

A stylized globe with a dark blue silhouette of the continents against a white background. Three callout boxes with teal borders and light blue backgrounds are positioned over the globe, each containing a question.

WHY DON'T MORE
PEOPLE VOTE IN THE
NATIONAL ELECTIONS?

WHY DO GLOBAL
FINANCIAL CRISIS HAPPEN?

WHAT ARE THE CAUSES
OF GLOBAL INEQUALITY
AND INSECURITY?

At the heart
of current
thinking,
research
and debate



Welcome

Politics is always exciting. Governments and individual citizens face a range of complex issues: a shifting balance of international power, the challenges of human rights and global development, environmental sustainability, struggles for democracy, security and the threat of terrorism, and the changing balance of government and society. A Politics degree at the University of York places you at the heart of current political or international thinking, research and debate and equips you to understand the changing world we live in.

By choosing to study with us, you will join a prestigious, lively and international community of students and staff and a department rated highly for both research and teaching. You will be taught by academics at the forefront of research in the major political areas of conflict and development, international politics, political theory and public policy. As international experts in their field, our staff advise governments and international organisations on a wide range of issues, and regularly contribute to the news media and current affairs programmes throughout the world. Our expertise and experience feed directly into our teaching programmes.

We are dedicated to outstanding teaching and to developing the potential of all our students in a friendly and open department that provides a sense of community to all its members.

We look forward to welcoming you here and helping you get the most out of your time at York.

Professor Martin Smith Head of Department

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Why study in the Department of Politics?

We are a welcoming, diverse department with an international outlook. Our staff apply their expertise to real-world problems, working with governments and organisations around the world.

Choice and flexibility – tailor your degree to suit your interests

You can study Politics or International Relations as single subjects or combine Politics with International Relations, English or History. All of our courses offer a wide choice of modules and cover the spectrum of politics, from the history of political thought to the resolution of conflict in war-torn societies, and from the politics of international security to financial regulation in Europe.

Gain professional experience or study abroad

You can add a year to your degree course to undertake a professional placement or to study abroad. There are also opportunities to study abroad as part of our standard three-year courses.

Reputation

The Department of Politics is ranked 8th in the UK for research (REF 2014). Our students consistently rate their student experience highly, and our teaching satisfaction score is currently ranked 96% – that's the highest teaching satisfaction score in the Russell Group (latest National Student Satisfaction Survey).

Employability

We help prepare you for employment from the very start of your degree – teaching transferable skills, offering hands-



“ Looking back at my three years at York, I really couldn't imagine being anywhere else! My degree has allowed me to study a broad range of fantastically interesting subjects that I wouldn't have otherwise been exposed to, from classic British politics and the politics of development, to South African and Indian politics.”

Oliver (Politics, 3rd year)

on guidance through careers support, and giving you opportunities to gain work experience and study abroad.

Our graduates take these unique skills, experiences and insights and forge successful careers all over the world. Some go on to work in the not-for-profit sector, creative and media industries, finance, public administration, education, social welfare and information technology.

WHAT ARE THE CAUSES
OF GLOBAL INEQUALITY
AND INSECURITY?

HOW CAN, OR SHOULD,
WE RESPOND TO
CONFLICT?

ARE HUMAN RIGHTS
EFFECTIVE IN PROMOTING
GLOBAL JUSTICE?

CAN GLOBAL CIVIL
SOCIETY CHANGE
THE WORLD?

CONFLICT AND
DEVELOPMENT

A stylized graphic of a teal hand with a red scarf, holding the text 'CONFLICT AND DEVELOPMENT'. The hand is open, with fingers spread, and the scarf is wrapped around the wrist. The text is written in a bold, sans-serif font, with 'CONFLICT' in red and 'AND DEVELOPMENT' in white.

**OUR TEACHING
RATED HIGHEST IN
THE RUSSELL GROUP**

TEACHING SATISFACTION SCORE 96%
(NATIONAL STUDENT SATISFACTION SURVEY 2015)

Teaching and assessment

Our research-led teaching means you'll be taught by academics who are involved in research that changes the world, the people who literally wrote the book!

