market interactions and intersections. It is the study of relations and choices, of structures and institutions, of scales from the personal and local to the national, international, and global. Its originators include John Locke, Thomas Hobbes, Adam Smith, Karl Marx, and Max Weber. Including choice theory and market theory, system theory, development theory and public policy theory, contemporary political economy examines the historic and human behavioural linkages among values/morals, politics, economic reality and economic reasoning. Its prime question concerns the role of politics in the economy and the effects and constraints of the economy on the power and functions of politics and of the state.

POLS2040 INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH METHODS (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): None
Subject Description: This subject is designed to enhance students’ ability to perceive, evaluate and understand political and social phenomena through a systematic introduction to a wide range of approaches, methods and theories of political science. Basic research procedures and academic writing are the other foci of the subject. Students are encouraged to analyze and explain the current political development of Europe, America, Asia and other regions with the help of particular perspectives and research methods.

POLS2060 THE POLITICAL SYSTEM OF CHINA (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): None
Subject Description: An introductory subject to the government and politics of contemporary China focusing on the historical development and institutionalization of Marxism-Leninism and socioeconomic transformation since the late 1970s.

POLS3010 PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): POLS2010 CHINESE LEGAL SYSTEM, and POLS2020 FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
Subject Description: The subject introduces students to the origins and development of international law and its role in the conduct of international relations. Specific topics include the sources and subjects of international law, international agreements, the importance of international institutions such as international courts and organizations, diplomacy, and the settlement of international disputes.

POLS3020 CHINA AND THE WORLD (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, and
POLS2020 FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Subject Description: This subject is designed to provide Government and International Studies majors with knowledge of Chinese foreign policies during the Cold War and Post-Cold War era. Being a socialist country with a strong nationalistic posture, how China situates herself in the world arena, and shifts her foreign policies from pro-Soviet stance (1950s) to isolation (1960s) then opening up to the West (1970s), will be thoroughly examined. The efforts of constructing a “Chinese Theory of International Relations” by the Chinese policy analysts will also be studied.

POLS3030 CONTEMPORARY EUROPE AND ASIA (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Subject Description: A final year subject designed to integrate the study of Europe with a knowledge of Europe’s relations with Asia since 1945. Emphasis is on the post-colonial development of Asian states’ ties with Europe, and with Europeans’ economic, political, and cultural exchanges with Asia. The problems posed to Euro-Asian relations by relict anti-colonialism, by Cold War rivalries and by geo-strategic political economic competition will be examined within the framework of both continents’ internal/external dynamics and the development of world trade, communication, and cultural interchange. The increased movement of Asian peoples to Europe and Europeans’ renewed movement into Asia as part of the global processes and trends of the forecast “Asia-Pacific 21st Century” will be examined.

POLS3040 GLOBALIZATION AND WORLD ORDER ISSUES (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, and POLS2020 FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Subject Description: As the world grows more integrated, as communication and business speed up the changes in our daily lives, the impact of events on our lifestyles deepens, and the necessity to understand and react intelligently to events and forces affecting us becomes more imperative. Lectures are used to inform and provoke students to apply concepts and data acquired in their time of study to current problems facing the global order, and thus, to themselves, their families, and their careers.

POLS3100 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF THE UNITED STATES (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Subject Description: American Constitutionalism and the Bill of Rights (the first 10 Amendments to the Constitution) comprise one of the major foundations of contemporary notions of modern, democratic government. This subject examines the origins and development of US forms of government, federal and state, and also examines conflicts which have challenged, and continue to challenge, in some cases,
the functioning of this system.

**POLS3130 POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY: CHINESE AND EUROPEAN**

(3 credits)

**Pre-requisite(s):** POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

**Subject Description:** The subject is a study of the major political thinkers and issues in European and Chinese political philosophy. It will examine theories of state, their development and their functions in both cultures. It will compare the specific approaches of European and of Chinese thinkers to political issues and in different periods of time. Special emphasis is put on the attempts to synthesize Chinese and European political thought in the first half of the 20th century.

