Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

School of Social Sciences & Philosophy
Department of Political Science

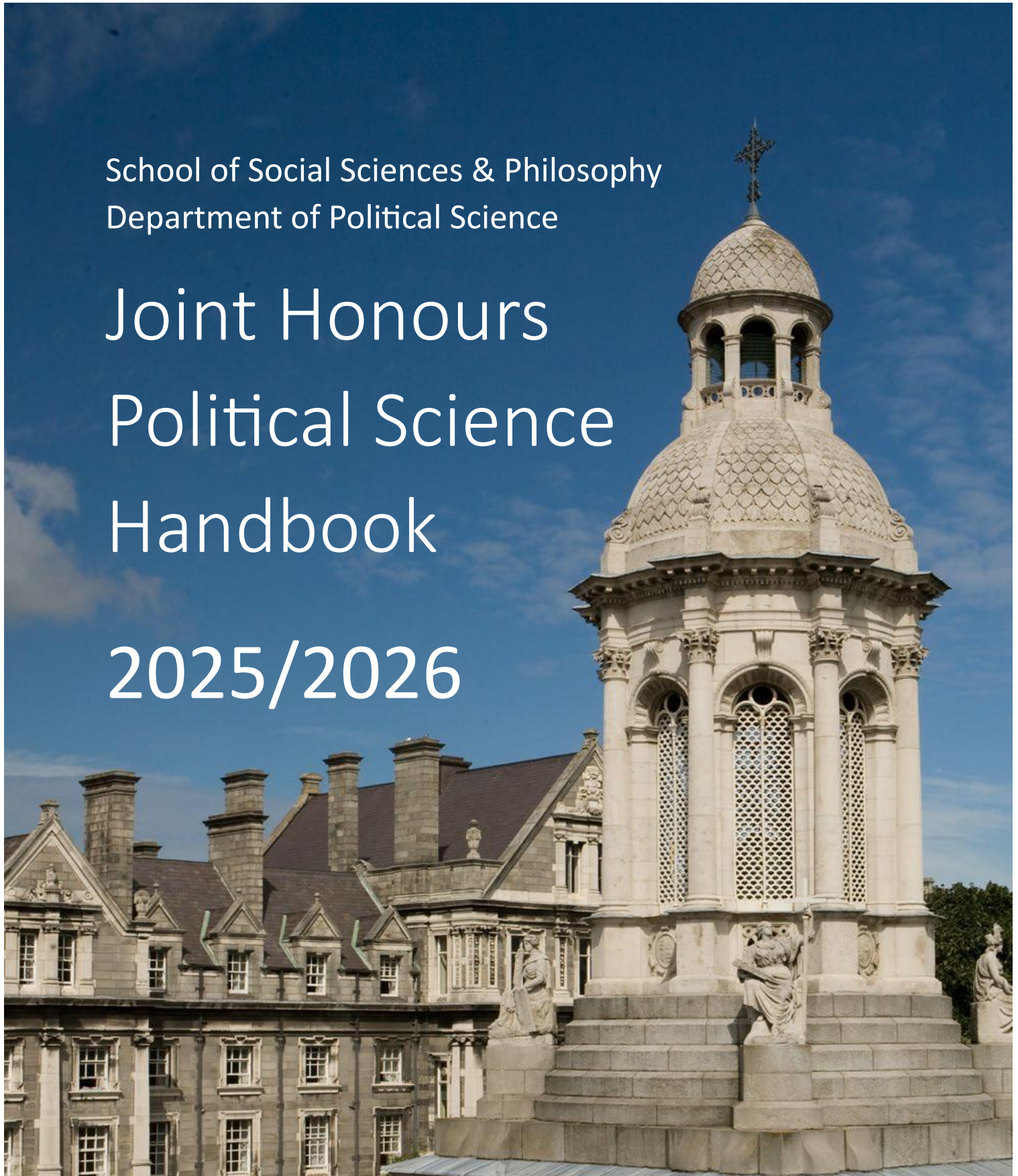# Joint Honours Political Science Handbook

2025/2026

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A note on this Handbook

In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the General Regulations published in the University Calendar and information contained in programme or local handbooks, the provisions of the General Regulation in the Calendar will prevail.

Alternative formats of the Handbooks can be made available on request.

1. General College Information

1.1 University Regulations

Please reference the links below for College regulations, policies and procedures:

- **Academic Policies**
  https://www.tcd.ie/about/policies/academic-policies/

- **Student Complaints Procedure**
  https://www.tcd.ie/about/policies/university-policies/complaints-procedure/

- **Dignity and Respect Policy**
  https://www.tcd.ie/hr/dignity-and-respect/policies/

1.2 Student Services & Support

The Programme Administrator is your first port of call for all general queries. College also provides a range of administrative, academic and wellbeing supports and services to help smooth your route through college. You can find further information at the links below:

- **Careers Advisory Service** | www.tcd.ie/careers
- **Graduate Studies Office** | www.tcd.ie/graduatestudies
- **Mature Student Office** | www.tcd.ie/maturestudents
- **Student Services Website** | www.tcd.ie/studentservices
- **Trinity Disability Service** | www.tcd.ie/disability
- **Senior Tutor & Tutorial Services** | https://www.tcd.ie/seniortutor/

1.3 Tutors

All undergraduate students are assigned a tutor when they are admitted to College. Your tutor, who is a member of the teaching staff, will give confidential advice on courses, discipline, examinations, fees, and other matters and will represent you before the College authorities should the need arise. When emailing your tutor, please include all relevant details needed by your tutor to identify you (name, student ID, course code or programme, etc.). When contacting your tutor about a specific module, please include the module name and code and the lecturer's name, surname and email address.

You will find the name and email address of your tutor on your student record in SITS. If, for some reason, you cannot contact your tutor, you should contact the Senior Tutor's Office. They can be reached at https://www.tcd.ie/seniortutor.

1.4 Student 2 Student

From the moment that you arrive in College, right the way to your end of exams, Student 2 Student (S2S) is here to make sure that your first year is fun, engaging, and a great foundation for the rest of your time in Trinity. You will meet S2S mentors in Freshers' Week. They will keep in regular touch with you throughout your first year and invite you to events. They will also provide useful information about your course and what to look out for. Mentors are students who have been through the first year and know exactly what it feels like. S2S also offers trained Peer Supporters if you want to talk confidentially to another student, or just to meet a friendly face for coffee and a chat. S2S is supported by the Senior Tutor's Office and the Student Counselling Service. See https://student2student.tcd.ie for further information.

E-Mail: student2student@tcd.ie | Tel. +353 1 896 2438

1.5 Support Provision for Students with Disabilities

Trinity has adopted a Reasonable Accommodation Policy that outlines how supports are implemented in Trinity. Student seeking reasonable accommodation whilst studying in Trinity must apply for reasonable accommodations with the Disability Service in their student portal my.tcd.ie.

Based on appropriate evidence of a disability and information obtained from the student on the impact of their disability and their academic course requirements, the Disability Staff member will identify supports designed to meet the student's disability support needs. Following the Needs Assessment, the student's Disability Officer prepares an Individual Learning Educational Needs Summary (LENS) detailing the Reasonable Accommodations to be implemented. The information outlined in the LENS is communicated to the relevant School via the student record in SITS.

Examination accommodation and deadlines:
Students should make requests as early as possible in the academic year. To ensure the Assessment, Progression and Graduation Team can set your accommodations for examination purposes the following deadlines are applied:

- Semester 1 assessments and Foundation Scholarship assessment: the last Friday of October annually.
- Semester 2 assessments: the last Friday of February annually.
- Reassessments: the last Friday of June annually.

For exact dates please contact askds@tcd.ie

Student responsibilities for departmental assessments/course tests:

Students are required to initiate contact with the School/Department and request reasonable accommodations as per their LENS report, or email received following their needs assessment for particular assessments for School/ Department administered assessment. Students are advised to make contact at least two weeks prior to the assessment date to enable adjustments to be implemented.

Please note: no reasonable accommodation can be provided outside the procedures outlined in the Trinity Reasonable Accommodation Policy. For further information please visit: https://www.tcd.ie/disability/current/how-reasonable-accommodations-work-in-trinity/

1.6 Mature Students

Further information please see https://www.tcd.ie/maturestudents.

1.7 Careers Advisory Service

The College Careers Service supports students to explore their career ambitions and plan how to achieve them using a wide variety of activities, services and resources via https://www.tcd.ie/Careers. This service you can use to:

- Apply for opportunities which match your preferences.
- Search opportunities – postgraduate courses and funding.
- View and book onto employer and CAS (Careers Advisory Service) events.
- Submit your career queries to the CAS team.
- Book an appointment with your Careers Consultant.

Simply login to MyCareer using your Trinity username and password and personalize your profile.

Careers Advisory Service
Trinity College Dublin, 7-9 South Leinster Street, Dublin 2.
Tel. +353 1 896 1721 | Submit a career query through MyCareer (mycareerconnect.tcd.ie)
https://www.tcd.ie/Careers/students

TCD.Careers.Service   TCDCareers

@TCDCareers   tinyurl.com/LinkedIn-TCD-Connecting

Opening Hours
During term: 9.30am – 5.00pm, Monday to Friday
Out of term: 9.00am – 1.00pm & 2.00pm – 5.30pm, Monday to Friday

1.8 Co-Curricular Activities

- **TCD Sports Clubs** | https://www.tcd.ie/sport/student-sport/sport-clubs/
  Trinity has 50 sports clubs in a range of disciplines, from Basketball to Archery.

