

Foundation Scholarship Examinations 2024-25

**Examination Papers set by Trinity College Dublin's Political
Science Department**

Guidance for Students

Introduction

The Foundation Scholarship examinations provided by the Political Science department changed in 2020-21 due to the curriculum changes resulting from the Trinity Education Project (TEP). These changes resulted in political science offering five examinations, in place of the two examinations that were offered in 2016-17 through 2019-20. These differences have been retained this year, with the addition of one further paper, Introduction to Political Science Research, which is a new SF module offered by the department for the first time in 2024-25, meaning there are now a total of six examinations offered by the department.

The number and combination of papers that you should take depends on your programme plus the pathway that you are taking. There are mandatory papers for different programmes and pathways plus optional choices. The details can be found in the following table.

Paper description								
Paper 1: Political Science General Paper 1								
Paper 2: Political Science General Paper 2								
Paper 3: Political Science History of Political Thought Paper								
Paper 4: Political Science Comparative Politics Paper								
Paper 5: Political Science International Relations Paper								
Paper 6: Political Science Introduction to Political Science Research Paper								
Credit Profile in Political Science in Senior Fresh	No. of SF credits taken in Political Science by end of Semester 1	Number of papers taken in Political Science	Papers to be taken (M = mandatory, O = optional)					
			Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3	Paper 4	Paper 5	Paper 6
40 SF credits (20 by end Sem 1)	20	3	M		O	O	O	O
JF credits only	n/a	1		M				
40 SF credits (20 by end Sem 1)	20	2	M		O	O	O	O
20 SF credits (10 by end Sem 1)	10	2	M		O	O	O	O
20 SF credits (10 by end Sem 1)	10	1	M					

Please note that the Political Science Department **cannot** provide you with any guidance on what examinations you should take beyond the information provided in this table.

Each examination is timed at two hours fifteen minutes. Please note that no special tutorials will be provided by academic staff relating to any of these examinations. Sample questions for each examination can be found below.

Some “Frequently Asked Questions” are also answered on the Academic Registry’s website here: <https://www.tcd.ie/academicregistry/exams/scholarship/>.

We wish all students good luck with the Foundation Scholarship examinations.

POLITICAL SCIENCE 1

The examination “**Political Science 1**” requires students to write an essay on a topic related to one of the broad areas of political science covered in Senior Fresh (SF) modules—international relations, comparative politics, history of political thought or introduction to political science research—but addressing materials that are outside the Michaelmas Term SF module syllabi. The topics can be found below, along with an additional reading list covering each topic. Students will therefore focus on one of these topics in advance and write one essay on that topic in a two-and-a-quarter-hour examination. The exam will contain only one essay question for each of the four topics for which reading lists have been provided. Students may, at their discretion, prepare more than one topic in advance, but they will answer only one essay question in the examination. To repeat: students must answer one question for this examination—the international relations question, the comparative politics question, the history of political thought question, or the introduction to political science research question—and not more than one.

When writing essays for “Political Science 1”, students are expected to know relevant materials and concepts from the related SF modules, but they must demonstrate engagement with, and mastery of, the materials contained on these additional reading lists. Similarly, students may choose to do additional reading, beyond the materials contained in the provided reading lists, on these political science topics, but, again, students are expected primarily and above all to demonstrate engagement with and mastery of the materials contained on these reading lists. There is no requirement to do any additional outside readings and indeed these reading lists are already extensive and demanding. Indeed, given that these reading lists are extensive, students may wish to select and prioritize their readings from among the readings set out. If a student wishes to refer to additional readings outside these reading lists (or materials contained on module syllabuses), the student is recommended to provide a reference, indicating author, title, and year of publication if possible.

Reading lists for these topics this year are contained in this document, as well as sample questions. Students, however, are advised to prepare broadly for a variety of possible questions addressing this material.

Readings for these topics will be made available online—through the library, through the Blackboard pages of the relevant modules, or through other means.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Prof William Phelan

Topic: **The Politics of International Human Rights Agreements**

The question will deal with various contributions to political science explanations of the development, negotiation, and effectiveness of international human rights agreements, with a particular focus on the readings below. It will not deal with strictly legal-doctrinal analysis of international human rights law of the sort sometimes produced by professional lawyers.

Readings:

Duranti, M. (2017). *The Conservative Human Rights Revolution: European Identity, Transnational Politics, and the Origins of the European Convention*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Hafner-Burton, E. and Tsutsui, K. (2007). "Justice Lost! The Failure of International Human Rights Law to Matter Where Needed Most." *Journal of Peace Research* 44 (4): 407-425.

Hafner-Burton, E. (2012). "International Regimes for Human Rights." *Annual Review of Political Science* 15: 265-286.

Hafner-Burton, E. (2005). "Trading Human Rights: How Preferential Trade Agreements Influence Government Repression." *International Organization* 59 (3): 593-629.

Inboden, R. S., *China and the international human rights regime, 1982-2017* (Cambridge, 2021)

Kinzelbach, K. (2014). *The EU's Human Rights Dialogue with China: Quiet Diplomacy and Its Limits*. London: Routledge.

Kinzelbach, K. (2012). "Will China's Rise Lead to a New Normative Order? An Analysis of China's Statements on Human Rights at the United Nations 2000-2010" *Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights* 30 (3): 299-322.

Moravcsik, A. (2001). "Why Is U.S. Human Rights Policy So Unilateralist?" In Shepard Forman and Patrick Stewart, eds., *The Cost of Acting Alone: Multilateralism and US Foreign Policy*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Moravcsik, A. (2000). "The Origins of Human Rights Regimes: Democratic Delegation in Postwar Europe." *International Organization* 54 (2): 217-252.

Phelan, W. (2016). "Diagonal Enforcement in International Trade Politics." EUI Working Paper SPS 2016/1. Fiesole: EUI.

Samantha Power, "Bystanders to Genocide", *The Atlantic Monthly*, Sept 2001

URL theatlantic.com/issues/2001/09/power.htm or via TCD electronic resources.

Simmons, B. (2009). *Mobilizing for Human Rights*. Cambridge, Cambridge UP.

Spilker, G. and Böhmelt, T. (2013). "The Impact of Preferential Trade Agreements on Governmental Repression Revisited." *Review of International Organizations* 8 (3): 343-361.

Von Stein, J. (2015). "Making Promises, Keeping Promises: Democracy, Ratification and Compliance in International Human Rights Law." *British Journal of Political Science* 46 (3): 655-679.

Vreeland, J. R. (2008). "Political Institutions and Human Rights: Why Dictatorships Enter into the United Nations Convention Against Torture." *International Organization* 62 (1): 65-101.

Sample question:

Why do states comply with international human rights agreements?

HISTORY OF POLITICAL THOUGHT

Dr Gavin Morrison

Topic: **The Political Philosophy of The Stoics**

Stoicism as a philosophy was founded in 3rd Century BC Athens by Zeno of Citium. It continues to have significant impact on our political thought today. This year's scholarship general question for *History of Political Thought* will focus on the political theory of the Stoics – specifically their thought regarding cosmopolitanism, feminism, and egalitarianism.

Readings:

Annas, Julia, 'My Station and its Duties: Ideals and the Social Embeddedness of Virtue' in *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society*, Vol. 102 (2002), pp. 109-123.

Annas, Julia, 'Prudence and Morality in Ancient and Modern Ethics' in *Ethics*, Vol. 105, No. 2, (1995), pp. 241-257.

Asmis, Elizabeth, 'The Stoics on Women' in *Feminism and Ancient Philosophy* ed. by Julie K. Ward, (New York: 1996).

