



Political Philosophy | PIU33071

Year	Junior Sophister
ECTS Credits	10
Contact Hours	22 (11 x 2-hour seminars)
Pre-requisite	None
Semester	1
Module Leader & Lecturer	Dr. Samantha Fazekas
Contact Email	sfazekas@tcd.ie

Module Outline:

This module will examine the relationship between friendship and politics. The first part of the module will define various types of friendships (e.g., personal, moral, and political), and determine their relationship to politics. The second part of the module will analyze political forms of friendship and will center on the following questions: Can political friendships form the basis of political communities, states/countries, and political unions (e.g., EU, UN, national/international federations and confederations)? Can all states/countries be “friends” with each other? The third part of the module will address how and if political friendships can mediate conflicts between states/countries. This will lead into the following questions: How do national/international conflicts impact political friendships (e.g., Brexit, war, and human rights violations)? How should political unions react to and handle such conflicts?

Assessment:

1 Exam (mid-term) 50% **AND** 1 Essay (end of module) 50%

Recommended Reading List:

The complete reading list, including primary and secondary literature, will be finalized at the beginning of the term. Our central texts will be excerpts from the following:

- Aristotle, *The Nicomachean Ethics*, trans. D.P. Chase, introduction by J.A. Smith (Project Gutenberg E-Book: 2021).
- Cicero, *Laelius De Amicitia (Laelius On Friendship)*, trans. Evelyn S. Shuckburgh, ed. Rhonda L. Kelley (Project Gutenberg E-Book: 2013).
- Michel de Montaigne, “Of Friendship,” *The Essays of Montaigne*, trans. Charles Cotton (Project Gutenberg E-Book: 2023).
- Francis Bacon, “Of Friendship,” *The Essays or Councils, Civil and Moral, of Francis Bacon Ld. Verulam Viscount St. Albans* (Project Gutenberg E-Book: 2013).
- Hannah Arendt, “Philosophy and Politics,” *Social Research* Vol. 57, No. 1 (Spring 1990): 73-103.