- **TCD Societies** | trinitysocieties.ie
  Trinity offers over 100 societies across the University. From arts, culture, politics and debating to gaming, advocacy and music, you're sure to find your niche.

- **Student Union** | www.tcdsu.org
  The Trinity College Students Union is a union for students, by students. It represents the undergraduate student body at College level.

1.9 Student Union – TCDSU

The Trinity College Students Union is a union for students, by students. There represent the undergraduate student body at College level. You can fund information about the union, and how to get involved, on their website, here: https://www.tcdsu.org/ and can find information on the student representation structures here: https://www.tcdsu.org/your-union.

1.10 Emergency Procedure

In the event of an emergency, dial Security Services on extension 1999. Security Services provide a 24-hour service to the college community, 365 days a year. They are the liaison to the Fire, Garda and Ambulance services and all staff and students are advised to always telephone extension 1999 (+353 1 896 1999) in case of an emergency. Should you require any emergency or rescue services on campus, you must contact Security Services. This includes chemical spills, personal injury or first aid assistance. It is recommended that all students save at least one emergency contact in their phone under ICE (In Case of Emergency).

1.11 Health & Safety Statements

The College Safety Statement can be viewed on the Trinity website:
https://www.tcd.ie/students/orientation/shw/

1.12 Data Protection

Please note that due to data protection requirements, staff in the School of Social Sciences and Philosophy cannot discuss individual students with parents/guardians or other family members. As the University considers students, even if they are not yet 18, to have the maturity to give consent for the use of their data, in normal circumstances, the University will not disclose personal data to the parents, guardians or other representatives of a student without the student's consent.

The University's preference is to receive written consent by way of email from the student where possible. Without such consent the University will not release any details regarding students including details of their registration, attendance, results, fee payments etc.

Trinity College Dublin uses personal data relating to students for a variety of purposes and we are careful to comply with our obligations under data protection laws.

Further information on how we obtain, use, and disclose student data can be viewed on the Trinity website: www.tcd.ie/dataprotection

2. General Course Information

2.1 Introduction

Welcome from the Head of the Department/Programme Director

Welcome to the world of political science at Trinity College. You are about to join a vibrant community committed to understanding the political world around us and improving it.

Our department ranks among Europe's leading programmes, pairing rigorous scholarship with real world impact. Whether we are charting shifts in voting behaviour or designing strategies to avoid armed conflict, our work is guided by one aim: solving pressing political problems.

You will study alongside internationally recognised researchers and a diverse cohort of fellow students who will both challenge and support you. Although the department is large, my door remains open, and I look forward to meeting you during your time at Trinity.

Enjoy the journey ahead. I wish you every success in your studies.

Constantine Boussalis

Head of Department

Department of Political Science

August 2025

Welcome from the Programme Administrator

Students, on behalf of the School of Social Sciences and Philosophy, and Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin, we say welcome!

As the 2025-2026 academic year kicks off there is sure to be a good number of activities coming your way: from module enrolment to timetabling, and everything in between. For this reason, the Department of Political Science has provided you with the 2025-26 Handbook to answer all your questions and more.

The Handbook covers information needed in preparation for the start of the term and the entire year; it also directs readers seeking more specific topics and/or information to the relevant webpages on Trinity College Dublin's website.

For any queries relating to the Department of Political Science, you can contact us by email at: polsci@tcd.ie or visit our office at: 3 College Green Trinity College Dublin. Our office hours are Monday – Friday 9am to 5:00pm.

Once again, we say welcome and wish you a wonderful academic year ahead. With best wishes,

Alice Downes

Executive Officer

Department of Political Science

August 2025

2.2 Programme Governance

Joint Honours (JH) is a cross-faculty course. Within Political Science, the Joint Honours programme is governed by the School of Social Sciences and Philosophy Undergraduate Teaching and Learning Committee. Membership of this committee includes the Political Science JH Programme Coordinator, the Director of Undergraduate Teaching and Learning, an academic representative from each of the four constituent disciplines within the School, and a student representative.

2.3 Contact Details

Head of the School of Social Sciences & Philosophy Professor Paul O'Grady | Tel. +353 1 896 1522 | E-mail: pogrady@tcd.ie
Head of Department Professor Constantine Boussalis | Tel. +3531 896 3482 | E-mail: Boussalc@tcd.ie
School Director of Teaching & Learning (Undergraduate) Dr Paul Scanlon | E-mail: scanlop@tcd.ie
Course Director Dr Gizem Arikan | E-mail: ARIKANG@tcd.ie |Dr Dino Hadzic| E-mail: DHADZIC@tcd.ie
School Manager Ms Olive Donnelly | Tel. +353 1 896 2499 | E-mail: olive.donnelly@tcd.ie
Programme Administrator Ms Alice Downes| Tel. +353 1 896 1651 | E-mail: polsci@tcd.ie

For further information on the department's current staff, please visit:
https://www.tcd.ie/Political_Science/about/people/.

2.4 Key Locations

Department

The Department of Political Science office (Room 5.02) is located on the 5th floor of 1 College Green. To reach it, take the stairs or lift to the fourth floor and turn left. At the end of the hall, turn right and 5.02 is facing you.

Maps of campus are available at https://www.tcd.ie/Maps/map.php

Blackboard

Blackboard is the College online learning environment, where lecturers will give access to material like lecture notes and discussion forums. The use of Blackboard varies from module to module and individual lecturers will speak to you about the requirements for their module. In order to access a module on Blackboard you should be registered to the module by your Programme Administrator. Blackboard can be accessed via tcd.blackboard.com.

Email

All official email correspondence will be sent to TCD email addresses only. You should check your email on a regular basis. When emailing the Administration, students should always include their TCD Student ID Number.

Student Portal

https://my.tcd.ie allows students to view their own central student record containing all relevant information related to the course for which you are registered. To access the system, you will need you College username and network password.

If your personal student information is incorrect, you should contact Academic Registry (via email, academic.registry@tcd.ie) stating your full name and student ID number. If your timetable module list is incorrect then you should notify the Programme Administrator.

Academic Registry

Academic Registry ("AR") manages course registration and fees. Their website can be accessed here: https://www.tcd.ie/academicregistry/. The Academic Registry offices are located in the Watts Building, on the east side of the main campus.

2.5 Key Dates

	Orientation Week
Week 1 in Semester 1 (MT) Week 1 in Semester 2 (HT)	Deadline for changing Module Choices – no further changes allowed
--------------------------------	Transfer deadlines vary. Please contact your tutor.
22nd of September 2025	**Teaching Commences for the JF**
27th of October 2025	Semester 1 Study/Review Week
TBC	Applications forms available to apply for Foundation Scholarship
TBC	Deadline for applications to sit Foundation Scholarship
TBC	Schols Information Meeting
8th of December 2025	Semester 1 Revision Week
15th of December 2025	Semester 1 Assessment (extra contingency days may be required outside of the formal assessment week)
5th of January 2026	Foundation Scholarship Examinations (possibility of some exams taking place in preceding week)
19th of January 2026	**Teaching Commences for Semester 2**
2nd of March 2026	Semester 2 Study Week
13th of April 2026	Semester 2 Revision Week
27th of April 2026	Semester 2 Assessment (extra contingency days may be required outside of the formal assessment week)
20th of April 2026	Trinity Week

2.6 Timetable

The updated course timetable will be available online shortly before the start of the Michaelmas term. Personal timetables will be available to students through https://my.tcd.ie.

The Academic Year Structure is available here.

Academic Calendar Week	Week beginning	2025/26 Academic Year Calendar		Term / Semester
		UG continuing years / PG all years	UG new first years	
1	25-Aug-25	Reassessment 2024/25- Semesters 1 & 2		←Michaelmas Term begins/Semester 1 begins
2	01-Sep-25	Marking/Results		
3	08-Sep-25	Marking/Results and Orientation (PG, Visiting, Erasmus)		
4	15-Sep-25	Teaching and Learning	Orientation (JF UG)	←Michaelmas teaching term begins
5	22-Sep-25	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
6	29-Sep-25	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
7	06-Oct-25	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
8	13-Oct-25	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
9	20-Oct-25	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
10	27-Oct-25	Study/Review (Monday, Public Holiday)	Study/Review (Monday, Public Holiday)	
11	03-Nov-25	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
12	10-Nov-25	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
13	17-Nov-25	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
14	24-Nov-25	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
15	01-Dec-25	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
16	08-Dec-25	Revision / Assessment*	Revision / Assessment*	←Michaelmas Term ends Sunday 14 December 2025/Semester 1 ends
17	15-Dec-25	Assessment*	Assessment*	
18	22-Dec-25	Assessment* / Christmas	Assessment*/ Christmas	
19	29-Dec-25	Christmas Period - College closed 24 December 2025 to 1 January 2026 inclusive	Christmas Period - College closed 24 December 2025 to 1 January 2026 inclusive	
20	05-Jan-26	Foundation Scholarship Examinations	Foundation Scholarship Examinations	
21	12-Jan-26	Marking***	Marking***	←Hilary Term begins/Semester 2 begins
22	19-Jan-26	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	←Hilary teaching term begins
23	26-Jan-26	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
24	02-Feb-26	Teaching and Learning (Monday, Public Holiday)	Teaching and Learning (Monday, Public Holiday)	
25	09-Feb-26	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
26	16-Feb-26	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
27	23-Feb-26	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
28	02-Mar-26	Study/Review	Study/Review	
29	09-Mar-26	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
30	16-Mar-26	Teaching and Learning (Tuesday, Public Holiday)	Teaching and Learning (Tuesday, Public Holiday)	
31	23-Mar-26	Teaching and Learning	Teaching and Learning	
32	30-Mar-26	Teaching and Learning (Friday, Good Friday)	Teaching and Learning (Friday, Good Friday)	
33	06-Apr-26	Teaching and Learning (Monday, Easter Monday)	Teaching and Learning (Monday, Easter Monday)	
34	13-Apr-26	Revision	Revision	←Hilary Term ends Sunday 19 April 2026
35	20-Apr-26	Trinity Week (Monday, Trinity Monday) / Assessment**	Trinity Week (Monday, Trinity Monday) / Assessment**	←Trinity Term begins
36	27-Apr-26	Assessment**	Assessment**	
37	04-May-26	Marking/Results (Monday, Public Holiday)	Marking/Results (Monday, Public Holiday)	
38	11-May-26	Marking/Results	Marking/Results	
39	18-May-26	Marking/Results	Marking/Results	
40	25-May-26	Research	Research	←Trinity Term ends Sunday 31 May 2026/Semester 2 ends
41	01-Jun-26	Research (Monday, Public Holiday)	Research (Monday, Public Holiday)	
42	08-Jun-26	Research	Research	
43	15-Jun-26	Research	Research	
44	22-Jun-26	Research	Research	
45	29-Jun-26	Research	Research	
46	06-Jul-26	Research	Research	
47	13-Jul-26	Research	Research	
48	20-Jul-26	Research	Research	
49	27-Jul-26	Research	Research	
50	03-Aug-26	Research (Monday, Public Holiday)	Research (Monday, Public Holiday)	
51	10-Aug-26	Research	Research	
52	17-Aug-26	Research	Research	
53	24-Aug-26	Reassessment 2025/26 - Semesters 1 & 2	Reassessment 2025/26 - Semesters 1 & 2	

