

***BA Government:***

***(Politics, Economics and Law)***

**Student Handbook 2023/2024**

*While every effort has been made to ensure that the contents of this Handbook are accurate, this Handbook is issued for the* ***guidance*** *of students only. Course content and course options are evolving and students are advised to verify information in this Handbook with the appropriate Schools.*

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**Welcome to the BA Government.**

I would like to welcome all new BA Government (Politics, Economics and Law) undergraduates and returning students to University of Galway for the 2023/24 academic year.

I hope that you will all enjoy your course in Government, as well as the cultural activities that University of Galway and the city of Galway have to offer. I encourage you to take part in as many of the activities of the University as possible. Join clubs and take part in activities; it is by doing this that you can really connect with the University experience and make the most of your time here. You should make it a priority to get in touch with the Community Knowledge Initiative office and find out about their ALIVE programme as well as the various volunteering opportunities available to you.

This year we are fully back on campus with in person lectures! For those of you returning from an online learning environment, the transition can be difficult. Please do not hesitate to get in contact with us with any specific questions that may arise. There are **support staff** to assist you and as the BA Government Programme Director, I will be available to advise and support you. I am contactable by e-mail at lisa.walshe@universityofgalway.ie - you can also meet with me by appointment. If you are having any difficulties please let me know.

As Course Director, I will take overall responsibility for the running of the programme. My colleague Dr. Aidan Kane from the Discipline of Economics is your liaison for this subject as is Dr Rónán Kennedy from the School of Law for this discipline.

Best of luck in academic year 23/24!

Lisa Walshe

Programme Director, BA Government (Politics, Economics and Law)

Assistant Professor, School of Political Science and Sociology, University of Galway.

**Introductory Information**

**INTRODUCTION**

Government has a profound impact on our lives.  Government decisions affect everything from our health, the affordability of housing and transport, the quality of the environment and the viability of businesses and voluntary organisations. These days the world appears to be changing rapidly too; think of Trump and Brexit among many other unexpected developments.  All of this means the study of Government is more crucial than ever. The BA Government (Politics, Economics and Law) will enable you to better understand emerging critical issues and develop the skills to make sense of this world in order to make a difference in the public, private or not-for-profit sectors.

The BA Government (Economics, Politics and Law) provides you with a unique opportunity to study each of these three distinct disciplines and to develop an appreciation of how they interact. This programme gives you an understanding of how politics, democracy, the law and economics shape Ireland and the current global environment.

**STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME**

The BA: Government programme takes four years to complete, and combines three core disciplines (Politics, Economics, and Law). The first, second, and fourth years consist of a range of taught modules. In the first year of study, you will take an equal number of modules in each of the three disciplines. From the second year onwards, you will be required to select one of the three core subjects to *major* in. This means you will be taking a larger number of modules in that field in order to specialize in its particular concepts, methods, and areas of expertise. The other two core subjects will be your *minors*, and you will continue to take a number of modules in these disciplines.

The third year of the course will consist of either a Work Placement, Study Abroad, a Research Project, and Complementary Study Options.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Year***  | **Major Subject** *(Sociology and Political Science, Economics or Law)*  | **Minor Subject 1**  | **Minor Subject 2**  | **Total ECTS**  |
| ***Year 1***  | 20 ECTS  | 20 ECTS  | 20 ECTS  | 60 ECTS  |
| ***Year 2***  | 30 ECTS  | 15 ECTS  | 15 ECTS  | 60 ECTS  |
| ***Year 3***  | Work Placement, Study Abroad and Complementary Study Options  | 60 ECTS  |
| ***Year 4***  | 30 ECTS  | 15 ECTS  | 15 ECTS  | 60 ECTS  |

**General Information**

**Please keep a close eye on your NUIG email account during the year, and check your Canvas regularly for updates**

**ASSESSMENTS**

The assessments will vary from module to module, but will generally consist of a combination of essays and other written assignments, in-class tests, and written examinations. In all cases, the material that will be assessed will be covered in the lectures, tutorials, and required readings for each module. You will be provided with the relevant assessment details in your first lecture for each module.

