

Programme Specification

Award and title:

BA (Hons) Politics, Philosophy and Economics

BA (Hons) Politics, Philosophy and Economics (with Placement)

<i>School:</i>	York Business School
<i>Subject area:</i>	Management, Accounting and Economics
<i>Entry from academic year:</i>	2025-26
<i>in the month(s) of:</i>	September and February (Level 6) ¹
<i>Awarding institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Teaching institution:</i>	York St John University
<i>Delivery location:</i>	York St John University
<i>Programme/s accredited by:</i>	
<i>Exit awards:</i>	BA (Ord) Politics, Philosophy and Economics BA (Ord) Politics, Philosophy and Economics (with placement) Diploma of Higher Education Politics, Philosophy and Economics Diploma of Higher Education Politics, Philosophy and Economics (with placement) Certificate of Higher Education Politics, Philosophy and Economics
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>	L1N9
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>	
<i>QAA subject benchmark statement(s):</i>	Economics (2015) Politics and International Relations (2015)
<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	Undergraduate periods of study for full time
<i>Language of study:</i>	English
<i>Paired with foundation year</i>	Yes
<i>Study abroad opportunities:</i>	Yes
<i>Placement year opportunity:</i>	Yes

Introduction and special features

The BA(Hons) Politics, Philosophy and Economics is designed to help students develop an awareness of the impact of society on our lives through everyday events and occurrences. Modules have been designed in such a way as to assist us in debating problems that arise (or are solved) through ideological decision making and what influences modern day thinking. The programme is influenced heavily by the foundation of York St John University's commitment to equality and social justice while also mirroring York Business School's commitment to PRiME (Principles of Responsible Management Education). As such the programme is uniquely delivered by a team committed to ensuring practice is borne through the affective domain of changing and influencing behaviours for the good of society.

This programme will provide you with a firm understanding of the key debates that face us in society today with the ability to view them from philosophical, political and economic lenses. With a specific focus of this

¹ Direct entry to Level 6 is available in September and February, but entry to other Levels is restricted to September

programme on a range applied problems we face today, you will develop a solid knowledge of underpinning foundations for society.

BA (Hons) Politics, Philosophy and Economics has been designed to deliver practical skills to enhance your employability in a range of careers, in areas such as international governance, politics and economics.

Aligned with our Work-Related Experiential Learning framework, this programme has been designed to deliver predominantly practical skills embedded into your learning and assessment to enhance your employability in a range of roles. Example of activities include – evaluation of economic opportunities and threats for local businesses. You will receive feedback from practitioners on your skills which will enable you to further reflect on your career options.

If you are studying on the BA (Hons) Politics, Philosophy and Economics with placement variant you will undertake a Year in Industry (also known as a sandwich year or placement year), in between your second and third year.

Special features

- In-depth knowledge of how society works and is governed with extended development of both the political and economic factors impacting on our philosophical approaches to our understanding of society.
- University level commitment to social justice and equality informing the curriculum and teaching practice
- Interdisciplinary engagement with associated subjects through the School of Humanities Visiting Speaker programme
- We invite a range of high profile guest speakers and consultants from, sectors influencing on how we perceive the world around us including but not limited to religious, political and economic leaders.
- Field trips and real-life projects embedded in the programme allowing the use of life experience activities to inform learning.
- Opportunity to qualify as a Microsoft Office Specialist
- Systematic development of employability skills through a Continuing Professional Development framework
- Opportunity to study abroad without extending the length of your degree
- A 'Year in Industry' (sandwich year) for those on the 'with placement' variant

Admissions criteria

You must meet the University's general entry criteria for [undergraduate](#) study. In addition, you must have:

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see [English language requirements](#)).

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of [Recognition of Prior Learning](#). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

Programme aim(s)

1. Prepare you for a career in a rapidly changing economic and political environment with the skills needed to adapt and develop as the environments change;
2. Consider Philosophical approaches, ideas and discourse
3. Provide a challenging, integrated programme of study that equips you with a sound general knowledge of organisations and the political, social and economic environments in which they operate, within the context of the guiding principles of the Principles of Responsible Management Education (PRME).

Programme learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the programme students will be able to:

Level 4

Knowledge and Understanding

- 4.1 Describe and explain a range of relevant concepts, theories and models to the solution of economic problems.
- 4.2 Identify key Philosophical themes and debates.
- 4.3 Explain key themes and debates in Politics and the Political Environment

Cognitive and Thinking Skills

- 4.4 Demonstrate the ability to apply a range of academic and intellectual skills relevant to Level Four study including, information gathering, analysis and problem identification.

Practical/Professional Skills

- 4.5 Explain the importance of effective cross-cultural communication within diverse organisations.
- 4.6 Effectively communicate with a culturally diverse audience in order to find solutions to common problems
- 4.7 Demonstrate the use of research skills to gather information.

Key Transferable Skills

- 4.8 Demonstrate own learning with guided support to explore a wide variety of learning sources and opportunities.

Level 5

Knowledge and Understanding

- 5.1 Compare and Contrast a range of relevant concepts, theories and models to the solution of economic problems.
- 5.2 Analyse key Philosophical themes and debates.
- 5.3 Evaluate key themes and debates in Politics and the Political Environment

Cognitive and Thinking Skills

- 5.4 Demonstrate the ability to apply a range of academic and intellectual skills relevant to Level Five study including, information gathering, problem solving, analysis, and evaluation.

Practical/Professional Skills

- 5.5 Exhibit the development and achievement of skills in relation to communication, organisation and working with others from organisational and national cultures and backgrounds.
- 5.6 Demonstrate the use of research and enquiry to further your understanding.

