

POU44000 — Capstone Year-Long Research Project

Module Information	
Module Code	<i>POU44000</i>
Module Title	<i>Capstone Year-Long Research Project</i>
Department	<i>Political Science</i>
Year Group	<i>Senior Sophister</i>
Module Personnel	<i>Matthias Dilling and Liam Kneafsey (coordinators) and Various Instructors</i>
Academic Year	<i>2026–27</i>
Credit Weighting	<i>20 ECTS</i>
Semester	<i>Both</i>
Contact Hours	<i>Two hour workshop every two weeks</i>

Module Content	
Module Description	This research project module is designed to allow students to develop research, teamwork and communication skills, and to engage in meta-learning (learning about learning). It seeks to provide students with an opportunity to engage in self-directed, independent research with the support of a theme instructor and peers. It will facilitate students to engage in a critical and in-depth analysis of a topic in political science, and to communicate their findings to specialist and non-specialist audiences. Students will also be supported to work with their peers and to take responsibility for various tasks within a group setting.
Module Learning Aims	A core rationale of the module is to facilitate students in the development of skills of life-long learning, to apply research skills to various contexts and to reflect on their learning, both individually and as a group. Through engaging in an in-depth piece of research, working collaboratively, taking responsibility for tasks, communicating effectively and responding to the needs of research-users, students will be facilitated to develop the graduate attributes promoted throughout the School's programmes.

Module Content

Learning Outcomes

Having completed this module, students should be able to:

1. Develop and execute a demanding political science research project over the course of the year;
2. Collaborate with peers and act in leadership roles;
3. Constructively evaluate the work of others;
4. Synthesise and evaluate a variety of research methods, sources, findings and analysis.
5. Critically analyse of an area of political science through independent research;
6. Effectively communicate research findings.

Assessment

Assessment Components

Participation (10%); Coursework (15%); Dissertation (65%); Podcast (10%)

Assessment Details

Assessment details and deadlines will be outlined by theme instructors early in the new semester.

Additional Information

Prerequisites

POU33011 Research Methods A and POU33012 Research Methods B OR POU33174 Qualitative Research Methods (or equivalent(s) on exchange)

Co-requisites

None