Asmis, Elizabeth, 'Cicero on Natural Law and the Laws of the State' in *Classical Antiquity*, Vol. 27, No. 1 (2008), pp. 1-33.

Dallmayr, Fred, 'Cosmopolitanism: Moral and Political' in *Political Theory*, Vol. 31, No. 3, (2003), pp. 421-442.

Engel, David M., 'Womens' Role in the Home and the State: Stoic Theory Reconsidered' in *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology*, Vol. 101, (2003), pp. 267-288.

Epictetus, 'Encheiridion' in *Classics of Moral and Political Philosophy*, ed. by Michael L. Morgan, (Indianapolis: 2005), pp. 427-439.

Lutz, Cora E., 'Musonius Rufus "The Roman Socrates"' in *Yale Classical Studies*, Vol. 10, (New Haven: 1947).

Manning, C. E., 'Seneca and the Stoics on the Equality of the Sexes' in *Mnemosyne*, Fourth Series, Vol. 26, (1973), pp. 170-177.

Meyer, Michael J., 'Stoics, Rights, and Autonomy' in *American Philosophical Quarterly*, Vol. 24, No. 3, (1987), pp. 267-271.

Nussbaum, Martha C., 'Kant and Stoic Cosmopolitanism' in *The Journal of Political Philosophy*, Vo. 5, No. 1, (1997), pp. 1-25.

Nussbaum, Martha, 'The Incomplete Feminism of Musonius Rufus, Platonist, Stoic, and Roman' in *The Sleep of Reason: Erotic Experience and Sexual Ethics in Ancient Greece and Rome*, ed. by Martha Nussbaum and Julia Shivola, (Chicago: 2002).

Nussbaum, Martha, 'Therapeutic Arguments and Structures of Desire' in *Feminism and Ancient Philosophy* ed. by Julie K. Ward, (New York: 1996).

Pangle, Thomas L., 'Socratic Cosmopolitanism: Cicero's Critique and Transformation of the Stoic Ideal' in *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 31, No. 2, (1998), pp. 235-262.

Ryan, Alan, *On Politics: A History of Political Thought from Herodotus to the Present*, (London: 2012), Book One, Ch. 4 – Roman Insights: Polybius and Cicero.

Schofield, Malcolm, "Epicurean and Stoic Political Thought", in *The Cambridge History of Greek and Roman Political Thought*, (Cambridge: 2000).

Stanton, G.R. 'The Cosmopolitan ideas of Epictetus and Marcus Aurelius' in *Phronesis*, Volume 13, Issue 1, (1968) pp. 183 – 195.

Wolin, S. S., *Politics and Vision: Continuity and Innovation in Western Political Thought*, (Princeton: 2004), Ch. 3: The Age of Empire: Space and Community.

Also of use is the entry on the Stoics in the Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy available here: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/stoicism/#Bib>

Sample Question:

Was Stoicism an egalitarian political theory or 'vapid moralism'?

COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Dr Matthias Dilling

Topic: **Democratization**

This question will deal with the causes of democracy. During the semester, we investigated various aspects of the politics within democracies, but why some countries have democratized while others have not has been an additional key debate in comparative politics. Comparativists commonly use the term ‘democratization’ to refer to the process of transition from a non-democratic to a democratic regime type. This includes, but is not limited to, the transition from fascism to democracy in West Germany and Italy after World War II, the transition from communism to democracy in the former Soviet bloc in the early 1990s, and the transition from other forms of authoritarianism in many Latin American countries in the 1980s. More recent studies have added additional nuance to this scholarship by exploring under what conditions democratization may stall, resulting in regimes that hold somewhat competitive elections but fall short of becoming democracies.

Readings:

Acemoglu D. and Robinson, A. (2006) *Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).

Ahmed, A. (2018) ‘Multi-methodology research and democratization studies: intellectual bridges among islands of specialization.’ *Democratization*, 26(1), 97–139.