**POLS4091 FINAL YEAR PROJECT 1**

(3 credits)

**POLS4092 FINAL YEAR PROJECT II**

(3 credits)

**Pre-requisite(s):** None

**Subject Description:** The Final Year Project constitutes a very significant part of the Programme. This requirement is fulfilled by a single, 9-10 months long, independent research activity. The project time commitment for students is approximately 6-9 hours each week throughout this period. The topic of the Final Year Project will be within the general area of the student’s chosen area of study. Topic selection takes place in the late stages of Year III for all students. While the final approval of the Adviser is required, and while advice may be sought by the student and given by the Adviser, the main responsibility for topic selection remains with the student.

6.2. **Major Elective Subjects**

**EURO3010 THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION**

(3 credits)

**Pre-requisite(s):** POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

**Subject Description:** The subject examines the causes and historical evolution of European integration and then looks analytically at the institutions and the policies of the European Union, assessing their effectiveness and investigating their implications for the rest of the world. It provides a focused examination of the political economy of European integration, highlighting the dynamic relationship between economic and political integration and the respective roles of the state, market and EU institutions. Moreover, it highlights the complexities and difficulties in constructing a European constitutional order and offers a critical examination of the draft Constitution prepared by the European Convention in June 2003. It also provides a critical review of the main theoretical contributions to the debate on European integration, and explores the prospects for eastwards enlargement in the post-Communist period.
EURO3020 COMPARATIVE POLITICS OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE (3 credits)

**Pre-requisite(s):** POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

**Subject Description:** This subject examines the Central European states of Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia in historical and comparative context. It begins with a discussion of the nature and weaknesses of the Communist regimes of Eastern Europe and the causes and processes of the 1989 upheavals in the region. It then considers the paradoxes and obstacles in the course of post-Communist transition to democracy, the market economy and the civil society. The key issues of democratic consolidation and pro-market transformation will be addressed.

POLS2050 STATISTICAL AND SURVEY METHODS FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE (3 credits)

**Pre-requisite(s):** POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

**Subject Description:** The twentieth century has been described as the age of statistics and modern political research increasingly demands familiarity with the means by which statistically based claims and policy decisions have been developed and advanced. Quantitative analysis also provides new means to describe and analyze social phenomena. In conjunction with qualitative and disciplinary approaches (i.e., historical, economic, psychological, sociological, etc.), quantitative analysis comprises an essential aspect of the discipline of political science. A key aspect of quantitative applications in the social sciences has been survey research, ranging from market research to opinion polling and quality of life surveys. This is an introductory subject to descriptive and inferential statistics and survey design, administration, analysis and theory. Critical understanding of the problems of analysis posed by quantitative databases, qualitative assessment and questionnaire development, and the proper presentation and explanation of quantitative data and its limitations provide primary purposes of the subject.

POLS3050 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF FINANCE (3 credits)

**Prerequisite:** POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

**Subject Description:** After a brief presentation of the legacy of the past (i.e. the French Revolution and the various regimes which followed), the core of the subject is an examination of the evolution of the French political and governmental system from the unstable structures of the Fourth Republic to the more effective presidential regime that exists today.

Basic concepts of political science, theories and methodologies acquired in POLS1010 Foundations of Political Science are applied here to the study and analysis of one of the major nation states in Europe.
POLS3060 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF GERMANY

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Subject Description: The subject studies the structure of successive political systems in Germany within their historical context. Special emphasis will be placed on the trauma of the Third Reich, its origins and its consequences in the post-war construction of a "social-constitutional state", a "social market economy", and the current multi-tiered political system of the Federal Republic of Germany. The subject will finally examine united Germany's role in European and global politics.

POLS3070 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF JAPAN

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Subject Description: This subject focuses on the political development of Japan since 1945. It begins with a historical overview of the rise of modern Japan and an examination of the legacies of the Second World War. The workings of the major political institutions, central and local, are studied, with particular reference to the process of policy-making. It goes on to identify the main political actors, political parties, business groups and labour unions and examines political culture and mass electoral behaviour. The role of Japan in the international system is also assessed.

