

## **POP88071 International Politics B**

**Lecturer: Dr Curran Flynn**

### **Description**

International Politics B is a graduate seminar that offers an overview of major theories and analytical approaches in the field of international relations. The course begins with understanding that International Relations is an evolving discipline that has both undergone drastic changes in its development, both in its substance and composition. The course will explore traditional theories such as realism, liberalism, institutionalism and constructivism while exploring the foundations of newer developments such as political psychology, and network theory. Students will examine constitutive elements of the political system in order to evaluate the importance and impact on various theoretical sub-sections of the mechanisms of international politics

### **Learning aims**

The seminar aims to create the fundamental base of theoretical perspectives or lens which can be used to analyze various phenomena in international relations. Understanding the use and importance of theories will allow students to construct models in which to analyze and explain interactions. The course also seeks to show that these theories are not all encompassing, but provide an overview in which to successfully explain and categorize information to understand and possibly predict further events.

### **Learning outcomes**

On successful completion of this module students will be able to:

- Understand how theory guides inquiry
- Explain the attributes and assumptions of major theories of International Relations
- Evaluate theories explanatory power to a particular situation
- Critically reflect upon the nature of theory in explaining the world

### **Assessment Details**

Presentation - 10%

Participation - 10%

Reaction Papers - 30%

Final Essay - 50%