Our department offers a personal approach to teaching and learning, with much of our teaching conducted in small groups. We are committed to helping you flourish academically - our doors are always open to our students, and this is demonstrated by our consistently high student satisfaction rates (NSS survey results).

How we teach

We teach undergraduates through a combination of lectures, seminars, workshops and individual one-to-one supervision.

Seminars and workshops enable you to engage in challenging and stimulating discussions with your tutors and to collaborate with your peers on researching and presenting topics. We also offer study skills workshops and special support for students with particular learning needs.

High profile speaker series

We host a number of speaker series where high profile academics, campaigners and journalists, researchers and politicians come together to share their views on cutting-edge research, insights and experience.

Assessments

The assessment of modules in the first year involves a combination of essays and examinations. Second year modules are assessed through a combination of essays and examinations. Third year optional modules are typically assessed by an essay or an examination. Our third years also complete a research dissertation, developed in one-to-one supervisory sessions with an academic member of staff.

Support from your personal supervisor

We provide continuing support and guidance throughout your time with us.



David Miliband talking to York Politics students

“ *The Department of Politics offers extra-curricular activities ranging from events like an interview with **David Miliband**, to a film series on global politics, allowing you to expand your knowledge and skills in specific areas. It is clear that any student choosing to study Politics at York will leave the University as a well-rounded graduate - very attractive to future employers.”*

Sarah (Politics, 1st year)

Our degrees – flexibility and choice

Choice and flexibility are at the heart of what we offer in the Department of Politics. The range of modules on offer, along with the chance to study Politics alongside other subjects, mean that every student graduates with a degree tailored to his or her own interests and passions.

All of our courses have a wide range of modules and cover the spectrum of politics, from the history of political thought to the resolution of conflict in war-torn societies, and from the politics of international security to financial regulation in Europe.

Our programmes

You can study Politics or International Relations as single subjects, or Politics combined with International Relations, English or History.

You can choose to add an additional year to your programme to study abroad or undertake a professional placement for BA Politics, BA International Relations and BA Politics with International Relations. We refer to this as the three-plus one pathway. Please see page 4 for more details.

Other combined degree options

The Department of Politics also offers interdisciplinary degree options with Economics and Philosophy through the School of Politics, Economics and Philosophy (PEP) and an interdisciplinary degree with Sociology and Social Policy (SPS).

“ *Choosing York was an easy decision. The depth and breadth of the module options set it apart from others and allow me to choose areas of the discipline that most intrigue me, and weight my course towards my chosen field.* **”**

Sophie (History and Politics, 1st year)



**TAILOR YOUR DEGREE TO
YOUR OWN INTERESTS
AND PASSIONS**

ALL OF OUR COURSES HAVE A WIDE RANGE OF MODULES

POLITICAL THEORY AND PHILOSOPHY

WHY AREN'T THERE MORE REVOLUTIONS?

IS TOLERATION ALWAYS A GOOD THING?

WHAT MORAL RESPONSIBILITIES DO WE HAVE FOR OUR FELLOW CITIZENS?

CAN THERE EVER BE EQUALITY IN POLITICAL LIFE?



Tailor your degree to your own interests and passions

From 2017 you can study a three-year programme or choose to add an additional year to study abroad or undertake a professional placement.