Anderson, L. (2011) ‘Demystifying the Arab Spring: Parsing the Differences Between Egypt, Tunisia, and Libya’, *Foreign Affairs*, 90(3), 2-7.

Ansell, B. and Samuels, D. (2014) *Inequality and Democratization. An Elite-Competition Approach* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).

Boix, C. and Stokes, S.C. (2003) ‘Endogenous Democratization.’ *World Politics*, 55(4), 517-549.

Bunce, V. and Wolchik, S. (2011) *Defeating Authoritarian Leaders in Postcommunist Countries* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).

Capoccia, G. and Ziblatt, D. (2010) ‘The Historical Turn in Democratization Studies: A New Research Agenda for Europe and Beyond.’ *Comparative Political Studies*, 43(8/9), 931-968.

Fish, S. (2002) ‘Islam and Authoritarianism.’ *World Politics*, 55(1), 4-37.

Geddes, B., (2007) 'What Causes Democratization?' Boix, C. and Stokes, S.C. eds. *The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Politics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press) Ch. 14.

Hellmeier, S. and Bernhard, M. (2023). 'Regime Transformation From Below: Mobilization for Democracy and Autocracy From 1900 to 2021.' *Comparative Political Studies*, 56(12), 1858-1890.

Huntington, S.P. (1993) *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press).

Hyde, S. and Marinov, N. (2014) 'Information and Self-Enforcing Democracy. The Role of International Election Observation.' *International Organization*, 68(2), 329-359.

Levitsky, S. and Way, L. (2010) *Competitive Authoritarianism. Hybrid Regimes After the Cold War* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).

Lindberg, S.I. (2009) 'Democratization by Elections. A Mixed Record.' *Journal of Democracy* 20(3), 86-92.

Lipset, S.M. (1959) *Political Man: The Social Bases of Politics* (London: Heinemann), esp. Ch. 2.

Lust, E. (2011) 'Missing the Third Wave: Islam, Institutions, and Democracy in the Middle East.' *Studies in Comparative International Development*, 46, 163–190.

Muller, E.N. and Seligson, M.A. (1994) 'Civic Culture and Democracy: The Question of Causal Relationships.' *American Political Science Review*, 88(3), 635-652.

Mares, I. (2015) *From Open Secrets to Secret Voting. Democratic Electoral Reforms and Voter Autonomy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).

Przeworski, A. et al. (2000) *Democracy and Development: Political Institutions and well-being in the World. 1950-1990* (Cambridge: CUP) Esp. Ch 2.

Riedl, R. et al. (2020) 'Authoritarian-Led Democratization.' *Annual Review of Political Science* 23: 315-332.

Robinson, J.A. (2006) 'Economic Development and Democracy.' *Annual Review of Political Science*, 9, 503-527.

Slater, D. (2009) 'Revolutions, Crackdowns, and Quiescence: Communal Elites and Democratic Mobilization in Southeast Asia.' *American Journal of Sociology*, 115(1), 203-254.

Sample Question:

Are favourable socio-economic preconditions necessary for democratization?

INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Dr Lisa Keenan

Topic: **Opinion Polling**

This question will deal with the challenges associated with conducting opinion polling and interpreting the results. Polling of voting intention is carried out year-round and serves as an important metric of government approval. But polls are carried out with much greater frequency in the run-up to elections. Pollsters' methodologies very often differ from one another and can produce very different results. Election results allow us to evaluate the extent to which the polls got it right, and to try to understand where they went wrong.

Readings:

Asher, H. (2016). *Polling and the public: What every citizen should know*. Cq Press. [Ch6,7,8] [copies available in the TCD library, and available as an e-book]

Biemer, P. P. (2010). Total survey error: Design, implementation, and evaluation. *Public opinion Quarterly*, 74(5), 817-848.