POLS3080 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF RUSSIA

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Subject Description: Since the communist regime collapse in 1991, Russia has attempted to simultaneously transform its political system from a communist regime to a democratic one and its state-controlled economy to one based on a free market. This subject will introduce students to the political development in Russia from 1917 to the present. It is vitally necessary to have some background on the Soviet system if one is to understand the contemporary situation. Therefore, the first one-third of the subject will examine the birth, life, and death of the Soviet Union. After this, the twin challenges of democratisation and radical market reform facing the new post-Soviet Russia state will be discussed.

POLS3090 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Subject Description: This subject examines the growth and workings of the British system of parliamentary government. It identifies the key features of the British political and administrative systems, seeks to explain both the change and the continuities within British politics, and examines the various pressures and challenges to which its government is currently exposed. It also discusses the British approach to European integration since 1945. Students are expected to take part in tutorials, debates
and research to cover the main items of news and concern on political affairs in Britain.

**POLS3110 INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS** (3 credits)

**Pre-requisite(s):** POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
POLS2030 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL ECONOMY, and  
POLS2020 FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**Subject Description:** Increasingly over the last 130 years, nation-states have agreed to found, fund, and join international organizations whose task is to oversee and organize the myriad global interactions which have increasingly become a part of daily life. As the actions of people and governments in one place increasingly affect the lives of people and the prerogatives and responsibilities of government in others, nation-states have ceded portions of their day to day sovereignty to international agencies and actors. Today, international organizations exercise globe-girdling responsibilities in areas that affect the daily life of nearly everyone. From transport to environmental pollution, from drug smuggling to AIDS, international organizations play a vital part in protecting life and imparting order to international intercourse. This subject examines these international organizations and regimes which play such a vital role in today’s world.

**POLS3140 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF MODERN SOUTH ASIA** (3 credits)

**Pre-requisite(s):** POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
POLS2020 FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**Subject Description:** The subject is designed to provide the students with an overview of politics and international relations of South Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, and the Maldives). Topics covered will include an historic introduction of the region, the British colonial period, the awakening of nationalism and the independence movements of the early 20th century, the formation of newly independent states, the processes of political and economic development, significant current issues in South Asia’s international politics (e.g. India-Pakistan relations, Kashmir, the foreign policies of regional actors, ethnic conflict and transnational terrorism).

**POLS3150 DEMOCRATIZATION IN EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA** (3 credits)

**Pre-requisite(s):** POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
POLS2060 THE POLITICAL SYSTEM OF CHINA

**Subject Description:** Recent decades have witnessed a world-wide explosion of democracies, transforming political systems in former communist and non-communist authoritarian countries. This subject examines the theories on democratic transition and process of democratization in East and Southeast Asia. Comparisons will be made with current situations in Taiwan, South Korea, China, ASEAN states, etc. China's prospect of
democratization will also be a major focus. The subject exposes students to the theoretical debate on the universality of liberal democracy by exploring conceptual issues such as "Asian values and democracy" and "illiberal democracy." The subject will use a broadly comparative methodology incorporating evidences from a range of countries in East and Southeast Asia.

**POLS3160 IDEOLOGY AND SOCIALISM IN CHINA** (3 credits)

**Pre-requisite(s):** POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
POLS2060 THE POLITICAL SYSTEM OF CHINA

**Subject Description:** Political history can be most meaningfully analyzed as a monumental struggle between opposing ideas and ideologies concerning the most appropriate manner to organize human societies. Socialism/Communism once was a powerful ideology that shaped Chinese society as well as some others in the world. How did this ideology become the foundation of Chinese political system? How did it affect Chinese social, economic and political life? To what extent has this ideology been changed in the reform? How do we characterize China's current "socialism"? Are there new ideologies that pose challenges to socialism/communism in China? These are the questions that this subject is going to examine.

**POLS3170 SOCIAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN CONTEMPORARY CHINA** (3 credits)

**Pre-requisite(s):** POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
POLS2060 THE POLITICAL SYSTEM OF CHINA

**Subject Description:** Post-Mao reforms have fundamentally changed Chinese society, making it an excellent "laboratory" for the study of social and political development in transitional societies. This subject examines the social and political dynamics of China's reform. It will begin with a conceptual overview of transition politics in a comparative perspective. It will then analyze political context and reform strategies. The main part of this subject will focus on issues such as rural and industrial reform, political and administrative reform, ideological debates and intellectual political thinking. Social consequences of reforms will be critically assessed.

