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European Politics, Society and Economics BSc

Details

Course details: Why study this course (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/european-politics-society-economics.aspx?OpenSection=WhyStudyThisCourse) | Modules (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/european-politics-society-economics.aspx?OpenSection=Modules) | Fees and funding (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/european-politics-society-economics.aspx?OpenSection=FeesAndFunding) | Entry requirements (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/european-politics-society-economics.aspx?OpenSection=EntryRequirements) | How to apply (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/european-politics-society-economics.aspx?OpenSection=HowToApply) .

This interdisciplinary programme with its Politics, Economics and Culture pathways gives enthusiastic students the opportunity to build a tailored degree, drawing on a range of social science skills and insights into modern Europe.

The programme offers students a unique perspective on Europe and the European Union. It is based in the University's prestigious School of Government and Society, which also incorporates the Centre for Russian and East European Studies and the Institute for German Studies – the two leading research centres in the country in their respective fields. Uniquely, we provide this comprehensive European Studies social science degree that crosses the traditional divide of the Iron Curtain and provides equal consideration of both Western and Eastern Europe.

First year

In the first year, you receive a solid grounding in all three areas, before concentrating either on your chosen discipline or on a general pathway in Years 2 and 3.

Second year

In this year, you build on knowledge and skills acquired in the first year and can choose from a wide range of general and tailor-made modules. In previous years, modules included:

- Comparative European Government
- Institutions, Politics and Policies of the European Union
- European Media Culture
- Political Economy of EU Enlargement
- Cultural Politics of Russia and Eastern Europe

Third/fourth year

In the third year, students may opt for an ERASMUS exchange at a university in northern, southern or eastern Europe. Otherwise, students may simply proceed to the final year.

In the final year, students take a core module, Europe in a Globalising World, and write a dissertation on a European theme. In addition, students can choose from a wide variety of modules. In previous years, modules included:

- Immigration and Citizenship in Western Europe
- The Russian Economy from Plan to Market
- Political Economy of the European Union
- European Security
- 'Returning to Europe': Nation, State and Europe in Central and Eastern Europe

If you want to take advantage of a unique opportunity to be supported with a work placement opportunity as part of your final year, this course includes the opportunity to undertake a '**Professional Development (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/professional-development.aspx)** ' module as part of your optional module choices.

Why study this course

The Centre for Russian and East European Studies (CREES) students enjoy state of the art facilities in the newly refurbished Muirhead Tower, where the Centre is located. CREES has an outstanding reputation in the UK and overseas for excellence in teaching and research. It has been recognised as the leading research centre for this subject in the UK - meaning that your courses will be led by leading specialists in their field.

Our undergraduate degree programme BSc (Hons) European Politics, Society and Economics (EPSE) offers students a unique perspective on Europe and the European Union. The University of Birmingham has been designated a Jean Monnet European Centre of Excellence by the European Union and a national centre of excellence in European Studies by the UK Government.

The University of Birmingham has over 100 members of staff in the field of European Studies, all of whom are renowned international scholars in their respective fields, in disciplines such as Political Science, International Relations, History, Sociology, Economics, Law, European Culture, and Languages. European Politics, Society and Economics draws on the University's social science team and represents the largest concentration of cross-disciplinary social science expertise on Europe in the UK.

Our Unique Selling Point: Pan-European Coverage

The University of Birmingham is almost alone in the UK, and indeed the world, in being able to provide a comprehensive European Studies Social Science degree which crosses the traditional divide of the old Eastern Bloc and Southern Mediterranean and provides equal consideration of Western, Central, Eastern and Southern Europe.

Modules

Modules in the first year

Level C combines a core theory module from each cognate discipline and a relevant European Studies module, except in economics where the need to ensure quantitative methods skills requires a dedicated module. This requirement means that Economics pathway students must choose between the relevant Culture and Society and Economics European module. Please note that exact module provision may vary from year to year.