**LIVE INTRODUCTORY QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

TBC

**IMPORTANT LINKS**

* [BA Government Webpage](https://www.nuigalway.ie/courses/undergraduate-courses/Government-Politics-Economics-Law.html)
* James Hardiman Library Presentation
* <https://library.nuigalway.ie/awc/>

**Semester Dates**

**Semester One**

Sept. 4th – Nov. 24th

Study week: Nov. 27th – Dec. 1st

Exams: Dec. 4th – Dec. 15th

**Semester Two**

Jan. 8th – March 28th

Study week: April 8th – 12th

Exams: April 15th – May 1st

**TIMETABLE:** lnformation relating to modules will be communicated through Canvas. Your lecturers will be in regular contact with you, and it is your responsibility to check your NUIG email account and the modules you are registered for on Canvas for updates.

**University of Galway Campus Map**

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**NOTE TO BA GOVERNMENT STUDENTS:** The School of Political Science and Sociology is located in Aras Moyola, The School of Economics is located in St. Anthony’s (by the Cairnes building), and the School of Law is in Tower 2 in the Arts Concourse.

**Advice and Resources**

**INTRODUCTION**

Welcometo the Bachelor of Arts in Government (Politics, Economics and Law) at University of Galway. It is hoped that your time associated with University of Galway will be both enjoyable and valuable to you. This handbook has been prepared to provide you with basic information relating to the BA in Government (Politics, Economics and Law). Please note that it is intended as a guide only; you should always check information prior to making course choices. In a competitive job market, it is in your own best interests to treat your time at university in a professional way. Passing examinations, although important, should not be your only goal. Your time at university is an opportunity for you to acquire as many useful skills as possible to allow you to compete successfully in the job market. Many of these skills (e.g., research skills, time management, learning to provide public presentations, writing and communication skills, and data analysis) are called “transferable skills” and are becoming increasingly important for graduates. This section sets out some advice and basic resources available to you in order to successfully complete your studies at University of Galway.

**LECTURE NOTES, ATTENDANCE AND CRITICAL THINKING**

You are obliged under University regulations to attend as many lectures as possible. Many lecturers provide their notes on Canvas but it is not required that they do so. Each lecturer differs in how and when they prefer to make such material available. Some will only make notes available at the end of their period of teaching. Others prefer brief ‘bullet point’ notes, while a few may place more detailed notes online. In any event, you should realise that no set of provided notes can compensate for missing lectures! **The best way to understand the course material is to go to the lectures, ask questions, take your own notes, and read the course assignments.**

Please remember that this is NOT post primary education and we are not testing people’s ability to learn off vast chunks of ‘fact’ by heart. Also, there is no need to meticulously record and subsequently reproduce every detail raised by the lecturer - this is not what lectures are about. We are instead interested in debate, argument and original thinking. The goal of lectures is to expose students to new perspectives. Students should not approach lectures in a state of panic, trying to jot down everything. Instead, it is much more important for students to really listen, to be selective, to focus on the main points and to keep thinking about the issues as lecturers present their material. We place much more emphasis on the assigned readings, and above all, in critical thinking and engagement with this subject through lectures, tutorials, and essays. Rote learning of lecture notes is the wrong way to engage with a subject. **It follows that maximum feasible attendance of lectures and tutorials is the best policy you should adopt**.

**MEDICAL CERTIFICATES**

Students are expected to attend all lectures and tutorials as far as possible. Should a student be absent for an extended period for medical reasons, the Course Director and convener of the lecture course/practical should be informed as soon as possible and a medical certificate provided.**In addition, all lecturers will facilitate students with additional needs in whatever way is possible**.

**EXAM PREPARATION AND DETAILS**

Here are some rather obvious but nonetheless useful exam preparation tips. Please note that each lecturer will of course give more specific and detailed advice on how to approach exams in the allocated time given for each lecturer to review the course.