* Semester 1 assessment session: December 11 to 22, 2025 inclusive (No assessment after Dec 22nd)

** Semester 2 assessment session: April 21 to May 1, 2026 inclusive

*** Marking of Semester 1 assessments will continue into January and early February. Provisional Semester 1 results will be made available to students during the week commencing February 9, 2026

2.6.1 Compressed Teaching for JF

Due to the later release of Leaving Certificate results in 2025, Junior Freshman students will have a compressed teaching year. As outlined above, orientation for incoming students will be in the week beginning September 15th, and teaching will start on September 22nd.

2.7 Study Abroad/Erasmus

In Junior Sophister year you may be permitted to satisfy the requirements of the year, in whole or in part, by study abroad under an approved Erasmus or college-wide international exchange programme approved by the Vice-President for Global Relations, with the assessment at the host university counting as part of your academic record in College. The maximum period for such study is one academic year and the minimum period is three months. Arrangements governing specific exchange programmes are made by the school, department or course office concerned. See https://www.tcd.ie/ssp/undergraduate/study-abroad/ for more information.
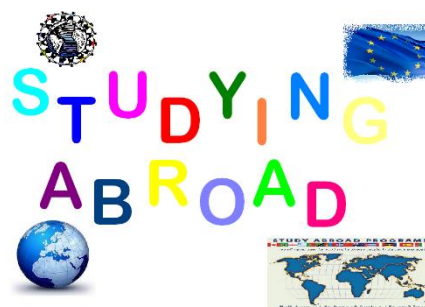
3. Scholarships & Prizes

3.1 Foundation Scholarship

Details on the College regulations for the achievement of Scholarship can be found via: https://www.tcd.ie/academicregistry/exams/scholarship/faq.

Details on the structure and duration of Scholarship examinations for the Political Science programme can be found here:
https://www.tcd.ie/Political_Science/currentstudents/ugstudents/scholarship-exams/.

Candidates are examined in four papers drawn from the modules of their course up to the end of Michaelmas term of the Senior Fresh year. The scope of each paper is described in the examination section of the relevant Course website. Recommendations for scholarship will be based on the arithmetic average achieved across all four papers, subject to all four papers being passed. In order to be recommended for Foundation Scholarship, candidates must achieve an overall mark of 70% or higher. In addition, candidates are required to achieve a minimum of two first class marks out of the four papers and no paper may have a mark below 65%.

3.2 Prizes, Medals, & Other Scholarships

Gold Medals

Gold Medals will be awarded to students who attain an overall average mark of 75% where the JS year result (weighted at 30%), along with the SS year result (weighted at 70%), will be considered together to provide the overall average mark of 75%.

Gold Medals are awarded on the basis of a single annual attempt (to include Semesters 1 & 2 assessments). A deferral counts towards the single annual attempt. Gold Medals are not awarded to students who have to reassess in the Autumn.

THE HARRY HARTFORD PRIZE

This prize was founded in 2020 by a gift from Harry Hartford, a graduate of the Faculty of Economic and Social Studies (Economics). The prize will be awarded to the four best Capstone Projects annually within the disciplines of economics, political science, sociology and philosophy. Special consideration will be given to projects in the field of public policy, emphasizing evidence-based research in the public domain.

MICHAEL GALLAGHER PRIZE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Founded in 2022 in honor of Professor Michael Gallagher, a leading scholar in Irish politics and distinguished member of the Department of Political Science from 1979 until 2021. The prize will be awarded to the Junior Sophister student who receives the highest average mark across

both Michaelmas and Hilary term modules of Irish Politics. The candidate is confirmed at relevant court of examiners annually. Value, €200.

RONALD J. HILL PRIZE

This prize was founded in 2016 by donations from the Trinity Association and Trust, Professor Ronald J. Hill, and the Department of Political Science. It is awarded annually, from 2016 to 2035 inclusive, on the recommendation of the Department of Political Science, to the elected scholar who achieves the best overall result in the political science component in the scholarship examination of that year. Value, €120.

EDDIE HYLAND PRIZE

This prize was founded in 2017 by donations from the Discipline of History and the Discipline of Political Science. It is awarded annually, from 2018 to 2027 inclusive, on the recommendation of the Senior Sophister History and Political Science Court of Examiners, to the Senior Sophister History and Political Science student who achieves the best performance. Value, €250.

PATRICK KEATINGE UNDERGRADUATE PRIZE

This prize was founded in 2012 with support from the Trinity Alumni Appeal in honour of Professor Patrick Keatinge, who was a distinguished member of the Department of Political Science, as a researcher and teacher, from 1963-99. It is awarded annually to the Senior Sophister student, studying political science alone in the Senior Sophister year, who achieves the best performance. Value, a book prize of €100 and a medal.

MICHAEL MARSH PRIZE

This prize was founded in 2021 in honour of Professor Michael Marsh, who was a distinguished member of the Department of Political Science, as a researcher and teacher, from 1973 to 2013, and also a former Vice-Provost and faculty dean. It is awarded annually to the Junior Sophister student who performs at the highest level in the Junior Sophister modules in research methods. Value, €200.

TRINITY TRUST PRIZE

This prize was contributed by Trinity Trust in 1980. The prize is awarded to the moderatorship student with the best overall marks in single honours sociology, single honours political science, or joint honours political science and sociology. Value, €77.List of relevant prizes with brief description to be included by department.

4. Academic Writing

4.1 Academic Integrity & Referencing

4.1.1 Plagiarism & Referencing Guide

If you copy another student's essay, engage someone to write your work, quote material from any published or electronic source without acknowledgement, or extensively paraphrase such material without acknowledgement, you have committed the offence of plagiarism. A mark of zero may be awarded. The College's definition of plagiarism and specification of its consequences can be viewed on the Trinity website: https://libguides.tcd.ie/academic-integrity.

These webpages are designed to help you to understand what plagiarism is and to employ the principles of academic integrity so as to avoid plagiarising. They also set out the regulations in Trinity relating to plagiarism offences and how they are dealt with.

The College Calendar defines plagiarism, gives examples of the kinds of actions that are deemed to constitute plagiarism, and elaborates on the procedures for dealing with plagiarism cases. The webpages also contain materials and advice on citation styles which are used to reference properly. You should familiarise yourself with the content of these pages. For further information please visit: https://libguides.tcd.ie/academic-integrity

All students must complete our Ready Steady Write plagiarism tutorial and sign a declaration when submitting course work, whether in hard or soft copy or via Blackboard, confirming that you understand what plagiarism is and have completed the tutorial. If you read the information on plagiarism, complete the tutorial and still have difficulty understanding what plagiarism is and how to avoid it, please seek advice from your Course Director, your supervisor, or from Student Learning Development. To access this tutorial please visit: libguides.tcd.ie/academic-integrity/ready-steady-write.

4.1.2 Plagiarism Declaration

Each coversheet that is attached to submitted work should contain the following completed declaration:

"I have read, and I understand the plagiarism provisions in the General Regulations of the University Calendar for the current year. I have also completed the Online Tutorial on avoiding plagiarism 'Ready Steady Write'.

Please refer to your relevant School/ Department for the format of essay submission coversheets.

4.1.3 School of Social Sciences & Philosophy Plagiarism Policy

If plagiarism, as referred to in the Calendar (https://www.tcd.ie/calendar/undergraduate-studies/general-regulations-and-information.pdf) is suspected, the lecturer informs their HoD and Director of Teaching and Learning (Undergraduate) (DUTL). The DUTL, or their designate, will write to the student, and the student's tutor advising them of the concerns raised. The student and tutor (or representative from the Students' Union) will be invited to attend an informal meeting with the DUTL, or their designate, and the lecturer concerned, in order to put their suspicions to the student and give the student the opportunity to respond. The student will be requested to respond in writing stating his/her agreement to attend such a meeting and confirming on which of the suggested dates and times it will be possible for them to attend. If the student does not agree to attend such a meeting, the DUTL, or designate, may refer the case directly to the Junior Dean, who will interview the student and may implement the procedures as referred to under conduct and college regulations.

