

PPE: Globalisation, Populism, and Identity

LMH Summer Programmes are provided by Lady Margaret Hall, a college in the University of Oxford

Course:	PPE: Globalisation, Populism, and Identity
Available:	Programme Session 3: 11 th August 2025 to 29 th August 2025
Lectures:	18 Hours
Seminars:	12 Hours
Tutorials:	3 Hours
Independent Study:	Approximately 120 Hours
Recommended Credit:	15 CATS / 7.5 ECTS / 4 US Credits

About this Course:	<p>While the world has been moving increasingly towards greater inter-connectivity through trade, infrastructure, communications, and migration, criticism of 'globalisation' has been growing ever louder, with many blaming it for inequality, cultural marginalisation, and political disaffection.</p> <p>In this wide-ranging course you will examine 'globalisation', exploring its origins and development, its features and criticisms, and its current manifestation as a world 'system' incorporating international commerce, NGOs, and the United Nations; you will look at some of the responses to globalisation, from populist political movements like Brexit and Trumpism to diverse transnational social movements such as Black Lives Matter and the Arab Spring of 2011; and you will investigate the development of identity consciousness in politics, from religious or ethnic nationalism to the politics of sexual identity. At this time of radical questioning of the premises and aims of 'globalisation', this course will engage with ethical and theoretical constructs to help us understand better the different dynamics we are examining. It is the perfect course for students seeking to understand some of the most significant political phenomena of our time.</p> <p>Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) is a combined interdisciplinary area of study which has been taught at the University of Oxford since the early 20th century to equip students with the breadth of expertise required to understand and influence the world around us.</p>
Course Overview:	<p><u>Week 1: Globalisation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions, Origins, and Development of 'Globalisation' • 'Globalisation' in Liberal and Realist International Relations Theories • 'Globalisation' in Marxist, Post-Structuralist, and Post-Colonialist Theories • Shaping perceptions of 'Globalisation' • Conceptualising international ethics, and conceptualising the international 'system'

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conceptualising ‘soft power’; the mandate and role of the United Nations in ‘Globalisation’ <p>The first week of the Academic Programme focuses on the topic of ‘Globalisation’. We shall seek to define ‘Globalisation’, explore its origins and development, and examine the phenomenon in the context of various analytical frameworks and theories. We shall investigate the nature of the global international ‘system’, including the role of international commerce, NGOs, and the United Nations. This week you will develop a knowledge and understanding of the political and economic processes of ‘Globalisation’, and be able to analyse features and criticisms of ‘Globalisation’ through different frameworks.</p> <p><u>Week 2: Identity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edward Saïd, ‘Orientalism’, and Identity Consciousness • Identities in a Post-International World • Primordialist, Instrumentalist, and Constructivist Theories of Identity • George Herbert Mead and Identity Theory • Hindutva and Religio-Nationalism in India • Ethno-Nationalism and the Aspiration of Balochistan • Racial Consciousness and ‘Black Lives Matter’ • The Politics of Sexual Identity <p>The second week of the Academic Programme covers the key areas of identity theory, and how they relate to manifestations of identity in international politics. We shall explore the early development of identity consciousness in politics, including Edward Saïd’s seminal work <i>Orientalism</i> (1978), and examine a range of theories of identity. We shall discuss a series of examples of identity politics, from the rise of Hindutva in India, to the Black Lives Matter movement, and LGBTQI+ politics. You will learn to critically assess contemporary philosophical and political engagements with the concept of personal identity.</p> <p><u>Week 3: Populism</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Situating Populism: “... popular sovereignty in an age of democratization”? • The Evolution of Populism and the Peculiarities of Modern Populism • European and American Populism – developments and distinctives • Carl Schmidt and Praxis • <i>Podemos</i> in Spain; <i>Syriza</i> in Greece • <i>Front Nationale</i> in France; Brexit in the United Kingdom <p>In Week Three of the Academic Programme we shall examine the theory and manifestations of populism with a focus on Europe and the United States of America. We shall explore the evolution of populism through different analytical frameworks and look at the distinctive development of populism on either side of the Atlantic. In seminars we shall examine examples of European populist parties and movements from the left and right of the political spectrum, including <i>Podemos</i> in Spain, <i>Syriza</i> in Greece, the <i>Front Nationale</i> in France, and Brexit in the United Kingdom. In Week Three you will develop an understanding of populist political movements around the world, and develop country-specific knowledge of select populist parties or movements.</p>
Key Texts:	<p>Chen, W., Mrkaic, M., and Nabar, M., “The Global Economic Recovery 10 Years after the 2008 Financial Crash”, in International Monetary Fund Report, <i>World Economic Outlook: Challenges to Steady Growth</i>, pp. 71-100, 2018.</p> <p>McGrew, A., “Globalization and Global Politics”, in Baylis, J., Owens, P., and Smith, S., <i>The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations</i> (8th Ed), pp. 19-35.</p>