**Revision/Preparing for Exams**

Last minute ‘cramming’ the night before, is no way to treat any University exam. Revision is best where it is realistic, planned and focused. Do not try to adopt the approach of merely learning off textbooks or lecture notes for topics that you guess will come up. Students should be more methodical and have more options that just hoping certain topics show up. You probably need to pick several topics, rather than just two or three in each of the courses. How to revise? There is no one answer, but setting aside clear time periods, like a day or afternoon for certain topics is a good start. Another tip is to synthesize the material from your personal lecture notes, the lecturer’s notes, and the course textbooks or any additional reading. Building you own set of clear and succinct ‘master notes’ which embrace all these sources will force you to really get to know the topic and above all understand it. Revision is not just about rote learning, it is about you rethinking the topics, reflecting on possible arguments, lines of debate, and picking out the most important factual details. Cramming the night before can never do that. It is sometimes helpful to revise as part of a study group, but ensure that it is with people who do not merely end up making you more anxious about any exam than you need to be.

**Past Papers**

Past papers can be found at the University of Galway website at [www.nuigalway.ie/exams/papers.html](http://www.nuigalway.ie/exams/papers.html). Please note that while the format of exams each year can change, the types of questions set will usually not be that radically different from previous years. So, previous years’ papers would give you an idea of the type of questions that could be set.

**Exam Hall**

All students will have an exam number. Write your exam number on all examination material. This exam number will also provide your location/sitting guide inside an exam hall. Do not forget your exam number slip, as you will need it for admittance to the exam hall. It is usually posted out to your term or home address or available online. Note, that in some subjects, the exam hall may be located off campus. This means you need to double check its location or be sure of a taxi booking, etc. Usually the Students Union makes provision of special bus and taxi services during examinations time.

**Timetable**

Make sure, well in advance, that you know when and where your exam will be held. They are held in the morning or afternoon in various locations and some will require transportation.

**Managing the Exam Paper**

Much of exam performance can be down to how students manage the exam paper. Do you just panic and answer the first question that looks half-familiar? Read all the questions, taking care to think about what is really being asked, what are the sub-questions lurking within, etc., Decide which questions are best for you, or that you feel most able for. But then really critique and analyse that question. What is the assessor really trying to get at? It is advisable before you start writing, to use the first page of your answer book as a rough work jotter, and to scribble down a few notes, plans, key words, themes and ideas that come into your head. Try to work out a structure and plan. Make sure to allocate equal time to each question and always attempt the minimum required questions. **Never leave the exam hall having written one good question but then decided you cannot answer any others** - **always attempt the minimum number of questions required.**

**Exam Support**

If you need extra support to do the exam you can apply to sit in the ‘sick bay’ for your examinations. You should contact the Examinations Office for more details. Lecturers will visit your exam venue during the exam period to check for possible mistakes in the paper. You should feel free to clarify examination material with them. Students with a physical or learning disability should make contact with the Disability Office (see below).

**The Night Before**

Make sure you get plenty of sleep, eat well and go into the exam relaxed, refreshed and ready for anything!

**YOUR QUERIES AND PROBLEMS: WHERE TO GO FOR HELP**

There are a number of people you can turn to for help at any stage during this BA course. First if you have a specific question about a lecture, or some material covered in a lecture or the readings, you could contact the *lecturer* at the end of the class, or see them during their office hours or alternatively email them. All lecturers email addresses are available on the University of Galway website. All lecturers will have designated office hours when students can reach them in their office to follow up on *academic* problems.

Also, don’t forget your *tutor* in specific modules*.* Your tutor will very often be an invaluable contact point through which to address concepts that you find confusing or vague. One function of the tutorial system is to allow you to clarify academic material.

If you are encountering severe medical, personal, emotional, family or financial problems at any time during your time at University of Galway, there is more expert University level staff that could be of help and should be approached by you. These include:

**Student Contact Centre**

The Student Contact Centre is located on the ground floor of ÁrasUí­Chathail (right-hand side), which is situated on the main campus. The Centre provides a range of services to students, including:

* Registration, Exams and Admissions queries
* Prospectus pick up
* Replacement ID Cards (€30 charge)
* Transcript Requests (Min one weeks’ notice required)
* Validation and stamping of forms e.g. social welfare, medical card, drug payment, USIT visa (Student Travelcard forms are stamped by SU)
* Change of Name/ Change of Address requests
* Statements e.g. letters of attendance