If the DUTL, or designate, forms the view that plagiarism has taken place, he/she must decide if the offence can be dealt with under the summary procedure set out below. In order for this summary procedure to be followed, all parties attending the informal meeting above must state their agreement in writing to the DUTL or designate.

If the offence can be dealt with under the summary procedure, the DUTL, or designate, will recommend one of the following penalties:

Level 1: Student receives an informal verbal warning. The piece of work in question is inadmissible. The student is required to rephrase and correctly reference all plagiarised elements. Other content should not be altered. The resubmitted work will be assessed and marked without penalty. The DUTL should inform the course director and where appropriate the course office. The offence is recorded.

Level 2: Student receives a formal written warning. The piece of work in question is inadmissible. The student is required to rephrase and correctly reference all plagiarised elements. Other content should not be altered. The resubmitted work will receive a reduced or capped mark depending on the seriousness/extent of plagiarism. In the case of a Level 2 offence, the Senior Lecturer must be notified and requested to approve the recommended penalty. The DUTL should inform the course director and where appropriate the course office. The offence is recorded.

Level 3: Student receives a formal written warning. The piece of work in question is inadmissible. There is no opportunity for resubmission, with corrections. Instead, the student is required to submit a new piece of work as a reassessment during the next available session. Provided the work is of a passing standard, both the assessment mark and the overall module mark will be capped at the pass mark. Discretion lies with the Senior Lecturer in cases where

there is no standard opportunity for a supplemental assessment under applicable course regulations. In the case of a Level 3 offence, the Senior Lecturer must be notified and requested to approve the recommended penalty. The Senior Lecturer will inform the Junior Dean accordingly. The Junior Dean may nevertheless implement the procedures as referred to under conduct and college regulations. The DUTL should inform the course director and where appropriate the course office. The offence is recorded.

Level 4: If the case cannot normally be dealt with under the summary procedures, it is deemed to be a Level 4 offence and will be referred directly to the Junior Dean. Nothing provided for under the summary procedure diminishes or prejudices the disciplinary powers of the Junior Dean under the 2010 Consolidated Statutes.

4.1.4 The Use and Referencing of Generative AI

Aligned with the College Statement on Artificial Intelligence and Generative AI in Teaching, Learning, Assessment & Research (2024), the use of GenAI is permitted unless otherwise stated. Where the output of GenAI is used in a document or work output, this usage should be acknowledged and appropriately cited, as per Library guidelines on acknowledging and reference GenAI. From an academic integrity perspective, if a student generates content from a GenAI tool and submits it as his/her/their own work, it is considered plagiarism, which is defined as academic misconduct in accordance with College Academic Integrity Policy.

4.1.5 Procedures regarding Dignity & Respect Matters

The School of Social Sciences and Philosophy is committed to fostering a learning environment that upholds principles of equality, diversity, and inclusion. We strive to ensure that all students and staff can pursue their academic and professional goals without fear of discrimination, harassment, bullying, or any form of mistreatment.

Recognizing the adverse impact harassment can have on individuals' performance, morale, confidence, health, and learning, the School seeks to create a culture where such behavior is unequivocally condemned. Our goal is to encourage an atmosphere in which individuals can address harassment concerns without fear of ridicule or retaliation.

Trinity Dignity and Respect Policy sets out the College's key principles and procedures for addressing matters related to negative treatment, including discrimination, bullying, and any form of harassment. TCD Sexual Misconduct Policy establishes the principles, approach, and procedures on the subject of sexual harassment or sexual assault and outlines the resources and support available to both students and staff when facing issues related to sexual harassment.

Should any student encounter issues related to dignity and respect, as outlined above, we strongly urge them to immediately reach out for support from the designated contact person, who will provide guidance and support in accordance with the Dignity and Respect Policy:

Student's Tutor

School Director of Teaching and Learning (Undergraduate) – Dr Paul Scanlon | scanlop@tcd.ie

4.2 Research Ethics

Some research requires ethical approval, therefore, when in doubt please contact your Capstone supervisor.

5. Teaching & Learning

5.1 Programme Structure

This section contains information on Joint Honours Philosophy programme architecture and the available pathways to award. Further information on Trinity Joint Honours combinations can be found here: https://www.tcd.ie/tjh/prospectivestudents/combinations/.
For more information on Trinity Joint Honours pathways please visit:
https://www.tcd.ie/tjh/prospectivestudents/pathways/

There are a number of pathways available to those pursuing a Joint Honours degree:

- Single Honours Award in Political Science
- Major Award in Political Science
- Joint Honours Award
- Minor Award in Political Science

Common Architecture

SOPHISTER YEARS: 120 ECTS
EXIT ROUTE:

Joint Honors

JS

| S1 50 ECTS & S2 or OM/TE 10 ECTS | S1 40 ECTS & S2 20 ECTS | S1 30 ECTS & S2 30 ECTS | S1 30 ECTS & S2 30 ECTS |

SS

| S1 40 ECTS & CAPSTONE 20 ECTS | S1 20 ECTS & S2 20 ECTS & CAPSTONE 20 ECTS | S1 40 ECTS & CAPSTONE 20 ECTS | S1 20 ECTS & S2 20 ECTS & CAPSTONE 20 ECTS |

DEGREE

SINGLE HONORS DEGREE — MAJOR WITH MINOR DEGREE — JOINT HONORS DEGREE
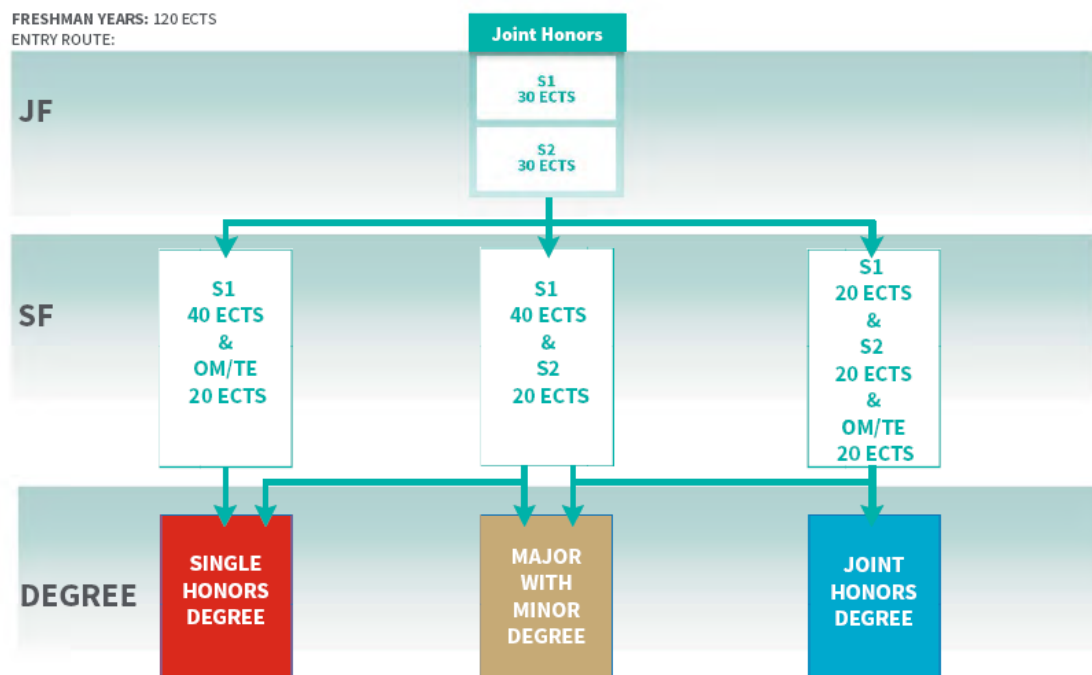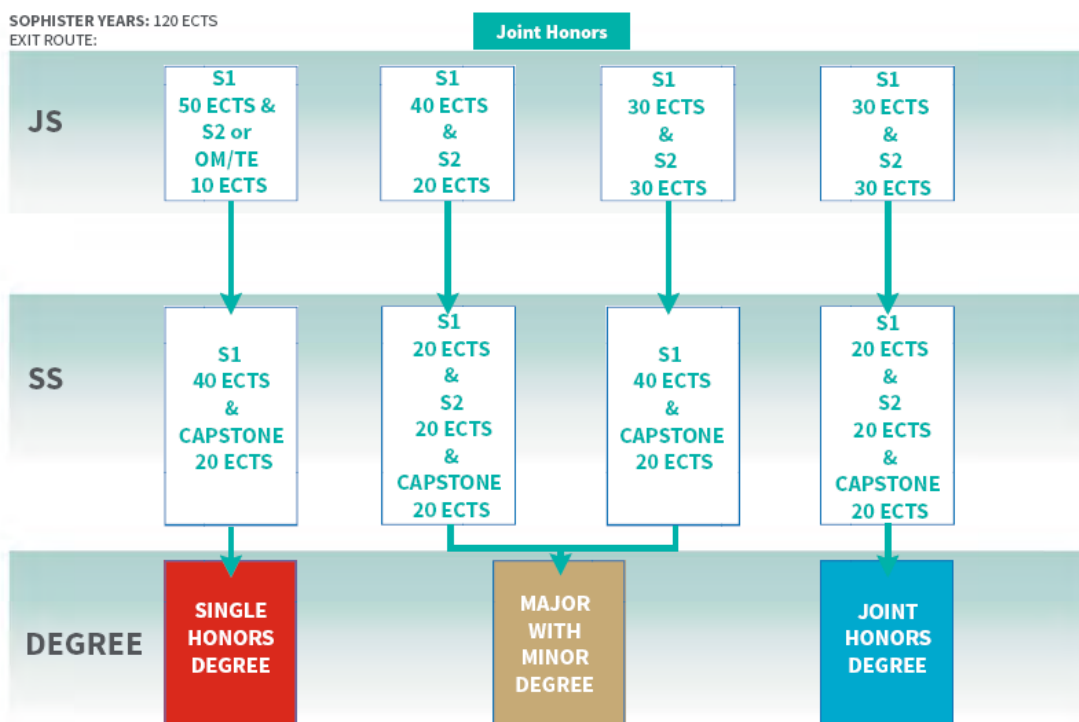
KEY: S1 - Subject 1 | S2 - Subject 2 | OM - Open Modules | TE - Trinity Electives | JS - Junior Sophister | SS - Senior Sophister