Single subject and combined study Politics programmes

- BA Politics (three years)
- BA International Relations (three-years)
- BA Politics with International Relations (three-years)
- BA English/Politics (Equal) (three-years)
- BA History/Politics (Equal) (three-years)

Three-plus-one pathway programmes

- BA Politics with a one-year professional placement (four years)
- BA Politics with a year abroad (four years)
- BA International Relations with a one-year professional placement (four years)
- BA International Relations with a year abroad (four-years)
- BA Politics with International Relations with a one-year professional placement (four years)
- BA Politics with International Relations with a year abroad (four years)

Other interdisciplinary Politics programmes

You can study the following interdisciplinary programmes in the School of Politics, Economy and Philosophy and the School of Social and Political Sciences:

- BA Economics and Politics
- BA Philosophy and Politics
- BA Philosophy, Politics and Economics
- BA Social and Political Sciences

For more details visit york.ac.uk/politics

Our range of Politics programmes

BA Politics

Explore the principles of power – how it's won and how it's used to drive the decisions that influence our daily lives. You'll discover how issues such as poverty, debt, terrorism, ethnic conflict and environmental change affect us all, and investigate new powers like China and India. You will learn about the whole spectrum of Politics, spanning the history of classical and modern political thought.



“I'm fascinated by the world and how it works, and that's why I chose to study Politics at York. It's a multi-layered subject area that not only considers how power relationships operate, but how they should operate. I've particularly enjoyed listening to the various arguments about why we need fairer political systems, and what these systems look like.”

Alex (Politics, 2nd year)

GET INSPIRED

Watch our mini-lecture online
york.ac.uk/politics

BA international Relations

Delve deep in to our changing political landscape to understand the role of emerging nations, and how events can affect the delicate balance of global power. You will challenge the boundaries of justice and human rights, and investigate a wide range of issues that have global impact and require international co-operation if they are to be resolved and managed effectively.

BA Politics with International Relations

Combining Politics with International Relations allows you to shape your studies around the global issues you're most passionate about. From conflict to climate change, you'll get to the core of current political thinking and cross borders to challenge the concepts and ideas in justice, power, security, political economy and ethics.

BA English/Politics

This combined programme will enhance your understanding of the world around you in an innovative and thought-provoking way. Studying English asks you to embrace new ways of thinking about the world and possibilities of expression. Studying Politics invites you to engage with the vast spectrum of political issues and problems. Studying both subjects together asks how literature and politics work to shape the world.

BA History/Politics

Understanding the past is crucial to responding to the political challenges of the future. Our History and Politics programme will help you attain a global understanding of events, institutions and structures.

BA Economics and Politics

In the first year, you'll take an introductory module in Economics together with Probability and Statistics modules. Politics offers introductory modules on What is Politics: International Politics; Political Theory; and Democratic Politics. In the second year you take an equal number of credits in

both Economics and Politics. In the third year you will take 40 credits in each subject, and one interdisciplinary module but beyond this you are free to choose modules from either discipline to balance your degree.

BA Philosophy and Politics

In the first year Philosophy offers introductory modules on Ethics; Knowledge and Perception; Reason and Argument; and both Ancient and Modern Philosophy. Politics offers introductory modules on What is Politics: International Politics; Political Theory; and Democratic Politics. In the second year, you take an equal number of credits in both Philosophy and Politics. In the third year you will also take Ethics and Public Policy which is an interdisciplinary module.

BA Philosophy, Politics and Economics

In the first year, you take introductory modules in Economics and acquire knowledge of mathematical techniques for advanced study of the discipline. Politics offers introductory modules on What is Politics: International Politics; Political Theory; and Democratic Politics. Philosophy offers introductory modules on Ethics; Knowledge and Perception; Reason and Argument; and Beginning Philosophy. In the second year, your modules options vary depending on the route you choose. In the third year, you take at least one module in each subject together with one interdisciplinary modules. Beyond this you are free to choose modules from any of the three disciplines to balance your degree.

BA Social and Political Sciences

Allows you to study a flexible choice of modules from a huge range offered by three highly respected academic departments. You'll be taught by world-leading academics and study the most up-to-date theories in social and political sciences. As your studies progress you'll have the flexibility to tailor your degree to allow you to focus on your own interests, whether that's globalisation, human rights, the future of the welfare state, migration, equality or social justice.