British Polling Council. (2020, October 9). *A Quick Guide for Journalists to the Use and Reporting of Opinion Polls* [Video]. YouTube.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BfD09AbqSTs&ab_channel=BritishPollingCouncil

British Polling Council. (2024, July 8). *The Performance of the Polls in the 2024 General Election*. <https://www.britishpollingcouncil.org/the-performance-of-the-polls-in-the-2024-general-election/>

Dahlgaard, J. O., Hansen, J. H., Hansen, K. M., & Larsen, M. V. (2016). How are voters influenced by opinion polls? The effect of polls on voting behavior and party sympathy. *World Political Science*, 12(2), 283-300.

Daikeler, J., Bošnjak, M., & Lozar Manfreda, K. (2020). Web versus other survey modes: an updated and extended meta-analysis comparing response rates. *Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology*, 8(3), 513-539.

Daoust, J. F., Durand, C., & Blais, A. (2020). Are pre-election polls more helpful than harmful? Evidence from the Canadian case. *Canadian Public Policy*, 46(1), 175-186.

Daoust, J. F., & Mongrain, P. (2023). The Regulation of Pre-election Polls: A Citizen's Perspective. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, 35(3).

Durand, C. (2016). Surveys and society. In Wolf, C., Joye, D., Smith, T. W., & Fu, Y. C. (Eds.). (2016). *The SAGE handbook of survey methodology* (pp.57-66). SAGE Publications Ltd, <https://methods.sagepub.com/book/the-sage-handbook-of-survey-methodology/i760.xml>

Electoral Calculus. (2024, February 10). *What is "MRP" Polling?* https://www.electoralcalculus.co.uk/blogs/ec_mrpinfo_20240604.html

English, P. (2024, July 5). *How YouGov's seat and vote projections fared at the 2024 UK general election.* YouGov. <https://yougov.co.uk/politics/articles/49968-how-yougovs-seat-and-vote-projections-fared-at-the-2024-uk-general-election>

Frankovic, K. (2016). Observations on the historical development of polling. In Wolf, C., Joye, D., Smith, T. W., & Fu, Y. C. (Eds.). (2016). *The SAGE handbook of survey methodology* (pp. 87-102). SAGE Publications Ltd. <https://methods.sagepub.com/book/the-sage-handbook-of-survey-methodology/i914.xml>

Gelman, A., & King, G. (1993). Why are American presidential election campaign polls so variable when votes are so predictable?. *British Journal of Political Science*, 23(4), 409-451.

Kennedy, C., Popky, D. & Keeter, S. (2023, April 19). *How Public Polling Has Changed in the 21st Century.* Pew Research Centre. <https://www.pewresearch.org/methods/2023/04/19/how-public-polling-has-changed-in-the-21st-century/>

Kuha, J. (2022, May 12). *The politics of polling: why are polls important during elections?* LSE. <https://www.lse.ac.uk/research/research-for-the-world/impact/the-politics-of-polling-why-are-polls-important-during-elections>

Liaison Committee (2020, October 28). *Political Polling Follow-up.* [Video] <https://parliamentlive.tv/Event/Index/50055056-ade9-49d0-ad0d-be782f271a85> [from 10:50:30 - Witness(es): Professor Sir John Curtice, President, British Polling Council; Jane Frost, CEO, Market Research Society].

McAllister, I., & Studlar, D. T. (1991). Bandwagon, underdog, or projection? Opinion polls and electoral choice in Britain, 1979-1987. *The Journal of Politics*, 53(3), 720-741.

Mercer, A. (2016, September 8). *5 key things to know about the margin of error in election polls.* Pew Research Centre. <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2016/09/08/understanding-the-margin-of-error-in-election-polls/>

Mercer, A. Lau, A. & Kennedy, C. (2016, January 26). *For Weighting Online Opt-In Samples, What Matters Most?: 1. How different weighting methods work*. Pew Research Centre. <https://www.pewresearch.org/methods/2018/01/26/for-weighting-online-opt-in-samples-what-matters-most/>

Prosser, C., & Mellon, J. (2018). The twilight of the polls? A review of trends in polling accuracy and the causes of polling misses. *Government and Opposition*, 53(4), 757-790.