	Ferguson, Y.H., and Mansbach, R.W., "Identities in a Postinternational World", in <i>Remapping Global Politics: History's Revenge and Future Shock</i> , pp. 143-180, 2009.
Learning Outcomes:	<p>By the end of this course, you will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop knowledge and understanding of the economic processes and impacts of globalisation. • Develop understanding of populist political movements around the world, and develop country-specific knowledge of select populist parties or movements. • Be able to assess critically contemporary philosophical and political engagements with the concept of personal identity.
Admissions Requirements:	<p>LMH Summer Programmes are designed for students who want to gain and develop knowledge in their chosen subject area. LMH Summer Programmes are intensive courses of study aimed at undergraduates who have completed one, two, or three years of their degree, or entry level postgraduate students.</p> <p>We will consider each applicant's academic ability and expect successful applicants to have a minimum grade point average equivalent to 2:1 level on the British grading scale. For example, this would mean at least a 3.2 GPA on the 4.0 grading scale in the United States, and 80% in China.</p> <p>This course would suit students in Social Sciences and the Humanities, especially those with a background in Politics, Philosophy, Economics, Development Studies, Human Geography, or International Relations.</p> <p>To participate fully in the programme all students will need to have proficiency in English.</p> <p>English language requirements for students who are not native English speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOEFL iBT score of 98 • IELTS score of 7.0 (no less than 6.5 in each component) • Duolingo English Test score of 125 (no less than 115 in each section) • Cambridge English Scale score of 185 <p>If the language of instruction in your home institution is English you do not need to provide evidence of your English proficiency.</p>
Teaching Methods:	<p>Core syllabus material will be covered in lectures. Students attend four lectures each week and each lecture lasts 90 minutes. Seminars in smaller groups offer students space to discuss and debate, to dig deeper into difficult concepts, and to explore their own ideas. Student contribution to seminars is vital, and tutors will ensure everyone takes part in discussions. Seminars last 1 hour and students will take part in four seminars each week.</p> <p>Independent study is a crucial part of an LMH Summer Programme and of the Oxford teaching model. Tutors will recommend important reading to do between lectures and seminars that will enable students to come to class equipped to understand the information presented and prepared to take part in discussion and debate. Each week students will have an assignment of independent work to complete and submit in advance of the tutorial. There is an appropriate amount of space in the timetable to complete the necessary reading, preparation, and assignments. Students should expect to do around 40 hours of independent study each week.</p> <p>The final class each week is a tutorial, a very small class typically including only 2-4 students and central to the teaching methods used by the University of Oxford and on LMH Summer Programmes. Guided by their tutor, students will receive feedback on their assignments and be challenged to defend, justify, or even rethink their</p>

	work and ideas. These rigorous academic discussions help develop and facilitate learning in a way that cannot be done with lectures and seminars alone.
Assessment:	On a three-week LMH Summer Programme students produce one piece of assessed work every week, which is submitted to the tutor and then discussed in a tutorial. At the end of each week students will receive a percentage grade for their submitted work. Each week's work counts for a third of the final percentage grade, so the final grade is an average of the mark received for each piece of work. Students who stay for six or nine weeks will receive a separate grade for each 3-week course.
Academic Credit:	Lady Margaret Hall will provide a transcript of students' assessed work, and can send this directly to your home institution if required. LMH Summer Programmes are designed to be eligible for academic credit, and we will communicate with home institution to facilitate this as needed. As a guide, we recommend the award of 15 CATS / 7.5 ECTS / 4 US Credits for each 3-week course.