Politics, Culture and General pathways

- 20 credits - **Foundations of Politics (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-one/foundations-politics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Introduction to the European Union (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-one/introduction-european-union-history-politics-institutions.aspx)**
- 20 credits - Cultural Analysis (Theory, Politics and Practice)
- 20 credits - **Understanding European Identities (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-one/understanding-european-identities.aspx)**
- 20 credits - Economics (Advanced or Introduction ....depending on A-levels)
- 20 credits - European Economic Issues

Economics pathway

- 20 credits - **Foundations of Politics (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-one/foundations-politics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Introduction to the European Union (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-one/introduction-european-union-history-politics-institutions.aspx)**
- 20 credits - Cultural Analysis (Theory, Politics and Practice)
- 20 credits - Economics (Advanced or Introduction ....depending on A-levels)
- 20 credits - Quantitative Methods (**Advanced (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/first-year/advanced-quantitative-economic-methods.aspx)** or **Introduction (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/first-year/introductory-quantitative-methods.aspx)**)
- 20 credits - **European Economic Issues (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/first-year/european-economic-issues.aspx)** OR Understanding European Identities
- 20 credits - **Sustainable Development (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/first-year/sustainable-development.aspx)** OR Understanding European Identities

Modules in the second year

At Levels I all students follow a common European 20 credit core, and a common research skills and methods module. Thereafter their options will depend on which pathway they wish to follow. Students wishing to follow a discipline pathway take a theory module from the discipline core (two in Economics) plus a module focussed broadly on the EU and (in politics and culture) a module focussed on our wider European expertise in Eastern Europe and Russia.

Politics pathway

- 20 credits - **Institutions and Policies of the European Union (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/institutions-politics-policies-european-union.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Political Analysis (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/political-analysis.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Comparative European Government (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/comparative-european-government.aspx)**

Optional modules

- 20 credits - **Contemporary Russian and East European Politics Russia in Revolution, 1900-1938 (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/contemporary-russian-east-european-politics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **The Cultural Politics of Russia and Eastern Europe (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/cultural-politics-russia-eastern-europe.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Political Economy of European Union Enlargement (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/political-economy-european-union-enlargement.aspx)**
- Option or Module from another pathway, language or an MOMD

Culture and Society pathway

- 20 credits - **Institutions and Policies of the European Union (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/institutions-politics-policies-european-union.aspx)**
- 20 credits - Cultural Theory: Analysis and Application
- 20 credits - Cultural Research Methods: Analysis and Application
- 20 credits - **European Societies: A Cross-Cultural Perspective (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/european-societies-cross-cultural-perspective.aspx)**

Optional modules

- 20 credits - **The Cultural Politics of Russia and Eastern Europe (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/cultural-politics-russia-eastern-europe.aspx)**
- 20 credits - Development and Inequalities in the New Europe
- Option or Module from another pathway, language or an MOMD

Economics pathway

- 20 credits - **Institutions and Policies of the European Union (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/institutions-politics-policies-european-union.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Microeconomics (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/second-year/microeconomics-a.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Macroeconomics (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/second-year/macroeconomics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Political Economy of European Union Enlargement (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/political-economy-european-union-enlargement.aspx)**

Optional modules

- 20 credits - **The Cultural Politics of Russia and Eastern Europe (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/cultural-politics-russia-eastern-europe.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Contemporary Russian and East European Politics Russia in Revolution, 1900-1938 (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/contemporary-russian-east-european-politics.aspx)**

- 20 credits - **Comparative European Government (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/comparative-european-government.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Introductory Econometrics (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/second-year/introductory-econometrics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Econometric Methods (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/second-year/econometric-methods.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Economic Development (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/second-year/economic-development.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Environmental Economics (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/second-year/environmental-economics.aspx)**
- 10 credits - **Optimization for Economists (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/second-year/optimization-economists.aspx)**
- 10 credits - **Decision Theory and Games (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/second-year/decision-theory-games.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **The Economics of Corporate Finance (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/second-year/economics-corporate-finance.aspx)**
- Option or Module from another pathway, language or an MOMD

General pathway

In the general pathway, students trade subject specific expertise for a broader area knowledge across all pathways. Students are advised that choosing a general pathway may limit their options in Level 3 offered by cognate departments.

- 20 credits - **Institutions and Policies of the European Union (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/institutions-politics-policies-european-union.aspx)**

Optional modules

- 20 credits - **Comparative European Government (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/comparative-european-government.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Contemporary Russian and East European Politics Russia in Revolution, 1900-1938 (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/contemporary-russian-east-european-politics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Political Economy of European Union Enlargement (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/political-economy-european-union-enlargement.aspx)**
- 20 credits - European Media Culture
- 20 credits - **The Cultural Politics of Russia and Eastern Europe (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/cultural-politics-russia-eastern-europe.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **European Societies: A Cross-Cultural Perspective (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/european-societies-cross-cultural-perspective.aspx)**
- Option or Module from another pathway, language or an MOMD

Final year modules

At level H, in addition to the dissertation and the core module, 'Europe In A Globalised World', the College of Social Sciences offers a wide selection of modules covering the three core disciplines, Politics, Culture and Economics. In addition, Economics and Politics both offer specialist European themed modules which will be of particular interest to those who have followed these pathways. The availability of options may vary from year to year depending on staff availability.

If you want to take advantage of a unique opportunity to be supported with a work placement opportunity as part of your final year, this course includes the opportunity to undertake a '**Professional Development (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/professional-development.aspx)** ' module as part of your optional module choices.

All pathways

- **Dissertation (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/dissertation-crees.aspx)**
- **Europe in a Globalised World (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/europe-globalised-world.aspx)**

Optional modules

- **Professional Development Module (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/professional-development.aspx)**
- Devolution and Territory in Europe
- Europe and Citizenship and Social Democracy
- Development and Inequalities in the New Europe
- **European Security (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/european-security.aspx)**
- **Immigration and Citizenship in Western Europe (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/immigration-citizenship-western-europe.aspx)**
- **Political History of Central and Eastern Europe in the 20th Century (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/political-history-central-eastern-europe.aspx)**
- **'Returning to Europe': Nation, State and Europe in Post-Communist Central and Eastern Europe (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/returning-to-europe.aspx)** '
- **Advanced Cultural Politics of Russia and Eastern Europe (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/advanced-cultural-politics-russia-eastern-europe.aspx)**
- **The Russian Economy: From Plan to Market (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/russian-economy-plan-market.aspx)**
- **Applied Economics of the European Community (/undergraduate/courses/econ/undergraduate-modules/third-year/applied-economics-european-community.aspx)**

Fees and funding

Standard fees (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/courses/fees/standard) apply
Learn more about **fees and funding (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees/undergraduate/loans.aspx)** .

Scholarships
Learn more about our **scholarships and awards (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees/undergraduate/funding/index.aspx)** .

Entry requirements

Number of A levels required: 3

Typical offer: ABB

General Studies: not accepted

Additional information:

Other qualifications are considered – learn more about **entry requirements (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/requirements)**

International students:

International Baccalaureate Diploma: 34 points

Standard English language requirements apply
Learn more about **international entry requirements (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/requirements/international)**

Depending on your chosen course of study, you may also be interested in the Birmingham Foundation Academy, a specially structured programme for international students whose qualifications are not accepted for direct entry to UK universities. Further details can be found on the **foundation academy web pages (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/foundation-academy/Pathways/index.aspx)** .

How to apply

Apply through UCAS at **www.ucas.com (http://www.ucas.com/)** using code: **LL2C**.
Learn more about **applying (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/courses/apply)**

University of Birmingham's UCAS code number is **B32**.

UCAS

The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) is a UK organisation responsible for managing applications to university and college.

UK, EU and international students applying for most undergraduate degree courses in the UK will need to apply through UCAS.

You submit an application via the **UCAS website (http://www.ucas.co.uk/)** with a list of up to five courses. All choices are confidential during the application process so universities and colleges considering an application cannot see your other choices. Applications must be completed by mid-January of the year that you wish to start university.

You can monitor the progress of your application using the **UCAS Apply (http://www.ucas.com/students/apply)** system.

Key Information Set (KIS)

Key Information Sets (KIS) are comparable sets of information about full- or part-time undergraduate courses and are designed to meet the information needs of prospective students.

All KIS information has been published on the Unistats website and can also be accessed via the small advert, or 'widget', below. On the **Unistats website (http://unistats.direct.gov.uk)** you are able to compare all the KIS data for each course with data for other courses.

The development of Key Information Sets (KIS) formed part of HEFCE's work to enhance the information that is available about higher education. They give you access to reliable and comparable information in order to help you make informed decisions about what and where to study.

The KIS contains information which prospective students have identified as useful, such as student satisfaction, graduate outcomes, learning and teaching activities, assessment methods, tuition fees and student finance, accommodation and professional accreditation.

Related news and events

CREES celebrates its 50th anniversary at the Annual Conference in Windsor Great Park (/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2013/07/50th-anniversary-annual-conference.aspx)

Experts discuss EU enlargement in CREES 50th anniversary Seminar (/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2013/01/experts-discuss-eu-enlargement.aspx)

Georgia's Parliamentary Elections - Democracy in Action? (/news/thebirminghambrief/items/2012/12/Georgias-Parliamentary-Elections---Democracy-in-Action.aspx)

Testimonials - CREES Annual Conference (/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2013/07/testimonials-conference.aspx)

Students vote Birmingham as a top UK University for Politics (/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/news/2013/11/which-university-guide.aspx)

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