For more details york.ac.uk/politics

GO ONLINE

Modules listed may change so please refer to our website for the most up-to-date information:
york.ac.uk/politics

What you study



**For single subject and combined study
Politics programmes you will typically study
the following:**

The first year

You will study four modules in your first year which will equip you with an understanding of the key concepts, theories and approaches in each major area of politics:

- What is Politics?
- Introduction to Democratic Politics
- Introduction to Political Theory
- Introduction to International Politics.

If you are studying the single subject Politics or Politics with International Relations, you will take all four of the module options above. Combined degree students take What is Politics and choose one other module.

The second year

Second year Politics modules cover diverse approaches to a particular field in the discipline and hone the academic skills necessary to analyse political texts, political systems and processes, and international politics. We offer a large variety of module options with precise requirements according to the programme you choose to study. Below are just some examples of the modules which you can choose from:

- Contemporary Political Philosophy
- History of Political Thought
- State Economy and Society
- War and Peace
- Politics of Development
- Human Rights and Wrongs
- Politics in the United Kingdom
- Ethics and World Politics
- Global Security Challenges

“ *Politics with International Relations is a dynamic and wide-ranging course taught in a challenging and probing way, where students from across the globe come together with academics to study, collaborate and exchange ideas. It has a broad, pan-European and international appeal which offers a truly global perspective.*”

Itai (Politics with International Relations, 2nd year)

- The Rising Powers
- US National Security after the Cold War.

The third year

You specialise according to your own interests by choosing from a range of modules across the breadth of Politics and International Relations. Below are just some examples of the modules which you can choose from:

- Global Justice
- Border Politics
- Political Economy of Development
- Africa and International Politics
- Green Politics
- Gender and Political Theory
- Health and World Politics
- The Labour Party and Socialism
- British Foreign Policy after the Cold War
- Karl Marx
- The European Far Right
- War, Humanitarianism and Law

You also write a dissertation based on your own research, with one-to-one guidance from a supervisor.

Study Abroad and professional placement

GO ONLINE

To read Fern's story
york.ac.uk/politics/undergraduates/study-abroad

Three-plus-one pathway

BA Politics, BA International Relations and BA Politics with International Relations have a one-year professional placement or study abroad option. You can apply to add an additional year to your course between the second and third years and return to complete your final year at York.

One-year professional placement

Adding a year's professional placement to your course can help you get ahead in the graduate job market by developing your employability and professional skills.

Students on programmes with professional placements are responsible for finding their own placement. The Department will actively assist in the search but a placement cannot be guaranteed. Students who are not successful in obtaining a placement will be transferred to the standard programme.

One-year study abroad

Alternatively you can apply to live and study abroad for your additional year, giving you the chance to travel to new destinations, experience a new culture, develop personal skills and potentially learn a new language.

Additional study abroad opportunities

We offer numerous opportunities to study abroad for up to a year at a number of prestigious universities that have included:

- University of California
- Columbia University
- Rutgers University
- The University of Sydney
- York University, Ontario
- National University of Singapore
- University of Hong Kong.

Erasmus exchange

Our students can also take part in an EU Erasmus exchange programme. Both study abroad schemes allow the transfer of course credits to York, meaning that you would graduate no later than those admitted in the same year in York.

Free foreign language tuition

We also offer free tuition to all first year students in a foreign language - a valuable skill that will significantly enhance your CV and career prospects.



“ Studying abroad for a year I would definitely recommend to anyone. The year offered me many opportunities to experience a new culture, meet people from around the world, challenge my existing views and realise I can survive at temperatures of -40°! I have learned many new skills which if I had stayed in the UK I would never have the chance to develop.”

Fern (Politics with International relations student, studied abroad in Canada)

FINANCIAL REGULATION
MONEY AND POWER
LABOUR'S CLIMATE POLICY
HUMAN RIGHTS WELFARE
GLOBALISATION
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
HUMAN RIGHTS
LEADERSHIP
JUSTICE RELIGIOUS TOLERATION
AFRICAN LIBERAL MOVEMENTS
TRADE LIBERALISM CLIMATE
PEACE-BUILDING CHANGE

Your future

Our Department is recognised by employers worldwide for its academic rigour. The York Politics degree equips you with a portfolio of academic and transferable skills to allow you to pursue stimulating and rewarding careers in the public and private sectors, as well as further study.