Smith, C. (2022, May 13). *Political opinion polls: Should there be greater oversight?* House of Lords Library. <https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/political-opinion-polls-should-there-be-greater-oversight/>

Smith, T. W. (2004). Freedom to conduct public opinion polls around the world. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, 16(2).

Sturgis, P. Baker, N. Callegaro, M. Fisher, S. Green, J. Jennings, W. Kuha, J. Lauderdale, B. & Smith, P. (2016) *Report of the Inquiry into the 2015 British general election opinion polls*. London: Market Research Society and British Polling Council.

Tourangeau, R. (2020). How errors cumulate: Two examples. *Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology*, 8(3), 413-432.

Webb, L. (2024, May 2). General election polling in the UK. *UK Parliament*. <https://post.parliament.uk/general-election-polling-in-the-uk/>

Weisberg, H. F. (2005). *The total survey error approach: A guide to the new science of survey research*. University of Chicago Press. (Ch2, 8, 9, 10) [copies available in the TCD library]

West, B. T., & Blom, A. G. (2017). Explaining interviewer effects: A research synthesis. *Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology*, 5(2), 175-211.

Wilks-Heeg, S. (2024, June 12). *This is the election of MRP polls – but what are they and why are they showing such different results?* The Conversation. <https://theconversation.com/this-is-the-election-of-mrp-polls-but-what-are-they-and-why-are-they-showing-such-different-results-231528>

YouGov (2024, May 9). *FAQs about YouGov's 2024 general election MRP model*. <https://yougov.co.uk/politics/articles/49537-faqs-about-yougovs-2024-general-election-mrp-model>

Sample questions:

1. Can we trust opinion polls?
2. Should opinion polling during election campaigns be banned?
3. What constitutes a quality opinion poll?

POLITICAL SCIENCE 2

The examination “**Political Science 2**” can only be taken by students not enrolled in any SF political science module. It requires students to answer two general questions about the nature of politics. There will be a total of five questions on the exam. None of the questions will require knowledge of any SF political science module.

A reading list for this examination, as well as sample questions, can be found below. Students, however, are advised to prepare broadly for a variety of possible questions addressing this material.

Students must answer two questions out of the five offered. All questions deal with the general nature of politics, with a particular focus on the question of how best to approach the study of politics.

Readings:

The following readings make good introductions to the topic:

Almond, G.A. (1988). “Separate Tables: Schools and Sects in Political Science.” *PS: Political Science and Politics* 21 (4): 828–42.

Keohane, R.O. (2009). “Political Science as a Vocation.” *PS: Political Science & Politics* 42 (2): 359-63.

Mansbridge, J. (2014). “What Is Political Science for?” *Perspectives on Politics* 12 (1): 8-17.

Putnam, R.D. (2003). “The Public Role of Political Science.” *Perspectives on Politics* 1 (2): 249-55.

Smith, R.M. (2002). “Putting the Substance Back in Political Science.” *Chronicle of Higher Education* 48:30 (April 5): B10-B11.

After reading the introductory readings, students should proceed to the following:

Symposium. (2000). “The Public Value of Political Science Research.” *PS: Political Science & Politics* 33 (1).

Symposium. (2002). “Shaking Things Up? Thoughts about the Future of Political Science.” *P.S.: Political Science and Politics* 35 (2).

Almond, G. (1966). “Political Theory and Political Science.” *American Political Science Review* 60 (4): 869-79.

Bond, J.R. (2007). “The Scientification of the Study of Politics: Some Observations on the Behavioral Evolution in Political Science.” *Journal of Politics* 69 (4): 897-907.

Grant, R.W. (2002). "Political Theory, Political Science, and Politics." *Political Theory* 30 (4): 577–95.