Opening Hours: 10:00 to 12:30 and 2pm to 4pm
Postal Address: Student Contact Centre, Ground Floor, Áras Uí Chathail, University of Galway
Email: scc@universityofgalway.ie

Telephone: 091 495999

**University Counsellors**

They are located at No.5 Distillery Road, (which is nearby the AIB bank entrance to the University), on the right hand side in a two storey house). The phone number for the Counselling service is 091 492484. The website is: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/student_services/counsellors/>

**Disability Office**

Bernie McGee

Disability Officer

Room 216, ÁrasUí-Cathail

Tel. 353 (0) 91 492813

E-mail: disabilityservice@universityofgalway.ie

**University Chaplains**

See: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/student_services/chaplains/Finding_Us.html> or simply call into No.2 Distillery Road.

**The Students Union (SU)**

The Students Union also has created a site for information for 1BA students which is very worthwhile. See: <http://firstinfo.nuigalway.ie/> or call into the SU at Áras na Macleinn. Check out the University’s core page on student services: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/student_services/>. The Students Union is very useful with regard to questions of welfare, and also helping academic performance as well. They usually run an excellent study skills workshop during the year.

**Student Health Unit.**

The Health Unit is located upstairs in Áras na Macleinn (beside the Students Union Office). Tel: 091-492604.

**IMPORTANT: Do not let problems get out of hand before you seek help.**

**COORDINATORS**

If there is some aspect of the BA course organisation that you are unclear about, or if you face academic difficulties, you should contact your **programme director or subject coordinator***.* Contact details are provided on Page 12. Good lines of communication, both between staff and students, and among students themselves, are important for the smooth running of any degree programme and in maintaining high student morale.

If you have any trouble contacting staff then you should discuss this with your **Programme Director.**You should contact me as soon as possible, if you have any academic problems or any queries concerning the course.

Remember that communication works both ways. The Course Director and subject Coordinators may need to get in touch with you at certain times of the year to pass on important messages or information. Therefore, at the beginning of the year, you will be asked to fill in a **registration form** with your contact details. You should ensure that these details are always **up-to-date**. **If you move house during the year you should notify the Course Director of any change of address as soon as possible.**

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

Within the first few weeks of each academic year you will be asked to elect a **student representative** (one representative from each undergraduate year). Regular scheduled student/staff meetings will be held throughout the academic year, allowing you to make comments on any aspect of the course through your representative. The minutes from these meetings will be passed on to the BA Government Management Committee which will take action on the issues raised within the constraints of overall University administration, regulations, policy and resources.

**BA GOVERNMENT (POLITICS, ECONOMICS AND LAW) ON CANVAS AND OUR NOTICE BOARD**

The Programme Director and the subject coordinators will attempt to communicate important information to you via **Canvas or email**. In addition, we have a notice board located in the entrance of the School of Political Science and Sociology, Floor 2, Aras Moyola. You should check regularly for new or updated information relating to the course, such as changes to the lectures or practical schedules, extra courses, field trips, details of practical exams etc.

**Coordinator Contact Details**

**PROGRAMME Director**

Lisa Walshe

School of Political Science & Sociology

Office 317, Aras Moyola

Ext. 2108

Lisa.walshe@universityofgalway.ie

**Politics Coordinator**

Lisa Walshe

School of Political Science & Sociology

Office 317, Aras Moyola

Ext. 2108

Lisa.walshe@universityofgalway.ie

**Economics Coordinator**

Aidan Kane

School of Economics

Room 206, First Floor, St. Anthony's.

Ext. 2530

aidan.kane@universityofgalway.ie

**Law CoOrdinator**

Rónán Kennedy

School of Law

Room 217 Cairns building

Ext 5626

ronan.m.kennedy@universityofgalway.ie

**First Year Modules**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module Code** | **Module Title** | **ECTS** | **Semester** | **Core/Optional** |
| LW103.I | Irish Legal Systems | 5 | 1 | Core |
| LW126 | Legal Skills | 5 | 2 | Core |
| LW3109 | Tort Law | 10 | 1 and 2 | Core |
| SP1125 | Introduction to Politics | 5 | 1 | Core |
| SP1124  | Introduction to Government | 5 | 2 | Core |
| SP1127 | Practicing Government | 5 | 2 | Core |
| SP1120 | Practicing Politics | 5 | 1 | Core |
| EC135 | Principles of Microeconomics | 5 | 1 | Core |
| EC1108 | Skills for Economics I | 5 | 1 | Core |
| EC136 | Principles of Macroeconomics | 5 | 2 | Core |
| EC1109 | Skills for Economics II | 5 | 2 | Core |

The module outlines, as well as any relevant course information, will be made available during the lectures.

