

POLITICAL AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Professor and Head of Department

P-H Bischoff, BA(Wits), MA(Lancaster),
PhD(Manchester)

Professor

L Vincent, BA(Hons)(Rhodes), M.Phil(Oxon)
DPhil(Oxon)

Associate Professor

L Praeg, BA, MA, PhD(Stell), MEd(Rhodes)

Senior Lecturers

AP Fluxman, MA(Wits), MA, PhD(Cornell)
S Matthews, BA, MA(Pretoria), PhD(Birmingham)
GA Dzinesa, BA(Zimbabwe), MA(Zimbabwe),
PhD(Wits)

R Pithouse, BA(Natal), MA(UKZN), PhD(Rhodes)
(on secondment to UHURU for 2016 and 2017)

Lecturers

S Magadla, BA(Hons)(Rhodes), MA(Ohio)

Visiting Lecturer

F Diaz, BA(Columbia) MA(Columbia)

Nelson Mandela Visiting Professor

MR Soares De Lima, BA (Catholic University of
Rio de Janeiro), MA (Vanderbilt), PhD (Vanderbilt).

Visiting Professor

A Acharya, BA(Utkal), MA(Jawaharlal Nehru)
PhD(Murdoch)

Andrew Mellon Postdoctoral Scholar

E Lock, MA(Catholic University of Central Africa),
PhD(Charles-de-Gaulle)

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

Political and International Studies is a three-year major subject which may be studied for degree curricula in the Faculties of Humanities, Commerce and Science. Courses offered in the Department are studied from a global, regional and local perspective with particular attention paid to the South African and African contexts.

Political and International Studies 1

The first-year course introduces students to the basic components of the discipline of Political and International Studies and usually consists of courses in Political Philosophy, Comparative Political Studies and International Relations.

Political and International Studies 2

The second-year course usually consists of courses in Political and Social Theory, Political Sociology,

Political Philosophy and International Relations.

Political and International Studies 3

The third-year course usually consists of a selection of the following: Social and Political Theory, South African Politics and Government, African Politics and Political Thought in Africa, International Relations and International Political Economy.

Admission Prerequisites

Students must pass Political and International Studies 1 in order to proceed to Political and International Studies 2.

Students must pass Political and International Studies 2 in order to proceed to Political and International Studies 3.

A pass is recorded when 50% or more is obtained on aggregating the marks for the required courses taken in any given year.

Students who fail on aggregation and who wish to continue with Political and International Studies will be required to repeat the whole of the failed year rather than repeat only individually failed courses.

Examinations

In each year, courses taken in the first semester (terms one and two) are written off in the June examination and courses taken in the second semester (terms three and four) are written off in the November examination.

Examinations usually count for 50% of the final year mark while course work (such as tests and essays) counts for 50% of the mark.

POSTGRADUATE DEGREES

Postgraduate Diploma in International Studies (PDIS)(African Diplomacy and Peacekeeping)

Students reading for the Diploma in International Relations are required to take five courses. These usually include courses in International Relations, Diplomacy, Peace and Conflict, Political Economy, Changing African IR, Africa and the New Wars, Development Studies, and International Law.

To be awarded a Diploma in International Studies students must pass at least four out of the five courses taken and achieve an overall aggregated pass of at least 50%.

Entrance Requirements

Students may register for the PDIS having obtained an undergraduate degree in any field with a good pass.

Students who obtain an overall aggregated mark of at least 70% for the Diploma may be considered for admission into the Master’s degree in Political and International Studies.

Honours

The Honours degree consists of either five courses or four courses and a research essay of 10 000 words. The latter option may be exercised only on recommendation of the Head of Department.

To be awarded an Honours degree, students must pass at least four out of the five courses taken and achieve an overall aggregated mark of at least 50%.

Entrance Requirements

To be accepted into an Honours degree in the Department, students normally require a good second class pass in a bachelor’s degree majoring in Political Studies and International Studies or, with the approval of the Head of Department, a good second class pass degree in a cognate discipline such as History, Sociology, Philosophy or Economics.

Master’s

Students may register for either a combined coursework and thesis Master’s degree or a Master’s degree by thesis only, as recommended by the Head of Department.

The Master’s by coursework and thesis consists of three approved postgraduate courses and a thesis of 15 000 to 25 000 words. The required thesis length for the Master’s by thesis only is 30 000 to 50 000 words.

Master’s students are required to have a thesis proposal passed by the Humanities Higher Degrees Committee by the 30th of November in the year in which the degree is begun. Those who do not succeed in doing so may not be permitted to continue with

the Master’s degree. Thesis proposals must conform to the requirements set out in the Rhodes University Higher Degrees Guide and must be submitted to the Higher Degrees Committee with the approval of the supervisor and Head of Department.

To be awarded the degree, coursework Master’s students need to pass all three courses as well as the thesis. They may not repeat courses already passed at Honours level.

Entrance Requirements

To be accepted into a Master’s degree in the Department students would normally require an Honours degree with at least a good second class pass in Political and International Studies or, with the approval of the Head of Department, in a cognate discipline such as History, Sociology, Philosophy or Economics.

Honours and Masters Courses

Subject to demand and the availability of staff, a range of Honours and Master’s courses are offered in any given year. These might include, for instance, Qualitative Research Methods, Higher Education Institutional Culture, Ubuntu, Thinking Africa, Poverty and Privilege, Frantz Fanon, Corporeal Politics, Environmental Politics, International Political Economy, Contemporary Southern African Politics, IR Towards Global Governance, Understanding Domination, Fanon at 90, The Politics of Collective Action, African Political Philosophy, Politics of the Body, The Politics of Social Policy, Foreign Policy, US Foreign Policy, Middle Eastern Politics, Africa and the New Wars, Popular Politics in the Global South, Changing African IR, Comparative Conflict Theory and such additional courses as may become available from time to time depending on staff availability.

Not all of these courses are offered in any given year. Prospective students should inquire as to which courses are on offer in the year that they will be registered.

Interdisciplinary Honours Degrees

[See Interdepartmental Studies]

Approved courses in the Department of Political and International Relations may be taken in the Interdisciplinary Honours Programmes in Industrial

Relations, Development Studies, Gender Studies and South African Cultural Studies.

Grading

The final mark for courses taken in the Diploma, Honours and Master's by Coursework and Thesis degrees consists of a combination of class marks and examination marks. At the discretion of the lecturer concerned, class work may count between 30% and 50% of the final mark for a course and the examination between 70% and 50% of the final mark.

For the Master's by Coursework and Thesis the thesis counts 50% of the final mark while the courses taken make up the remaining 50%.

Doctoral Studies (PhD)

The PhD consists of a dissertation which must conform to the requirements set out in the Rhodes

University Higher Degrees Guide. Prospective students must usually be in possession of a good Master's degree in Political and International Studies, or, with the permission of the Head of Department, an approved cognate discipline. Admission will depend also on the availability of suitable supervision expertise in the chosen field of study of any prospective student.

Doctoral students are required to have a thesis proposal passed by the Humanities Higher Degrees Committee by the 30th of November of the year in which the degree is begun. Those who do not succeed in doing so may not be permitted to continue with the doctorate. Thesis proposals must conform to the requirements set out in the Rhodes University Higher Degrees Guide and must be submitted to the Higher Degrees Committee with the approval of the supervisor and Head of department.