Key Transferable Skills

- 5.7 Demonstrate independence in own learning to explore a wide variety of learning sources and opportunities.

Level 6

Knowledge and Understanding

- 6.1 Apply a range of relevant concepts, theories and models to the solution of economic and business problems.

6.2 Evaluate key Philosophical themes and debates.

6.3 Critically analyse key themes and debates in Politics and the Political Environment

6.4 Critically the interaction of economics and / or politics and / or philosophy through an extended piece of research.

Cognitive and Thinking Skills

6.5 Demonstrate the ability to apply a range of academic and intellectual skills relevant to level 6 study including, information gathering, problem solving (incorporating creativity and innovation) and the skill to critically analyse, synthesise, and evaluate information and data to aid business decision making.

Practical/Professional skills

6.6 Exhibit the development and achievement of skills in relation to communication, organisation and working with others from organisational and national cultures and backgrounds in a professional manner.

6.7 Conduct research and enquiry to further your understanding and to inform business and economic decision-making.

6.8 Demonstrate the application of economic skills to business.

Key Transferable Skills

6.9 Manage own learning to explore a wide variety of learning sources and opportunities.

Programme structure

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module status	
					compulsory or optional to take C or O	non-compensatable or compensatable NC or X
POL4007M	4	1	Foundations of Politics and International Relations	20	C	X
BME4004M	4	1	Principles of Applied Economics	20	C	X
POL4009M	4	1	Political Philosophy: Themes and Thinkers	20	C	X
BME4006M	4	2	Economic Policy and Practice	20	C	X
POL4012M	4	2	Sustainable Development and the Global South	20	C	X
REL4018M	4	2	Values and Virtues	20	C	X
BMI5009M	5	1	Controversies in International Trade	20	C	X
Choose 1 module from the following 2 for semester 1						
POL5014M	5	1	International Relations: Theory and Practice	20	O	X
POL5015M	5	1	Democracies	20	O	X
Choose 1 module from the following 2 for semester 1						
POL5003M	5	1	Using Political Philosophy	20	O	X
REL5024M	5	1	From Descartes to the Death of God	20	O	X
BMR5004M	5	2	Business Research Methods	20	C	X
BMW5005M	5	2	The Business Lab: Real-World Consulting in Action	20	C	X

POL5020M	5	2	The Conservative Party	20	C	X
For students taking the 'with placement' programme						
BMP5007P	5P	Y	Placement Module	0	C	NC
POL6015M	6	1	Authoritarianism	20	C	X
POL6016M	6	1	Global Governance in a Changing World Order	20	C	X
BMI6011M	6	2	Rethinking Globalisation	20	C	X
BMB6016M	6	2	Business Ethics and Sustainability	20	C	X
Choose 1 module from the following 2 for the Year						
BMR6008M	6	1&2	Research Investigation	40	O	NC
REL6026M	6	1&2	Long Dissertation	40	O	NC
POL6011M	6	1&2	Dissertation	40	O	NC

Continuing Professional Development

You are strongly encouraged to undertake Continuing Professional Development throughout your studies to prepare you for the world of work. You will be able to develop a range of academic and professional skills through a range of activities, exercises and events under the guise of 'Success Lab' which will help you to progress through the course and into the job market and provide the work-based skills employers require.

Study Abroad

You have the opportunity (subject to meeting the University Threshold Standards) to undertake a semester or full year abroad² as part of your studies during your second year.

Learning, teaching and assessment

All modules are delivered utilising a range of teaching, learning and assessment strategies including lectures, seminars, live projects, guest speakers, tutorials, practical sessions, workshops and a range of events and learning activities.

² If you are taking the placement award you are only eligible for one semester abroad.

You are supported initially in the use of guided learning strategies in Level 4 developing towards autonomous, well-judged use of collaborative and independent learning strategies in Levels 5 and 6.

Throughout the programme you will be introduced to a range of different teaching and learning strategies. This will help you in developing your awareness of market forces, investment analysis and the decision-making process you may require in future roles. At Level 5 (for example) you will learn how to analyse different current issues in the economic environment in module Controversies in International Trade. This involves case-based learning in which you will be expected to engage in case-based activities as you develop your skills, while also developing skills in managing projects (Business Research Methods). Finally, at Level 6 (for example) you will demonstrate your skills through practice and enquiry-based learning giving you the opportunity to develop creative and innovative solutions to problems through module Rethinking Globalisation.

You will undertake a variety of assessments which include the use of written assignments (often in the form of reports), individual and group presentations, exams and tests, and practical activities. An essential part of the assessment is to encourage both learning and the development of skills as well as preparing you for the requirements of the workplace.

You will have opportunities for formative assessment and feedback to inform your work prior to submission and you will receive detailed feedback on assessments to help you develop and continuously improve your performance whilst on the programme. Advice will be provided in relation to development, further areas for research and guidance on how to enhance your knowledge of Politics, Philosophy and Economics.

You will have the opportunity for study support including academic writing, research skills and interview skills to enhance employability and career development in the field of Politics, Philosophy and Economics.

Progression and graduation requirements

The University's [general regulations](#) for undergraduate awards apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the Programme Structure section as non-compensatable.

The exit award of BA Ordinary is not available to students entering at Level 6.

Internal and external reference points

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University mission and values](#)
- [University 2026 Strategy](#)
- [QAA subject benchmark statements](#)
- [Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications](#)

Date written / revised: November 2019

Programme originally approved: