



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME**

**POLS 378: Special Topic: The Worst of Times: Explaining How Governments Respond to Economic Crises**

**20 POINTS**

**TRIMESTER 1 2016**

**Key dates**

**Trimester dates:** 29 February to 29 June 2016

**Teaching dates:** 29 February to 5 June 2016

**Easter break:** 24–30 March 2016

**Mid-trimester break:** 25 April to 1 May 2016

**Last assessment item due:** 10 June 2016

**Study period:** 6–9 June 2016

**Examination/Assessment Period:** 10–29 June 2016

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds).

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)).

**Class times and locations**

Lectures: Wednesdays 13:10 – 15:00 and Fridays 13:10 – 14:00

Venue: Wednesdays: Hugh MacKenzie LT205; Fridays: Hugh Mackenzie LT104

**Names and contact details**

Course Coordinator: Dr. Louise K. Davidson-Schmich

Room No: Murphy 512

Phone: (04) 463-9494

Email: [louise.davidson-schmich@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:louise.davidson-schmich@vuw.ac.nz)

Office hours: Wednesdays 12:00 – 13:00

## Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture will be posted on the course Blackboard site.

Students are welcome to contact Dr Davidson-Schmich via e-mail ([louise.davidson-schmich@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:louise.davidson-schmich@vuw.ac.nz)) at any time or during office hours.

## Prescription

This course examines four key economic turning points: industrialisation, the great depression and world wars, the 1970s stagflation, and the current global era. We will compare relationships between government and the economy in Western Europe and the USA, and investigate explanations of why these countries reacted differently to identical changes in the global economy.

## Course content

A lecture by lecture breakdown is available from Dr. Davidson-Schmich or via Blackboard.

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. describe what types of political economic policies governments can pursue.
2. explain variance in economic policy choices across the post-industrial democracies over time.
3. compare the relationships between governments and the economy.
4. analyse different reactions to changes in global economy.

## Teaching format

The course includes two interactive lectures each week. Students are expected to do the required reading, guided by the thought questions on the lecture-by-lecture outline **before** the lecture. This will allow students to participate in class discussions and ask any questions about the material they might have.

## Workload

In accordance with University Guidelines, course design assumes students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the trimester. The 200 hour total includes weekly attendance at lectures, completion of weekly readings, and preparation and writing for essays and the test.

To consider when planning your time:

- Tutorial preparation requires careful reading of set texts for meaning and argument, as well as note-taking and preparation of responses to discussion questions.
- Essays require time for note-taking, planning, drafting and editing the draft before writing the final version. Begin assignments early.
- Revision and preparation should reflect the fact that the test is worth 10% of your course mark.

## Assessment

Assessment	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 1,500-word essay	45%	1, 2, 3, 4	6 May at noon
2 1,500-word essay	45%	2, 3, 4	10 June at noon
3 In-class test (1 hour)	10%	4	3 June

## Submission and return of work

**All assignments are due before noon on the due date.**

**Submission:** All work submitted for assessment must be dropped off in HARD COPY at the School Office (MY518) in the slots provided with an essay cover sheet. You must ADD the name of your tutor and the course code. We reserve the right to ask for an electronic copy of any assessable work for checking in Turnitin.com (see [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin))

Graded essays will be returned to you in tutorials in the first instance, and then returned to the School Office, MY 518, where they can be collected between the hours of 2.00-3.00 pm, Monday to Friday. I will notify students via Blackboard when graded essays are available (generally between 2-3 weeks after the date submitted).

## Extensions and penalties

### Extensions

The development of work discipline and time management skills are an important part of the education process and it is expected that each student takes responsibility for allocating sufficient time for their studies.

The circumstances under which an extension will be considered are outlined in section 3.2.1 of the Assessment Handbook.

(See: [www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf)). To request an extension the student must make an appointment as soon as practically possible with the course coordinator to explain the lateness (preferably before the assignment is due to be submitted).

### Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments – **a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days**. Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary. Extensions on deadlines for written work will only be granted under exceptional circumstances.

## Set texts

All reading materials for the course will be accessible online via Victoria University Library E-Reserves; students must be able to access Blackboard and the library. The lecture-by-lecture outline details the required texts.

## Recommended reading

If you are interested in reading additional literature related to the course please contact the course coordinator to discuss which sources would be of particular interest.

## Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course.

## Student feedback

This is the first time the course will be taught at Victoria so there is no previous feedback from New Zealand students available.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

## Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)