



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

Political Economy B

Module Code: POP88184

Module Name: Political Economy B

- **ECTS Weighting:** 5
- **Semester/Term Taught:** Semester 2
- **Contact Hours:** 10 hours of lectures
- **Module Personnel:** Professor Sharyn O'Halloran

Module Learning Aims:

By the end of this course, students will understand the core theories and concepts of political economy and effectively apply them to real-world challenges to contribute meaningfully to public policy analysis in their field.

1. Foundational Understanding:

- Define primary political economy concepts.
- Chart its historical impact on global economics.

2. Theoretical Analysis:

- Develop a toolkit emphasizing social choice, median voter, and gridlock theories.
- Conduct stakeholder analyses, gauging actors' interests and influence.
- Explore the drivers behind institutional design and its policy implications.

3. Contemporary Issues and Application:

- Examine interest group lobbying and its policy effects.
- Investigate trade's political and economic aspects.
- Analyze global financial regulation, balancing risk and growth.

4. Critical Evaluation:

- Assess political economy theories, noting strengths and limitations.
- Critique policy decisions using the course's analytical tools.
- Engage in class discussions, applying the tools developed to the case analysis.

5. Research and Presentation Skills:

- Research political economy topics, utilizing varied sources.
- Present findings coherently, merging theory and evidence.
- Connect insights from across political economy to address intricate issues.

Module Content

- I. **Overview: Political Economy and Policy Analysis:** focusing on developing tools for analyzing public policy.
- II. **Brexit and the EU:** analyzing UK's decision to leave the EU, including public opinion, voting, and legislative bargaining in domestic and international settings.
- III. **Financial Regulation and Global Systemic Risk:** focusing on issues such as financial regulation and management of systemic risk.
- IV. **Climate Change:** focusing on how international organizations can help countries overcome collective dilemma and led to the passage of carbon emissions agreements.
- V. **Student Presentations**

Learning Outcomes

Students will learn strategies and analytical tools for policy managers and analysts as they confront economic, political, legal, and global challenges. Cases and readings emphasize policymakers decision-making as they navigate multiple constituencies.

Reading List

1. Baron, David: *Business and its Environment* 7th edition (*BIE*).
2. Shepsle, Kenneth: *Analyzing Politics*, Norton [2010].

Additional materials will be posted on to the class Blackboard site, including case material, discussion prompts.

Module Co-Requisite

Assessment Details

Assignments	30%
Presentation	10%
Final Paper	60%

Module Website

Blackboard