

POU33231 — Political Participation & Mobilisation

Module Information	
Module Code	<i>POU33231</i>
Module Title	<i>Political Participation & Mobilisation</i>
Department	<i>Political Science</i>
Year Group	<i>Junior Sophister</i>
Module Personnel	<i>Dr Sotirios Karampampas</i>
Academic Year	<i>2026 – 27</i>
Credit Weighting	<i>5 credits</i>
Semester	<i>Semester 1</i>
Contact Hours	<i>One 2-hours lecture per week</i>

Module Content	
Module Description	<i>This module examines how and why citizens engage in politics beyond the ballot box. It explores political participation in both its conventional and unconventional forms, including voting, party activism, protest, social movements, digital activism, and other forms of collective action. Emphasis is placed on the factors that shape political participation and mobilisation, including individual motivations, organisational resources, political institutions, collective identities, and changing communication technologies. The module also considers contemporary forms of mobilisation, including populist, climate, and anti-establishment movements, as well as the relationship between mobilisation, radicalisation, and political violence. Throughout, students will engage with key theoretical approaches and comparative empirical cases to critically assess why political mobilisation emerges, how it develops, and under what conditions it influences political and social change.</i>
Module Learning Aims	<i>The module aims to</i> <i>- Introduce students to the core concepts, theories, and debates in the study of political participation and mobilisation.</i>

Module Content

	- Provide students with the analytical foundations to examine both conventional and unconventional forms of political participation. - Train students to apply theoretical perspectives to empirical cases of political participation, protest, and social movements. - Develop students' capacity to critically assess the factors that facilitate or constrain political mobilisation across different political contexts. - Enhance students' ability to evaluate the causes, dynamics, and consequences of collective action and political mobilisation.
Learning Outcomes	Upon successful completion of the module, students will be able to - Understand the principal forms, determinants, and patterns of political participation and mobilisation. - Demonstrate knowledge of the major theoretical approaches used to explain political participation, protest, and social movements. - Analyse the roles of individuals, organisations, institutions, and networks in shaping political mobilisation. - Evaluate the emergence, development, and outcomes of political mobilisation using comparative empirical evidence. - Apply theoretical insights to contemporary cases of political participation and collective action to develop evidence-based arguments.
Indicative Reading / Resources	Dalton, R. J. (2018). <i>Citizen Politics: Public Opinion and Political Parties in Advanced Industrial Democracies</i>. Cq Press. Della Porta, D., & Diani, M. (2020). <i>Social Movements: An Introduction</i>. John Wiley & Sons. Giugni, M., & Grasso, M. (eds.). (2022). <i>The Oxford Handbook of Political Participation</i>. Oxford University Press. Grasso, M. (2016). <i>Generations, Political Participation and Social Change in Western Europe</i>. Routledge. Snow, D. A., Soule, S. A., Kriesi, H., & McCammon, H. J. (eds.). (2023). <i>The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Social Movements</i>. John Wiley & Sons.



Module Content

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Assessment

Assessment Components

Participation & Attendance 10%, Midterm Essay 40%, Final Exam 50%

Additional Information

Prerequisites

None

Co-requisites

None