European Credit Transfer Systems (ECTS)

The European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) is an academic credit system based on the estimated student workload required to achieve the objectives of a module or programme of study. It is designed to enable academic recognition for periods of study, to facilitate student mobility and credit accumulation and transfer. The ECTS is the recommended credit system for higher education in Ireland and across the European Higher Education Area. The ECTS weighting for a module is a measure of the student input or workload required for that module, based on factors such as the number of contact hours, the number and length of written or verbally presented assessment exercises, class preparation and private study time, laboratory classes, examinations, clinical attendance, professional training placements, and so on as appropriate. The European norm for fulltime study over one academic year is 60 credits. 1 credit represents 20-25 hours estimated student input, so a 10-credit module will be designed to require 200-250 hours of student input including class contact time, assessments and examinations. ECTS credits are awarded to a student only upon successful completion of the programme year. Progression from one year to the next is determined by the programme regulations. Students who fail a year of their programme will not obtain credit for that year even if they have passed certain component. Exceptions to this rule are one-year and part-year visiting students, who are awarded credit for individual modules successfully completed.

5.2 Programme Structure & Workload

Junior Fresh (first) Year – All Pathways

Students take 30 ECTS of compulsory modules. The following modules are mandatory:

CODE	MODULE'S TITLE	ECTS
ECU11033	Introduction to Economic Policy I A	5
ECU11034	Introduction to Economic Policy I B	5
POU11033	Politics and Popular Culture A	5
POU11034	Politics and Popular Culture B	5
POU11011	Introduction to Political Science 1	5
POU11012	Introduction to Political Science 2	5

Single Honours Political Science

Senior Fresh (Second Year)

- Students take **20 ECTS** in **either** Subject 2 **or** Open Modules and Trinity Electives.
- Students take **40 ECTS** in **Political Science.**

Module Code	Module Title	ECTS	Corequisites*	Prerequisites/ Prerequisite for	Students taking 40 ECTS
Mandatory Modules *If a module is listed as a co-requisite, this indicates that students taking part A in SEM01 must also take part B in SEM02.*					
Semester One Modules					
POU22011	History of Political Thought A	5	POU22012		Mandatory
POU22021	International Relations A	5	POU22022		Mandatory
POU22031	Comparative Politics A	5	POU22032		Mandatory
Semester Two Modules					
POU22012	History of Political Thought B	5	POU22011		Mandatory
POU22022	International Relations B	5	POU22021		Mandatory
POU22032	Comparative Politics B	5	POU22031		Mandatory
Full year					
POU22040	Introduction to Political Science Research	10		POU44000, POU33011, POU33012 & POU33174	Mandatory

Junior Sophister (Third Year)

- Students choose **10 ECTS** from either Trinity Electives, Open Modules, or from Subject 2 (if studied in the Senior Fresh year).
- Students choose **50 ECTS** in **Political Science**, 10 ECTS of mandatory modules, 40 ECTS of optional modules.

Please note – any modules listed are provided as a guideline only, as module availability can change from year to year.

Module Code	Module Title	ECTS	Prerequisites	Co-Requisites	Mandatory/ Optional
Semester One Modules					
POU33011	Research Methods for Political Science A	5	POU22040	POU33012 or POU33174	Mandatory
POU33021	Irish Politics A: Constitution, Elections, Parties and Parliament	5			Optional
POU33041	Political Institutions of USA	5			Optional
POU33051	Democracy and Development A	5			Optional
POU33071	European Union Politics A	5			Optional
POU33091	Political Violence A: Theories of Political Violence and Conflict	5			Optional
POU33133	The European Court of Justice and Other Famous Courts	5			Optional
PIU33173	Political Philosophy (taught by Philosophy)	5			Optional
Semester Two Modules					
POU33012	Research Methods for Political Science B	5	POU22040	POU33011	Optional
POU33032	Irish Politics B: Governance in Ireland, Politics in Northern Ireland	5			Optional
POU33082	European Union Politics B	5			Optional
POU33102	Political Violence B: Political Violence and Conflict in Comparative Context	5			Optional
POU33174	Qualitative Research Methods	5	POU22040	POU33011	Optional
POU33184	Topics in International Politics	5			Optional
POU33194	Politics and Markets	5			Optional

Senior Sophister (Fourth Year)

- Students take **60 ECTS** in **Political Science** – the Capstone module (20 ECTS), and 40 ECTS of optional modules.

Please note – any modules listed are provided as a guideline only, as module availability can change from year to year.

Module Code	Module Title	ECTS	Prerequisites	Co-Requisites	Mandatory/ Optional
Full Year Modules					
POU44000	Year Long Research Project (Capstone / Dissertation)	20	POU22040, POU33011, POU33012 or POU33174		Mandatory
POU44040	African Politics	10			Optional
Semester One Modules					
POU44021	Contemporary International Relations A	5		POU44032	Optional
POU44121	Challenges to Modern Democracy	5			Optional
POU44171	Russian Politics after Communism	5			Optional
POU44271	Religion and Politics	5			Optional
POU44403	Topics in Political Science 7	5			Optional
POU44503	Topics in Political Science 9	5			Optional
POU44603	Contemporary Political Theory A	5			Optional
Semester Two Modules					
POU44032	Contemporary International Relations B	5		POU44021	Optional
POU44112	Political Parties	5			Optional
POU44192	Advanced Topics in Civil Conflict	5			Optional
POU44334	New Topics in Political Science 12: Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism	5			Optional
POU44392	Topics in Political Science 6	5			Optional
POU44414	Topics in Political Science 10	5			Optional
POU44424	Topics in Political Science 11	5			Optional

Major with Minor

MAJOR POLITICAL SCIENCE

Senior Fresh (Second Year)

Students take **either**:

- **20** ECTS in **Political Science (major)**, **20** ECTS in **Minor Subject**, **20** ECTS from any of the Open Modules and/or Trinity Electives **or**
- **40 ECTS** in **Political Science (major)** and **20** ECTS in **Minor Subject**.

Module Code	Module Title	ECTS	Corequisites	Prerequisites/ Prerequisite for	Students taking 40 ECTS	Students taking 20 ECTS
Full year Modules						
POU22040	Introduction to Political Science Research	10		POU44000, POU33011, POU33012, POU33174	Mandatory	Optional
Semester One Modules						
POU22011	History of Political Thought A	5	POU22012		Mandatory	Optional
POU22021	International Relations A	5	POU22022		Mandatory	Optional
POU22031	Comparative Politics A	5	POU22032		Mandatory	Optional
ECU22021	Economy of Ireland A	5	ECU22022		Optional	Not Available
SOU22021	Gender, Work and Family 1	5			Optional	Not Available
Semester Two Modules						
POU22012	History of Political Thought B	5	POU22011		Mandatory	Optional
POU22022	International Relations B	5	POU22021		Mandatory	Optional
POU22032	Comparative Politics B	5	POU22031		Mandatory	Optional
ECU22022	Economy of Ireland B	5	ECU22021		Optional	Not Available
SOU22032	Gender, Work and Family 2	5			Optional	Not Available

Junior and Senior Sophister (Third and Fourth Year)

Students choose **either**:

- Junior Sophister Year: 30 ECTS from Political Science (10 ECTS of mandatory modules and 20 ECTS from a range of optional modules) and 30 ECTS from the Minor Subject (studied in SF year); Senior Sophister Year: 60 ECTS from Political Science in the Senior Sophister Year, to include the Capstone (20 ECTS), 10 ECTS of mandatory modules and 30 ECTS of optional modules.
  or
- Junior Sophister Year: 40 ECTS from Political Science (10 ECTS of mandatory modules and 30 ECTS from a range of optional modules) and 20 ECTS from the Minor Subject (studied in SF year); Senior Sophister Year: 40 ECTS from Political Science, to include the Capstone (20 ECTS), 10 ECTS of mandatory modules, 10 ECTS of optional modules and 20 ECTS from the Minor Subject.

Students must take an even distribution of ECTS across each Semester (30 in Semester one, and 30 in Semester two). For further reference, please check https://www.tcd.ie/tjh.