Hanley, R.P. (2004). "Political Science and Political Understanding: Isaiah Berlin on the Nature of Political Inquiry." *American Political Science Review* 98 (2): 327-39.

Laitin, D.D. (2002). "Comparative Politics: The State of the Subdiscipline." in *Political Science: The State of the Discipline*, eds. Ira Katznelson and Helen Milner (New York: Norton). https://web.stanford.edu/group/laitin_research/cgi-bin/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Cpapsa.pdf.

Shapiro, I. (2002). "Problems, Methods, and Theories in the Study of Politics, Or What's Wrong with Political Science and What to Do About It." *Political Theory* 30 (4): 596–619.

Truman, D.B. (1965). "Disillusion and Regeneration: The Quest for a Discipline." *American Political Science Review* 59 (4): 865–73.

Sample questions:

1. Harold Lasswell defined politics as "Who gets what, when, and how." Is this an adequate definition of politics?
2. Is political science really a science?

POLITICAL SCIENCE 3

The examination “**Political Science 3**” can only be taken by students enrolled in POU22011 (History of Political Thought A). It requires students to answer two questions relating to this module. There will be a total of five questions on the exam. There are no additional readings associated with this examination. A mastery of the materials taught in those lectures and contained on those syllabi (including of course any optional or additional reading suggestions) up to the end of the Michaelmas Term is sufficient preparation.

Students must answer two questions out of the **five** offered. All questions deal with material covered in POU22011 (History of Political Thought A).

Sample questions:

1. Ancient Athens was the birthplace of politics. To what extent do you agree with this statement?
2. Why did Plato oppose democracy in the Republic?

POLITICAL SCIENCE 4

The examination “**Political Science 4**” can only be taken by students enrolled in POU22031 (Comparative Politics A). It requires students to answer two questions relating to this module. There will be a total of five questions on the exam. There are no additional readings associated with this examination. A mastery of the materials taught in those lectures and contained on those syllabi (including of course any optional or additional reading suggestions) up to the end of the Michaelmas Term is sufficient preparation.

Students must answer two questions out of the **five** offered. All questions deal with material covered in POU22031 (Comparative Politics A).

Sample questions:

1. “Parliamentary systems necessarily produce weak legislatures, while presidential systems tend to result in strong ones.” Discuss.
2. Does federalism reduce or increase the risk of conflict in a country?

POLITICAL SCIENCE 5

The examination “**Political Science 5**” can only be taken by students enrolled in POU22021 (International Relations A). It requires students to answer two questions relating to this module. There will be a total of five questions on the exam. There are no additional readings associated with this examination. A mastery of the materials taught in those lectures and contained on those syllabi (including of course any optional or additional reading suggestions) up to the end of the Michaelmas Term is sufficient preparation.

Students must answer two questions out of the **five** offered. All questions deal with material covered in POU22021 (International Relations A).

Sample questions:

1. Is Keohane’s explanation of international cooperation the same as Axelrod’s explanation of cooperation between egoists? Answer drawing on readings and IR theory.
2. Under what circumstances do domestic lobby groups matter in international politics? Answer drawing on readings and IR theory.

POLITICAL SCIENCE 6

The examination “**Political Science 6**” can only be taken by students enrolled in POU22040 (Introduction to Political Science Research). It requires students to answer two questions relating to this module. There will be a total of five questions on the exam. There are no additional readings associated with this examination. A mastery of the materials taught in those lectures and contained on those syllabi (including of course any optional or additional reading suggestions) up to the end of the Michaelmas Term is sufficient preparation.

Students must answer two questions out of the **five** offered. All questions deal with material covered in POU22040 (Introduction to Political Science Research).

Sample questions:

1. What does it mean to be an ethical researcher in Political Science?
2. How should a piece of research in Political Science be evaluated?
3. “Political scientists cannot produce research that has both internal and ecological validity.” Evaluate this statement.