Employability skills

You'll learn how to conduct independent research, analyse complex information, and communicate and present your ideas. You'll also gain key skills in debating, team-working, critical thinking and problem-solving – developing a deep understanding of complex social and political issues. Add to this the experience you'll get working in a team and using your initiative, and you have a whole host of invaluable skills that can be transferred to all kinds of industries.

Get focused, gain experience and network

Preparing you for your career is our priority. From day one, we'll help you focus your career goals, gain work experience, and meet the right employers.

Personal careers support

The University's Careers Service provides expert guidance and support on future careers and further study to our students while at York and beyond. We are committed to enhancing your employability during your time at York.

Your personal supervisor will help you work out what you want to do and how you're going to get there as well as giving you guidance along the way on how to develop your employability skills.

Volunteering, work experience and internship opportunities

You can look into doing an internship through the Student Internship Bureau and York Students in Communities and Schools.



 *I'm a Student Ambassador, and would recommend that everyone apply for the role – the hours are flexible, the pay is good, it looks good on your CV, and you can work over the Easter and summer breaks. It's also immensely rewarding to work with prospective students and their parents."*

Harry (Politics, 1st year)

Politics@Work

Politics@Work is an opportunity for first year Politics students to gain work experience in the summer term. Working in project teams with students from other disciplines you can make new friends whilst helping your local community.

Many of our graduates go on to successful careers in a wide range of areas including:

- Public administration
- Local and national government
- Industry
- The 'not-for-profit'/non-governmental (NGO) sector in the UK and internationally
- The creative, media and broadcasting industries
- Marketing
- Financial management
- Law
- Social welfare
- Education.

GO ONLINE

To find out about the roles our successful alumni have gone on to york.ac.uk/politics



WHY DON'T MORE
PEOPLE VOTE IN
NATIONAL ELECTIONS?

HOW DOES NATIONALISM
SHAPE POLITICS?

WHAT IS THE BEST
WAY TO PROTECT
THE ENVIRONMENT?

DOES THE STATE
STILL MATTER IN A
GLOBALISED WORLD?

PUBLIC POLICY
AND GOVERNANCE

Research excellence

We are ranked 8th in the UK for research quality (latest REF). Conducting world-leading research across the discipline of politics which informs our undergraduate degree programmes. With strong links to national and global policy-makers, you will be exposed to ideas at the cutting edge of the discipline.

