

Study politics in the UK

Where can I study politics in the UK?

You can study political science at a wide range of universities across the UK, including three of the world's best – University of Oxford (fourth), London School of Economics and Political Science (fifth) and University of Cambridge (sixth). With a long history of political innovation, it's the best possible start for anyone wanting a truly world-class political education.

How long does it take to graduate?

The modular structure of UK degrees generally makes them a lot more compact than many other countries, so you can get out and start using your skills in the world a lot more quickly. Typically, an undergraduate political science degree (usually BA or BSc) will take three years, while postgraduate degrees are usually one or two.

What do the courses cover?

Like most degrees in the UK, a political science course will give you a solid grounding in the subject during your first year before allowing you to specialise in the areas that interest you most. As well as a good understanding of the workings of government, you'll learn the core theories and concepts that underpin politics, alongside international relations, social policy and the history of politics. One in four world leaders have studied in the UK, and our historic institutions are the ideal place to gain a global perspective on the past, present and future of the subject.

Why is the UK a good choice for politics?

The UK is home to the world's first elected parliament, and our political history has helped to inform approaches to democracy and government around the globe. It's also helped to enshrine an exceptional culture of political teaching right across the country.

No matter what has been happening in the UK politically, the world has always paid close attention and it's ensured that UK politics graduates are always in high demand with employers.

Are there any scholarships for politics?

International students who wish to study politics in the UK can apply for a wide range of private and university bursaries, with many open to applicants from specific countries such as the Programme for African Leadership at the London School of Economics and Political Science and the SOAS Charles Wallace India Fellowships.

You may also want to consider national awards such as the prestigious Chevening Scholarships and Commonwealth Scholarships. Find out more about scholarships on the Study UK website study-uk.britishcouncil.org/

What are my work options after I graduate?

UK graduates are always in high demand, and because you'll leave with such a high standard of knowledge, combined with the analytical mindset required to operate in any political setting, the UK is the best possible start to your career.

Career paths can range from roles in government to consultancy, journalism and charities. But wherever you go, you'll have the attitude and experience you need to succeed.

International students can apply to stay and work in the UK for two years after graduating through the Graduate Route.

Find out more about studying politics in the UK and search for a course, visit Study UK study-uk.britishcouncil.org/