**POLS3180 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF HONG KONG** (3 credits)

**Pre-requisite(s):** POLS2060 THE POLITICAL SYSTEM OF CHINA

**Subject Description:** This subject examines the development of politics and political institutions in Hong Kong from its colonial founding to the present. The institutional framework of politics in Hong Kong and the development of political culture in Hong Kong are introduced, and the outlines of Hong Kong’s future relationship with China are explored with a focus on the Basic Law and the ongoing reforms leading up to the assumption of sovereignty by the People’s Republic of China.
POLS4010 ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): POLS2050 STATISTICAL AND SURVEY METHODS FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE

Subject Description: The subject introduces to a series of techniques and issues in methodology for political research. It particularly focuses on options available for research design and theory building. Comparative methodology, formal modelling and historical institutionalism are particularly emphasized. Students are invited to use the subject material to elaborate and present the methodology of their honour’s projects.

POLS4020 TOPICS IN ASIAN POLITICS (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Subject Description: This subject is intentionally designed to be flexible in order to allow discussion of a range of contemporary issues in Asian politics.

POLS 4030 TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE AND GLOBAL POLITICS (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Subject Description: This subject is intentionally designed to be flexible in order to allow discussion of a range of contemporary issues in global politics.

POLS4040 POLITICAL CULTURES AND ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, and POLS2030 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL ECONOMY

Subject Description: This is an interdisciplinary subject which explores the recent political and socio-economic evolution of selected societies in the East and West. It focuses on the dynamic interplay of political, economic and cultural forces at the state level of the international system. It also considers similar forces at the regional and global levels which may link or interact with the development of states. Emphasis will be on Greater China, Asia, Eastern Europe, the Soviet successor states, and the European Union in exploring such transitional currents.

POLS4050 TOPICS IN EUROPEAN POLITICS (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Subject Description: This subject is intentionally designed to be flexible in order to allow discussion of a range of contemporary issues in European politics.

POLS4060 TOPICS IN SINO-EUROPEAN RELATIONS (3 credits)

Pre-requisite(s): POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, and
POLS2020 FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,  
and  
POLS3030 CONTEMPORARY EUROPE AND ASIA  

**Subject Description:** This subject is intentionally designed to be flexible in order to allow discussion of a range of contemporary issues on Sino-European relations.

**POLS4070 TOPICS IN SINO-US RELATIONS**  
(3 credits)  

**Pre-requisite(s):** POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE,  
and  
POLS2020 FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,  
and  
POLS2060 THE POLITICAL SYSTEM OF CHINA,  
and  
POLS3100 GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF THE UNITED STATES  

**Subject Description:** This subject is intentionally designed to be flexible in order to allow discussion of a range of contemporary issues on Sino-US relations.

**POLS4080 THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**  
(3 credits)  

**Pre-requisite(s):** POLS1010 FOUNDATIONS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE,  
and  
POLS2020 FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  

**Subject Description:** This subject aims to investigate the various theoretical and analytical frameworks in the field of international relations. In an increasingly interdependent world where the new world order is yet to be established, a review of the dominant paradigms in international relations will facilitate a better understanding among students of the transformation of global order in the world entering a new millennium.

**POLS4130 TOPICS FOR POLITICAL ANALYSIS**  
(3 credits)  

**Pre-requisite(s):** None  

**Subject Description:** This subject serves the multiple purposes of guiding Year Four students through scholarly literature necessary for their final year project, providing Upper Division students training in reading complicated material in the subject, and assisting them in developing necessary critical faculties when encountering journalistic communications, media material, political commentaries and generally anything that has political implications, including history, literature, religion, and the like.

6.3.  **General Education Subjects**

See Appendix I of the Undergraduate Handbook.
6.4. **Whole Person Education Experiential Learning Modules**

See Appendix II of the Undergraduate Handbook.

7. **Internship, Placement and Overseas Visits**

In order to provide students with practical experience and broaden their minds and horizons, UIC will try to arrange internships, placement in industries, companies and enterprises, and overseas visits for students (for details, see the UIC website).