Module Code	Module Title	ECTS	Prerequisites	Co-Requisites	Mandatory/ Optional
JUNIOR SOPHISTER					
Semester One Modules					
POU33011	Research Methods for Political Science A	5	POU22040	POU33012 or POU33174	Mandatory
POU33021	Irish Politics A: Constitution, Elections, Parties and Parliament	5			Optional
POU33041	Political Institutions of USA	5			Optional
POU33051	Democracy and Development A	5			Optional
POU33071	European Union Politics A	5			Optional
POU33091	Political Violence A: Theories of Political Violence and Conflict	5			Optional
POU33133	The European Court of Justice and Other Famous Courts	5			Optional
Semester Two Modules					
POU33012	Research Method for Political Science B	5	POU22040	POU33011	Mandatory
POU33032	Irish Politics B: Governance in Ireland, Politics in Northern Ireland	5			Optional
POU33082	European Union Politics B	5			Optional
POU33102	Political Violence B: Political Violence and Conflict in Comparative Context	5			Optional

Module Code	Module Title	ECTS	Prerequisites	Co-Requisites	Mandatory/Optional
POU33174	Qualitative Research Methods	5	POU22040	POU33011	Optional
POU33184	Topics in International Politics	5			Optional
POU33194	Politics and Markets	5			Optional
Module Code	**Module Title**	**ECTS**	**Prerequisites**	**Co-Requisites**	**Mandatory/Optional**
		SENIOR SOPHISTER			
		Full Year Modules			
POU44000	Year Long Research Project (Capstone / Dissertation)	20	POU22040, POU33011, POU33012 or POU33174		Mandatory
POU44040	African Politics	10			Optional
		Semester One Modules			
POU44021	Contemporary International Relations A	5		POU44032	Optional
POU44121	Challenges to Modern Democracy	5			Optional
POU44171	Russian Politics after Communism	5			Optional
POU44271	Religion and Politics	5			Optional
POU44403	Topics in Political Science 7	5			Optional
POU44503	Topics in Political Science 9	5			Optional
POU44603	Contemporary Political Theory A	5			Optional
		Semester Two Modules			
POU44032	Contemporary International Relations B	5		POU44021	Optional
POU44112	Political Parties	5			Optional
POU44192	Advanced Topics in Civil Conflict	5			Optional
POU44334	New Topics in Political Science 12: Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism	5			Optional
POU44392	Topics in Political Science 6	5			Optional
POU44414	Topics in Political Science 10	5			Optional
POU44424	Topics in Political Science 11	5			Optional

MINOR POLITICAL SCIENCE

Senior Fresh (Second Year)

Students take **either**:

- **20** ECTS in **Major Subject**, **20** ECTS in **Political Science**, and **20** ECTS from any of the Open Modules and/or Trinity Electives **or**
- **40 ECTS** in **major subject** and **20** ECTS in **Political Science (minor)**.

Module Code	Module Title	ECTS	Corequisites	Prerequisites/ Prerequisite for	Students taking 20 ECTS
Full Year Modules					
POU22040	Introduction to Political Science Research	10		POU44000, POU33011, POU33012, POU33174	Optional
Semester One Modules					
POU22011	History of Political Thought A	5	POU22012		Optional
POU22021	International Relations A	5	POU22022		Optional
POU22031	Comparative Politics A	5	POU22032		Optional
Semester Two Modules					
POU22012	History of Political Thought B	5	POU22011		Optional
POU22022	International Relations B	5	POU22021		Optional
POU22032	Comparative Politics B	5	POU22031		Optional

Junior and Senior Sophister (Third and Fourth Year)

Students choose **either**:

- **30** ECTS in Political **Science (minor)** from a range of optional modules and 30 ECTS from **major subject** and 60 ECTS in **major subject** in the Senior Sophister Year, to include the Capstone
  or
- **20** ECTS in **Political Science (minor)** from a range of optional modules and **40** ECTS in **major subject** in the Junior Sophister Year, and **20** ECTS in **Political Science (minor)** from a range of optional modules in the Senior Sophister year, together with **40** ECTS in **major subject**.

Module Code	Module Title	ECTS	Prerequisites	Co-Requisites	Mandatory/ Optional
				JUNIOR SOPHISTER	
				Semester One Modules	
POU33011	Research Methods for Political Science A	5	POU22040	POU33012 or POU33174	Mandatory
POU33021	Irish Politics A: Constitution, Elections, Parties and Parliament	5			Optional
POU33041	Political Institutions of USA	5			Optional
POU33051	Democracy and Development A	5			Optional
POU33071	European Union Politics A	5			Optional
POU33091	Political Violence A: Theories of Political Violence and Conflict	5			Optional
POU33133	The European Court of Justice and Other Famous Courts	5			Optional
				Semester Two Modules	
POU33012	Research Method for Political Science B	5	POU22040	POU33011	Mandatory
POU33032	Irish Politics B: Governance in Ireland, Politics in Northern Ireland	5			Optional
POU33082	European Union Politics B	5			Optional
POU33102	Political Violence B: Political Violence and Conflict in Comparative Context	5			Optional
POU33174	Qualitative Research Methods	5	POU22040	POU33011	Optional
POU33184	Topics in International Politics	5			Optional
POU33194	Politics and Markets	5			Optional

Module Code	Module Title	ECTS	Prerequisites	Co-Requisites	Mandatory/ Optional
SENIOR SOPHISTER					
Full Year Modules					
POU44000	Year Long Research Project (Capstone / Dissertation)	20	POU22040, POU33011, & POU33012 or POU33174		Mandatory
POU44040	African Politics	10			Optional
Semester One Modules					
POU44021	Contemporary International Relations A	5		POU44032	Optional
POU44121	Challenges to Modern Democracy	5			Optional
POU44171	Russian Politics after Communism	5			Optional
POU44271	Religion and Politics	5			Optional
POU44403	Topics in Political Science 7	5			Optional
POU44503	Topics in Political Science 9	5			Optional
POU44603	Contemporary Political Theory A	5			Optional
Semester Two Modules					
POU44032	Contemporary International Relations B	5		POU44021	Optional
POU44112	Political Parties	5			Optional
POU44192	Advanced Topics in Civil Conflict	5			Optional
POU44334	New Topics in Political Science 12: Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism	5			Optional
POU44392	Topics in Political Science 6	5			Optional
POU44414	Topics in Political Science 10	5			Optional
POU44424	Topics in Political Science 11	5			Optional

JOINT HONOURS POLITICAL SCIENCE

Senior Fresh (Second Year)

Students take 60 ECTS from within two or three of the four subjects, taking **either**:

- **20** ECTS in **Political Science**; **20** ECTS in **Subject 2**; **20** ECTS of open modules and/or from Trinity Electives
  or
- **40** ECTS in **Political Science**; **20** ECTS in **Subject 2**
  or
- **40** ECTS in **Subject 2**; **20** ECTS in **Political Science**.

Module Code	Module Title	ECTS	Corequisites	Prerequisites/ Prerequisite for	Students taking 40 ECTS	Students taking 20 ECTS
Full year Modules						
POU22040	Introduction to Political Science Research	10		POU44000, POU33011, POU33012, POU33174	Mandatory	Optional
Semester One Modules						
POU22011	History of Political Thought A	5	POU22012		Mandatory	Optional
POU22021	International Relations A	5	POU22022		Mandatory	Optional
POU22031	Comparative Politics A	5	POU22032		Mandatory	Optional
ECU22021	Economy of Ireland A	5	ECU22022		Optional	Not Available
SOU22021	Gender, Work and Family 1	5			Optional	Not Available
Semester Two Modules						
POU22012	History of Political Thought B	5	POU22011		Mandatory	Optional
POU22022	International Relations B	5	POU22021		Mandatory	Optional
POU22032	Comparative Politics B	5	POU22031		Mandatory	Optional
ECU22022	Economy of Ireland B	5	ECU22021		Optional	Not Available
SOU22032	Gender, Work and Family 2	5			Optional	Not Available

Junior and Senior Sophister (Third and Fourth Year)

Students choose 30 ECTS in Political Science and 30 ECTS in their other subject in their Junior Sophister year and **either**:

- 40 ECTS in Political Science, to include the Capstone (20 ECTS) and 20 ECTS of optional modules, together with 20 ECTS in the other subject in the Senior Sophister year,
  or
- 20 ECTS in Political Science from a range of optional modules and 40 ECTS in the other subject, to include to Capstone (20 ECTS)

Module Code	Module Title	ECTS	Prerequisites	Co-Requisites	Mandatory/ Optional
**JUNIOR SOPHISTER**				
**Semester One Modules**				
POU33011	Research Methods for Political Science A	5	POU22040	POU33012 or POU33174	Mandatory
POU33021	Irish Politics A: Constitution, Elections, Parties and Parliament	5			Optional
POU33041	Political Institutions of USA	5			Optional
POU33051	Democracy and Development A	5			Optional
POU33071	European Union Politics A	5			Optional
POU33091	Political Violence A: Theories of Political Violence and Conflict	5			Optional
POU33133	The European Court of Justice and Other Famous Courts	5			Optional
**Semester Two Modules**				
POU33012	Research Method for Political Science B	5	POU22040	POU33011	Mandatory
POU33032	Irish Politics B: Governance in Ireland, Politics in Northern Ireland	5			Optional
POU33082	European Union Politics B	5			Optional
POU33102	Political Violence B: Political Violence and Conflict in Comparative Context	5			Optional
POU33174	Qualitative Research Methods	5	POU22040	POU33011	Optional
POU33184	Topics in International Politics	5			Optional
POU33194	Politics and Markets	5			Optional

Module Code	Module Title	ECTS	Prerequisites	Co-Requisites	Mandatory/Optional
SENIOR SOPHISTER					
Full Year Modules					
POU44000	Year Long Research Project (Capstone / Dissertation)	20	POU22040, POU33011, POU33012 or POU33174		Mandatory
POU44040	African Politics	10			Optional
Semester One Modules					
POU44021	Contemporary International Relations A	5		POU44032	Optional
POU44121	Challenges to Modern Democracy	5			Optional
POU44171	Russian Politics after Communism	5			Optional
POU44271	Religion and Politics	5			Optional
POU44403	Topics in Political Science 7	5			Optional
POU44503	Topics in Political Science 9	5			Optional
POU44603	Contemporary Political Theory A	5			Optional
Semester Two Modules					
POU44032	Contemporary International Relations B	5		POU44021	Optional
POU44112	Political Parties	5			Optional
POU44192	Advanced Topics in Civil Conflict	5			Optional
POU44334	New Topics in Political Science 12: Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism	5			Optional
POU44392	Topics in Political Science 6	5			Optional
POU44414	Topics in Political Science 10	5			Optional
POU44424	Topics in Political Science 11	5			Optional