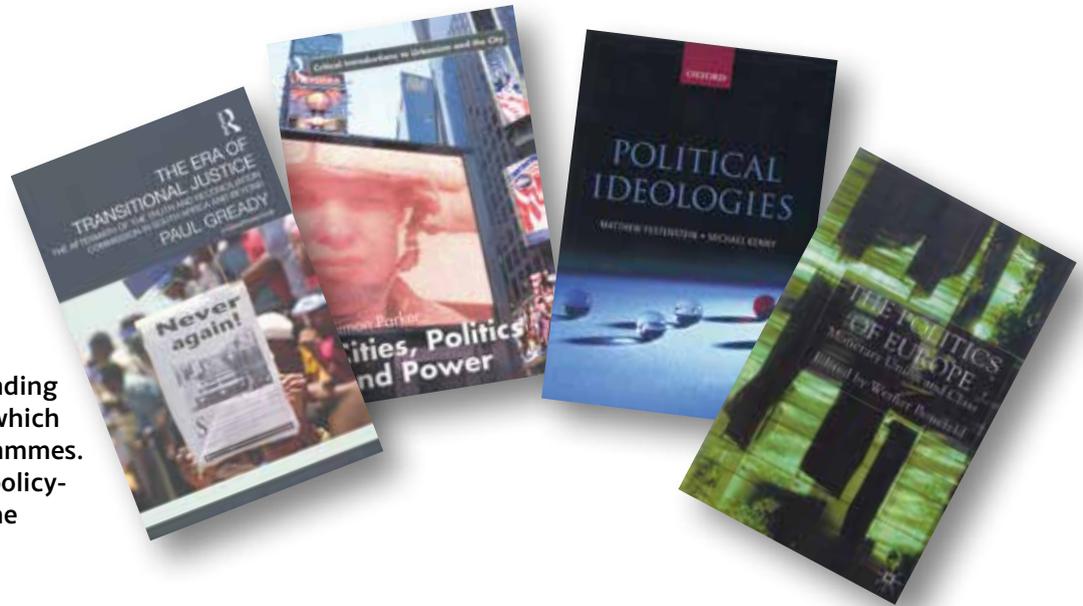
Research-led teaching

You are taught by international experts in their fields: our staff advise governments on a wide range of issues, and contribute to news, media and current affairs programmes globally.

We are linked to internationally recognised centres - students benefit from these partnerships through access to expertise in lectures, workshops and seminars, as well as to a wide range of guest speakers and policy-makers.

GO ONLINE

To find out how our research is shaping the world york.ac.uk/politics



 *The global financial crisis has brought into the spotlight the importance of economic and financial governance not only for policymakers but also for ordinary citizens. I am very keen to convey this message to my students and to get them interested in these topics."*

Professor Lucia Quaglia

We have a number of large and flourishing research teams working on projects including:

- **Conflict and development**, with current projects on war and political violence; peace processes; the politics of Europe; the Middle East; Russia and the former Soviet Union; and Asia and Africa
- **International politics**, with projects including international security and nuclear proliferation; and global financial and political institutions
- **Public policy and governance**, with current work on UK politics; environmental governance; EU politics; and data surveillance and the politics of private security
- **Political theory and philosophy**, with areas of focus including the history of political ideas; democracy in a multicultural society; financial justice.



WHEN IS WAR
JUSTIFIED?

IS VIOLENCE INEVITABLE
IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS?

WHY DO GLOBAL
FINANCIAL CRISES
HAPPEN?

DO INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY STRATEGIES
MAKE US SAFER?

INTERNATIONAL

POLITICS

A superb location

Life in York is varied, colourful and lively. A diverse range of shops, galleries, clubs, cafés, museums, music groups and sports clubs means that the city really does offer something for everyone.