**Second Year Information**

**CHOOSING A MAJOR**

For the most part, the second year of the course is structured in the same way as the first year, so the information included in the handbook still applies.

The main difference is that in the second year, you will be required to select one of the three core subjects—politics, law, or economics—to *major* in. This means you will be taking a larger number of modules in that field in order to specialize in its particular concepts, methods, and areas of expertise. The other two core subjects will be your *minors*, and you will still continue to take a number of modules in these fields.

You will be expected to take a modules adding up to 30 ECTS for your major, and 15 ECTS for each of your minors.

**SECOND YEAR MODULES LAW**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module Code** | **Module Title** | **ECTS** | **Semester** | **Major** | **Minor** |
| LW227 | Constitutional Law 1 | 5 | 1 | Core | Core |
| LW228 | Constitutional Law 2 | 5 | 2 | Core | Core |
| LW202 | Contract Law 1 | 5 | 1 | Core | Optional \* |
| LW205 | Contract Law 2 | 5 | 2 | Core | Optional \* |
| LW107.i | Legal Methods & Research | 5 | 1 | Core |  |
| LW232 | Housing Law and Policy | 5 | 2 | Optional \* |  |
| LW370 | Comparative Disability Law | 5 | 2 | Optional \* |  |
| LW358 | Environmental Law II | 5 | 2 | Optional \* |  |

**Please note: If you choose the Law major as part of the BA: Government (Politics, Economics & Law) you will earn 75ECTS of law modules. You are then eligible to complete the LLB in one year.**  The LLB is normally a three year postgraduate degree– effectively you are exempted from years 1 and 2 of the LLB programme and proceed directly to year three. The LLB programme is designed to prepare graduates to work as legal professionals or in a law-related environment.

Dr Rónán Kennedy is the Programme Director for the LLB and he can answer any further questions you have on the LLB or the path to becoming a solicitor/lawyer. His email address is:   ronan.m.kennedy@nuigalway.ie. You can also find more information about the LLB [here](https://www.nuigalway.ie/business-public-policy-law/school-of-law/internationalstudy/us/llb/).

**SECOND YEAR MODULES POLITICS**

**Those Majoring in Politics (SP2030) take the following core modules.**

***You take 15 ECTS per semester. 30 ECTS in total.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module Code** | **Title** | **ECTS** | **Semester** |
| SP2117 | International and Global Politics | 5 | 1 |
| SP216 | European Politics | 5 | 1 |
| SPSK3101 | Politics and Society: Themes and Topics | 5 | 1 |
| SP215.II | Modern Political Thought | 5 | 2 |
| SP220 | Methods for Social and Political Science | 5 | 2 |
| SPSK3102 | Society and Politics: Ideas and Research | 5 | 2 |

**Those minoring in Politics (SP2015) choose from the following modules**

***You take 15 ECTs in total.***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module Code** | **Module Title** | **ECTS** | **Semester** |
| SP2117 | International and Global Politics | 5 | 1 |
| SP215.II | Modern Political Thought | 5 | 1 |
| SP216.II | European Politics | 5 | 2 |
| SP220 | Methods for Social and Political Science | 5 | 2 |

\* All optional modules are subject to change

**SECOND YEAR ECONOMICS**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module Code** | **Module Title** | **ECTS** | **Semester** | **Major** | **Minor** |
| EC207 | Irish Economic History | 5 | 1 | Optional \* |  |
| EC247 | Introduction to Financial Economics | 5 | 2 | Optional \* |  |
| EC259 | Economics of Public Policy | 5 | 2 | Optional \* | Core |
| EC268 | Intermediate Macroeconomics | 5 | 2 | Core | Core |
| EC269 | Intermediate Microeconomics | 5 | 1 | Core | Core |
| EC273 | Mathematics for Economics | 5 | 1 | Core |  |
| EC275 | Statistics for Economics | 5 | 2 | Core |  |