<u>Trinity Electives / Open Modules</u>

If taking Open Modules and/or Trinity Electives in SF year, students take 20 ECTS, choosing either:

- 10 ECTS from the list of Open Modules and 10 ECTS of Trinity Electives **or**
- 20 ECTS from the list of Open Modules

If taking Open Modules and/or Trinity Electives in JS year, students take 10 ECTS, choosing either:

- 5 ECTS from the list of Open Modules and 5 ECTS of Trinity Electives **or**
- 10 ECTS from the list of Open Modules **or**
- 10 ECTS of Trinity Electives

5.3 Learning Outcomes

Having successfully completed this programme, students should be able to:

- Identify, critically evaluate and synthesise the substantive theories, frameworks, and models, both qualitative and quantitative, that are used in both fields of enquiry;
- Analyse and solve a variety of problems in the private and public sector from a multi-disciplinary knowledge basis of theories and frameworks in both disciplines;
- Communicate effectively in oral and written modes in professional and academic settings;
- Use appropriate ICT tools in analysing and addressing problems;
- Work effectively as an individual and in teams in multi-disciplinary settings;
- Demonstrate flexibility, adaptability, and independence in order to engage productively with a changing social, cultural and technological environment;
- Engage the pursuit of knowledge in greater depth and over time in support of lifelong learning, either as a practitioner or an academic, in both of your chosen fields.

5.4 Module Descriptors & Compulsory Reading Lists

The School reserves the right to amend the list of available modules and, in particular to withdraw and add modules. Timetabling may restrict the availability of modules to individual students.

Module descriptors and timetables will be available on the Departmental website shortly before the start of each term: www.tcd.ie/Political_Science/programmes/undergraduate/.

5.5 Registration

It is your responsibility to ensure that you:

- take modules amounting to 60 ECTS during an academic year;
- that your selected modules meet the programme requirements;
- and that you meet the pre-requisites for your chosen modules.

This handbook outlines your module requirements for each year and gives details of module pre-requisites and programme requirements. Some of the modules may be core (you have to take them) and others are optional/approved. Bear in mind that lecturers will not be able to make special arrangements for you if you turn up to lectures for the first time in week two: if you have doubts, attend all modules you are thinking about for the first week.

Module choices will be made online and you will receive instructions on your portal. It is vital that you register correctly for your modules so that you will be included on examination lists.

Students in Years 1, 2 and 3 will be invited during the Trinity term to register their preferences for Years 2, 3 and 4 of their course, including Trinity Electives and Open Modules if applicable.

Students will be advised of how they will do this and where they will find relevant module information several weeks before they are invited to register.

5.5.1 Module Choices -- Change of Mind

Students who wish to change their module options must email polsci@tcd.ie before the **end of the 1st week of teaching for MT, and before the end of 1st week of teaching for HT**. Students should note that module changes will be subject to availability of places and timetable constraints. You must be aware that if you have a timetable clash, you may not be able to take your preferred module choice.

5.6 Capstone Project

Every student at Trinity will do a Capstone Project or equivalent as part of their undergraduate programme.

The Capstone Project is the common element across all degree exit routes and is weighted at 20 ECTS. It requires a significant level of independent research by the student. It is an integrative exercise that allows students to showcase skills and knowledge which they have developed across a range of subject areas and across their four years of study. It should result in the production of a significant piece of original work by the student. It should provide them with the opportunity to demonstrate their attainment of the graduate attributes. For more information on Capstone please visit:
https://www.tcd.ie/teachinglearning/ug- regulations/Capstone.php

Students should note that POU22040 – Introduction to Political Science Research, POU33011 – Research Methods for Political Science, and POU33012 – Research Methods for Political Science B or POU33174: Qualitative Research Methods are pre-requisite modules for undertaking a Capstone in Political Science so students should be cognizant of this when making module choices.

5.7 Marking Scale

The Institutional marking scale can be referenced in the [Calendar, Part II, General Regulations & Information, Section II, Item 30.](#)

School of Social Sciences & Philosophy Marking Scale

First Class Honours I 70-100

First class honours in the School of Social Sciences and Philosophy is divided into grade bands which represent **excellent**, **outstanding**, and **extraordinary** performances.

A first-class answer demonstrates a comprehensive and accurate answer to the question, which exhibits a detailed knowledge of the relevant material as well as a broad base of knowledge. Theory and evidence will be well integrated and the selection of sources, ideas, methods or techniques will be well judged and appropriately organised to address the relevant issue or problem. It will demonstrate a high level of ability to evaluate and integrate information and ideas, to deal with knowledge in a critical way, and to reason and argue in a logical way.

70-78 EXCELLENT

First class answers (excellent) demonstrate a number of the following criteria:

- comprehensiveness and accuracy;
- clarity of argument and quality of expression;
- excellent structure and organization;
- integration of a range of relevant materials;
- evidence of wide reading;
- critical evaluation;
- lacks errors of any significant kind;
- shows some original connections of concepts and theories;
- contains reasoned argument and comes to a logical conclusion.

This answer does not demonstrate outstanding performance in terms of independence and originality.

79-84 OUTSTANDING

In addition to the above criteria, an outstanding answer will show frequent original treatment of material. Work at this level shows independence of judgement, exhibits sound critical thinking. It will frequently demonstrate characteristics such as imagination, originality, and creativity. This answer does not demonstrate exceptional performance in terms of insight and contribution to new knowledge.

85-100 EXTRAORDINARY

This answer is of a standard far in excess of what is expected of an undergraduate student. It will show frequent originality of thought, a sophisticated insight into the subject and make new connections between pieces of evidence beyond those presented in lectures. It demonstrates an ability to apply learning to new situations and to solve problems.

What differentiates a first class piece of work from one awarded an upper second is a greater lucidity, a greater independence of judgement, a greater depth of insight and degree of originality, more evidence of an ability to integrate material, and evidence of a greater breadth of reading and research.

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Second Class, First Division   II.1   60-69

An upper second class answer generally shows a sound understanding of both the basic principles and relevant details, supported by examples, which are demonstrably well understood, and which are presented in a coherent and logical fashion. The answer should be well presented, display some analytical ability and contain no major errors of omissions. Not necessarily excellent in any area.

Upper second class answers cover a wider band of students. Such answers are clearly highly competent and typically possess the following qualities:

- accurate and well-informed;
- comprehensive;
- well-organised and structured;
- evidence of reading;
- a sound grasp of basic principles;
- understanding of the relevant details;
- succinct and cogent presentation; and
- evaluation of material although these evaluations may be derivative.

One essential aspect of an upper second-class answer is that is must have completely dealt with the question asked by the examiner. In questions:

- all the major issues and most of the minor issues must have been identified;
- the application of basic principles must be accurate and comprehensive; and
- there should be a conclusion that weighs up the pros and cons of the arguments.

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Second Class, Second Division   II.2   50-59

A substantially correct answer which shows an understanding of the basic principles. Lower second class answers display an acceptable level of competence, as indicated by the following qualities:

- generally accurate;
- an adequate answer to the question based largely on textbooks and lecture notes;
- clearly presentation; and
- no real development of arguments.

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Third Class Honours   III   40-49

A basic understanding of the main issues if not necessarily coherently or correctly presented.

Third class answers demonstrate some knowledge of understanding of the general area but a third-class answer tends to be weak in the following ways:

- descriptive only;
- does not answer the question directly;
- misses key points of information and interpretation
- contains serious inaccuracies;
- sparse coverage of material; and
- assertions not supported by argument or evidence.

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Fail   F1   30-39

Answers in the range usually contain some appropriate material (poorly organised) and some evidence that the student has attended lectures and done a bare minimum of reading. The characteristics of a fail grade include:

- misunderstanding of basic material;
- failure to answer the question set;
- totally inadequate information; and
- incoherent presentation.

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Bad Fail   F2   0-29

Answers in this range contain virtually no appropriate material and an inadequate understanding of basic concepts.

5.8 Coursework & Attendance Requirements

You are required to attend classes and submit assessment work in all modules. A student may be deemed non-satisfactory in a term when more than a third of required work/attendance in that term is missed. Any student who is deemed non-satisfactory in each of the two terms may, in accordance with the regulations laid down by the University Council, be refused permission to take examinations in that year.

To be allowed to sit the ordinary examinations you must have paid the relevant College annual fees and must be in good standing. There is no examination fee payable. There is no notice required of intention to take an examination. (The Scholarship examination is an exception to this.)

5.9 Examinations

For links and information regarding examinations, please go to the Academic Registry website. There are a number of links available on this page which you may find helpful.

College General Regulations and information are available in the College Calendar.

5.9.1 Registering Modules & Sitting Examinations

You must register your final module choices through your my.tcd portal before the start of teaching term in order to appear on module listings for examination purposes. You are required to take examinations of all modules for which you are registered unless specially exempted by permission from the Senior Lecturer.