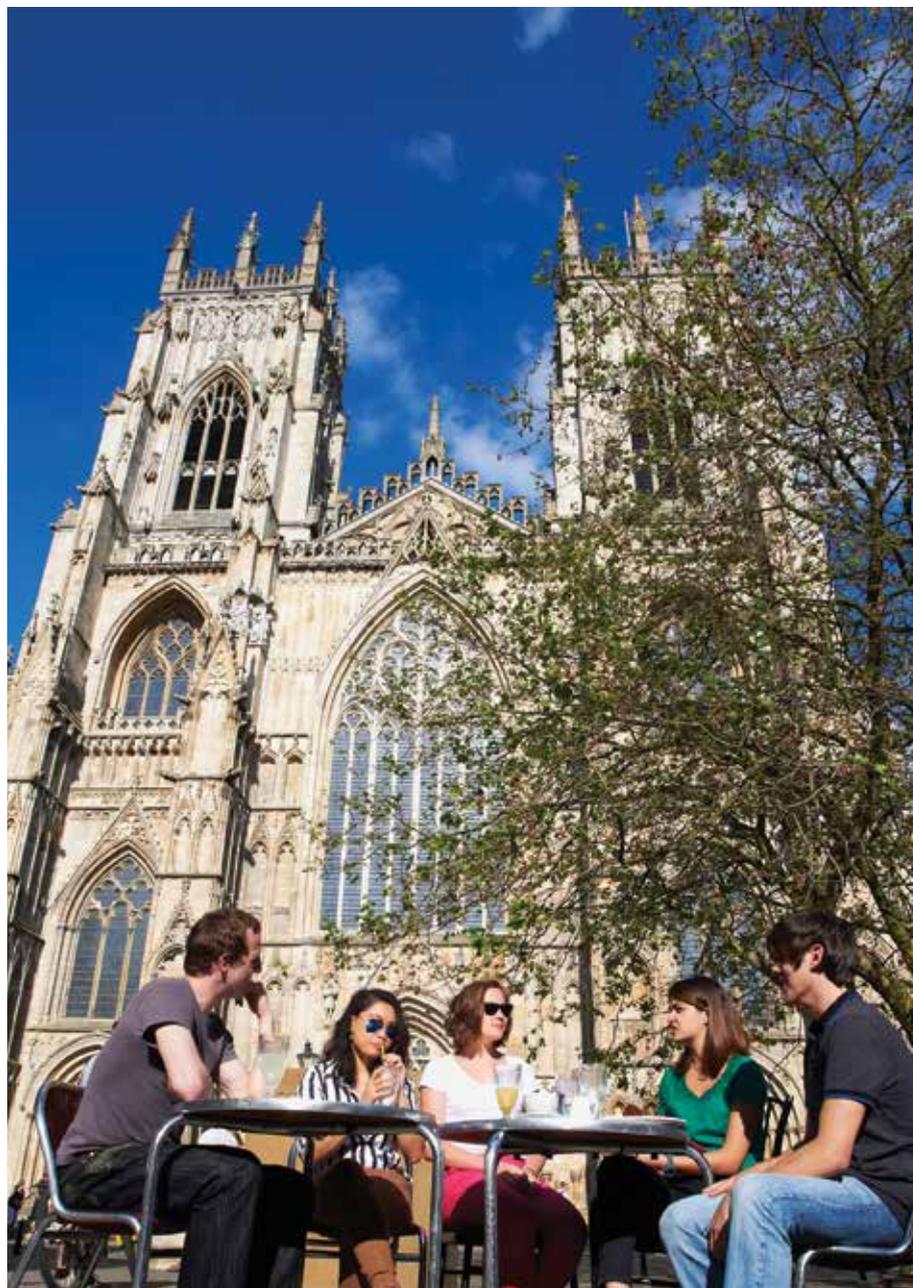
With a population of 190,000, York is big enough to feel cosmopolitan but small enough not to be overwhelming. It is a friendly place you can settle into quickly, but which still feels fresh and exciting once you get to know it well.

York was recently voted Britain's favourite small city in the Rough Guide poll, and its historic streets bustle with visitors from all around the world. There is plenty to impress, from the famously soaring Gothic Minster and winding medieval streets, to a packed calendar of cultural activities including festivals, concerts and sporting events.

York is also one of Britain's best connected cities, offering great transport links to other major cities including London, Edinburgh, Leeds and Manchester, as well as the wealth of beautiful countryside and coastline offered in Yorkshire and beyond.

GO ONLINE

To find out more about student life
york.ac.uk/study/student-life



Student experience

**OUR STUDENTS
RECOMMEND US**

**92% OF OUR STUDENTS ARE OVERALL
SATISFIED WITH THEIR COURSE
(LATEST NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY)**

The University is based at Heslington on the edge of the historic city of York, where our colleges are set in an attractive landscaped campus. It is compact, easy to get around, and is a safe, friendly environment in which to study and socialise. The campus also offers excellent sports facilities, including the new £9 million York Sport Village.

You'll join a strong network of peers within the Department and the University's close collegiate environment, with its emphasis on support and pastoral care, means you'll make friends and settle in quickly.

We have a vibrant and active Politics Society run by students in the Department which organises a programme of events, high profile speakers and debates. You can also join one or more of the many clubs and societies, run through the Students' Union including the International Development Society, the Debating Society, the United Nations Association, faith groups, and societies representing each of the major UK political parties.

We regularly host well-known speakers from political parties, the media, think tanks and NGOs.

To find out more about our latest events go to york.ac.uk/politics.



“ *The United Nations Association gives you the opportunity to debate world affairs on a weekly basis and take part in model United Nations conferences. These conferences have been fantastic experiences for me - meeting people from around the world and working with them to solve complex and sensitive global issues. It also epitomises the 'work hard, play hard' balance of life. Long and rigorous debating sessions were always followed by some fun - something I'm sure real UN diplomats experience!*

Basim, (Politics with International Relations, 3rd Year)

Visit us

Visit Days for Offer Holders

If you are offered a place following your UCAS application, you will be invited during the Spring Term for a post-offer Visit Day. Visit Days are a great opportunity for you to meet staff and current students in the Department and to learn more about your degree programme.

How to apply

Mature students

Mature students are strongly encouraged to apply and applications are considered individually.

Overseas students

We also welcome overseas students and, indeed, our Department comprises a large number of international students.

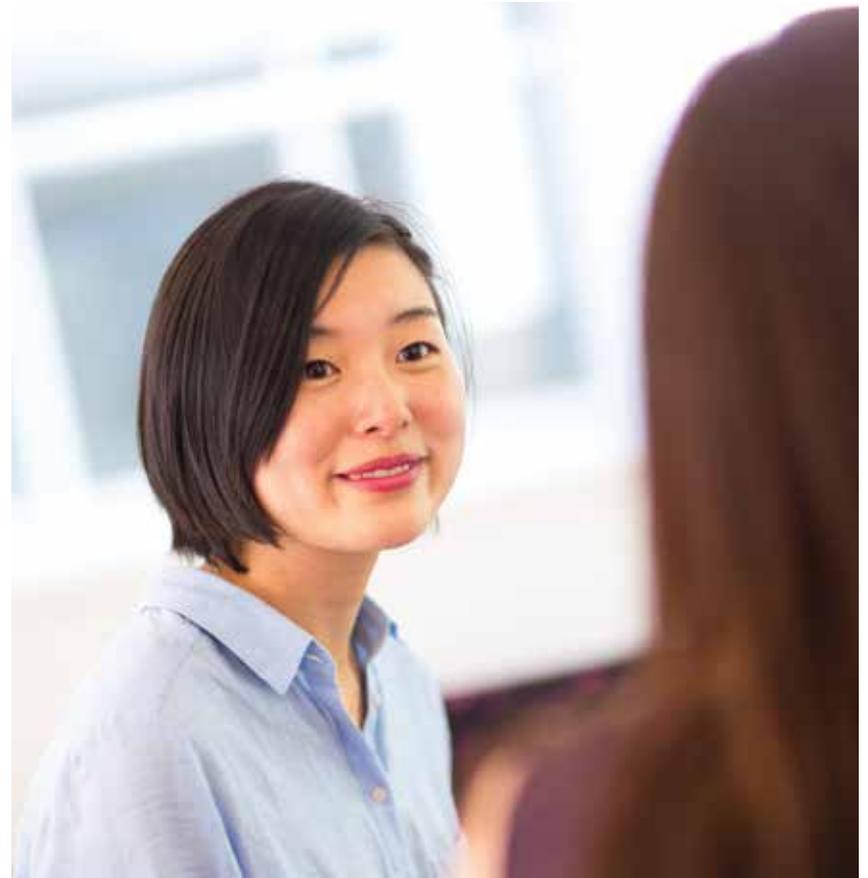
Financial support

The University of York is committed to ensuring that no one who has the potential to study here is deterred from applying by financial costs. Information about fees and financial support is available on our website:

york.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/fees-funding

Any questions?

We are happy to answer any queries that you may have about our courses so please get in contact with us by emailing our dedicated admissions team at poli-ug-admissions@york.ac.uk.



GO ONLINE

To find out more about visiting us
york.ac.uk/politics



Department of Politics

york.ac.uk/politics

Contact details: Departmental Admissions Administrator +44 (0)1904 323542 poli-ug-admissions@york.ac.uk

Photographs by John Houlihan,
Ian Martindale and Jim Poyner