5.9.2 Absence from Examinations

Students who may be prevented from sitting an examination or examinations (or any part thereof) due to illness should seek, through their tutor, permission from the Senior Lecturer in advance of the examination session to defer the examination/s to the reassessment session. Students who have commenced the examination session and are prevented from completing the session due to illness should seek, through their tutor, permission from the Senior Lecturer to defer the outstanding examination/s to the reassessment session.

Where such permission is sought, it must be appropriately evidenced:

- For illness: medical certificates must state that the student is unfit to sit examinations/ complete assessment and specify the date(s) of the illness and the dates on which the student is not fit to sit examinations/complete assessment. Medical certificates must be submitted to the student's tutor within three days of the beginning of the period of absence from the assessment/examination.

- For other grave cause: appropriate evidence must be submitted to the student's tutor within three days of the beginning of the period of absence from the assessment/examination.

Where illness occurs during the writing of an examination paper, it should be reported immediately to the chief invigilator. The student will then be escorted to the College Health Centre. Every effort will be made to assist the student to complete the writing of the examination paper.

Where an examination/assessment has been completed, retrospective withdrawal will not be granted by the Senior Lecturer nor will medical certificates be accepted in explanation for poor performance.

If protracted illness prevents students from taking the prescribed assessment components, so that they cannot rise into the next class, they may withdraw from College for a period of convalescence, provided that appropriate medical certificates are submitted to the Senior Lecturer. If they return to College in the succeeding academic year they must normally register for the year in full in order to fulfil the requirements of their class. Where appropriate please see the regulations governing fitness to practice.

Where the effects of a disability prevent a student from taking the prescribed assessment components, so that they cannot rise into the next class, the Senior Lecturer may permit the student to withdraw from College for a period of time provided that appropriate evidence has been submitted to the Disability Service. If they return to College in the succeeding academic year they must normally register for the year in full in order to fulfil the requirements of their class.

The nature of non-standard examination accommodations, and their appropriateness for individual students, will be approved by the Senior Lecturer in line with the Council-approved policy on reasonable accommodations. Any reports provided by the College's Disability Service, Health Service or Student Counselling Service will be strictly confidential.

5.9.3 Reassessment Examinations

Students take the reassessment examination if they have an excused absence from all or part of the annual examination. The papers to be taken at the reassessment session are determined by the following rules (which are designed to minimize the chances of failure and the associated need to repeat the year and/or be excluded):

- Any paper(s) not taken at the annual examination for excused reasons must be taken at the reassessment session.
- A grade of F2 in any paper taken at the annual examination implies that paper must be taken at the reassessment session as reassessment examination.

- When a paper at the reassessment examination is being taken as a first attempt because of excused absence from the annual examination, work done during the year for which credit would normally be given will be taken into account as if it were the annual examination. Papers being repeated because of failure at the annual examination will include no credit for the work done during the year.

Any assignment or coursework due to be submitted at the reassessment session (regardless of the reason e.g. permission to defer, etc.) must be submitted by the deadline set by the lecturer and by the start of the reassessment exam session at the latest. Coursework or assignments submitted after this date will not be accepted or marked.

5.10 External Examiner

The External Examiner for the JH Political Science programme is Sarah Yi-Yun Shair-Rosenfield, University of York.

5.11 Progression Regulations

For information on College progression regulations, please visit the College Calendar at: https://www.tcd.ie/calendar/undergraduate-studies/general-regulations-and-information.pdf

5.11.1 Publication of Results

Publication of results takes place on dates as specified and agreed by the Programme Committee and are advised under 'Key Dates' of the Handbook. Students are emailed the date of publication of results. Results are also published to your Student Portal my.tcd.ie.
The following terms apply:

- Any student who fails to receive his/her result and whose result is not on the notice board/my.tcd.ie should contact his/her tutor immediately.
- In no circumstances will results be given over the telephone.
- Students have a right to discuss examination scripts privately with the individual examiners. A student who wishes to do so should consult the appropriate examiners, (via email) within a reasonable time after the results have been announced, in order to schedule a meeting.
- Students wishing to an appeal against a result should consult their College tutors after they have seen the examiner(s). Such action must be taken immediately after the results are published.
- Examination scripts are held by examiners, or departmental offices, for a period of 13 months. This period of 13 months begins on the day of the publication of the relevant

examination results. Scripts cannot be released to students, but students may view their own scripts in the presence of the relevant examiner.

5.11.2 Re-Checks

You are entitled to discuss your performance with examiners after your results have been published. Having discussed your performance with the examiner(s) and ascertained that the mark in question was correctly calculated, you may ask that their results be re-considered if they have reason to believe:

a) That the examination paper contained questions on modules which were not part of the module prescribed for the examination,
   or
b) That bias was shown by an examiner in marking the script.

Through your tutor, you may appeal to the Senior Lecturer. In submitting your case, you should state under which of (a) or (b) above the request is being made. If a mark is revised, the Director of the Single Honors Philosophy programme will be notified of the mark change by the relevant Director of Undergraduate Teaching and Learning of the School. The Director will, by reference to the Single Honors Philosophy Programme conventions, and with the permission of the Senior Lecturer, amend the relevant module result(s) and overall grade as appropriate.

5.11.3 Compensation

For compensation regulations please see the [College Calendar](#).

5.11.4 Appeals

You may appeal a decision of the Court of Examiners. The grounds for appeal must fall under *one or more* of the following categories:

i.   the case of the appellant is not adequately covered by the ordinary regulations of the College,
ii.   the regulations of the College were not properly applied in the appellant's care, *and/or*
iii. the appeal is *ad misericordiam*.

Appeals in the first instance must be made to the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences.

As the Appeal Committee meets to hear these appeals within one week of the publication of results, it is imperative that students, or authorized and adequately briefed deputies, are present to obtain and consider results as soon as they become available.

Appeals should be made via electronic form by a student's tutor or, if the tutor is unavailable to act, by the Senior Tutor.

5.11.5 Transcripts

Transcripts request may be made by emailing polsci@tdc.ie. Please quote your student number, course and year when requesting a transcript.

Transcripts will include the set of grades that permit students to rise with their year and the set of grades that forms the basis of the award of the degree. The transcript will make explicit whether or not one or two sittings were required (however supplemental in a paper for which there was a deferral permitted from the annual session is not considered a separate sitting and whether or not a year is repeated. The grades achieved on the second sitting will be clearly indicated. Where more than one sitting was required an overall grade will always be recorded as a Pass/Fail.

The Scholarship Examination is an exception to the above. The examination will not be reflected on the student transcript unless the student has obtained Scholarship, in which case such information, if requested, shall appear (by way of asterisk and explanation) below the grades for Senior Fresh year.

Transcripts are never issued to a third party, such as a parent or prospective employer without the consent of the person named on the transcript.

5.11.6 Off-Book Regulations

The Senior Lecturer may permit students who are in good standing to go 'off-books'. This may be for personal reasons or on medical grounds where to do so would be in the best interests of the student. 'Off-Books' students can be re-admitted to the College in a subsequent year only at the discretion of the Senior Lecturer. 'Off-Books' students suffering from ill-health who have allowed their names to go off the books can only be readmitted, even in the current academic year, at the discretion of the Senior Lecturer who may require a satisfactory certificate from a nominated medical referee. For further information please revert to the [College Calendar](#).

5.11.7 Repeat Years

Students are not permitted to repeat a year more than once or repeat more than two separate years.

5.12 Awards

Depending on student choices made within their programme of study and available pathways, it may be possible to be conferred with a Bachelor in Arts (Moderatorship) award in one of the following categories: Joint Honours, Single Honours, or Major with Minor.

For further information on how the overall grade is calculated, please visit the College Calendar.

5.13 Graduate Attributes

The Trinity Graduate Attributes represent the qualities, skills, and behaviours that you will have the opportunity to develop as a Trinity student over your entire university experience, in other words, not only in the classroom, but also through engagement in co- and extracurricular activities (such as summer work placements, internships, or volunteering).

The four Trinity Graduate Attributes are:

- To Think Independently
- To Act Responsibly
- To Develop Continuously
- To Communicate Effectively

Why are the Graduate Attributes important?

The Trinity Graduate Attributes will enhance your personal, professional and intellectual development. They will also help to prepare you for lifelong learning and for the challenges of living and working in an increasingly complex and changing world. The Graduate Attributes will enhance your employability. Whilst your degree remains fundamental, also being able to demonstrate these Graduate Attributes will help you to differentiate yourself as they encapsulate the kinds of transversal skills and abilities, which employers are looking for.

How will I develop these Graduate Attributes?

Many of the Graduate Attributes are 'slow learned', in other words, you will develop them over the four or five years of your programme of study. They are embedded in the curriculum and in assessments, for example, giving presentations and engaging in group work.

You will also develop them through the co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. If you help to run a club or society you will be improving your leadership skills, or if you play a sport, you are building your communication and team-work skills.

5.14 Student Feedback & Evaluation

Evaluation of courses and their constituent modules is an important component of the College's commitment towards improving the quality of teaching and the support of learning. To this end, all modules that are taught by the School of Social Sciences and Philosophy are evaluated on a twice-yearly basis using an online survey. The survey is anonymous, and the results are used in reviewing and improving aspects of each module and its delivery. We particularly want to hear what students think was good about a module and what needs to be improved. Student feedback forms an important part of the evaluation and review process.

All results for each survey are collated and made available to the lecturer who taught the module, the Head of Department, the Head of School, the School's Director of Teaching and Learning (UG/PG), and the School Manager. Teaching Assistants receive their feedback through communication with the course lecturer.

Studies have shown that there is some gender bias in student evaluations of teaching – namely that female lecturers tend to receive more negative evaluations than their male counterparts. We ask you to bear this in mind when making your evaluations.