\* All optional modules are subject to change

**Third Year Registration Information**

**Semester 1**

***Please read the following information carefully.***

If you are spending the full academic year abroad, you **must** register for the following module **only.**

**SP3196: 60 ECTS Sociological and Political Studies (Study Abroad)**

**All other Third Year BA Government students must register for the following modules in Semester 1:**

**CORE**

**SP3203 Professional Skills for Government and Policy**

 **(Preparation for placement/employment) 10 ECTs**

**Venue: Content online**

**CORE**

**SP3204: Policy, Lobbying and Advocacy 5 ECTS**

**Venue Thursday 12- 2 ENG 2003 (Alice Perry Engineers building)**

**OPTIONAL**

**Choose three from the following 5ECTS modules**:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module Code** | **Module Title** | **ECTS** | **Sem**  | **Time &Venue** |
| BSS2103  | Introduction to Sustainability 1 (Aspire) | 5 | 1 | Tuesday 9-11 Alice Perry Building Rm ENG2001 |
| SP3206 | Government Field Trip | 5 | 1 | Content online |
| SP3119 | Green Political Thought | 5 | 1 | Wednesday 11-1 Rm 306 Aras Moyola School of Political Science and Sociology |
| SP3202 | Governing the Poor | 5 | 1 | Monday 2-4ENG 2034 |
| SP493 | Environmentalism | 5 | 1 | Monday 1-3Rm 306 Aras Moyola |

**Module Descriptors**

**SP3203: Professional Skills for Government and Policy**

The module prepares students for negotiating a work placement and for performing well in their placement. It sets out the numerous career pathways within government setting. The module provides transferable skills and will serve the student in the work placement and beyond, in the labour market. The module is delivered in collaboration with the Career Development Centre.

Lecturer: Lisa Walshe

**SP3204: Policy, Lobbying and Advocacy**

This module explores the policy process with focus on agenda setting and policy formulation. It examines how lobbying, activism and advocacy play a role in the processes of policymaking. The module introduces some of the key concepts and critical approaches of the field of policy studies, and considers contemporary empirical examples of policy formulation. Interest group organisation and formation and citizens’ movements will also be discussed.

Lecturer: Hanna-Kaisa Hoppania

**BSS2103: Introduction to Sustainability**

The module is future oriented and explores the concept of sustainability in the face of global change. It encompasses a wide range of theory and practice, including social, economic and environmental issues, and links international examples to local context and relevance. The module will challenge students to critically reflect on sustainability and current approaches to sustainability.

Lecturer: TBC

**SP3206 Government Field Trip**

This module will examine the operations and functions of Irish government bodies and institutions. Students will participate in a number of visits, including a visit to Leinster house where they will listen to live debates in the Dáil, Seanad and of various committees. Students will be given the opportunity to meet with government officials, including the Parliamentary Educational Officer and the Ceann Comhairle where they will be invited to ask questions. These visits will provide knowledge of and insight into the operations of government and the role and function of the two houses.

Lecturer: Lisa Walshe

**SP3119: Green Political Thought**

The module aims to analyse current ecological contradictions in public affairs through historical, philosophical, political theory, political economy and IR methodologies. The theoretical underpinnings of contemporary environmental policy-making and practice shall thus be articulated by setting them in a larger metaphysical context.

Lecturer: Gerry Fitzpatrick

**SP3202: Governing The Poor: The Politics of Welfare**

This module explores how ideas concerning the poor are made practical and technical, and how this forms part of a more encompassing ‘governmentality’. Empirically, the module focuses on liberal democracies (i.e. the course does not cover poverty in the ‘developing world’). The first half of the course provides students with a set of theoretical tools before examining how the poor were governed during the 19th century, and in particular on how a distinctly modern understanding of poverty came to articulate practices relating to the regulation of freedom. The second half of the course covers the period from roughly 1970 to the present. This period saw a complex problem known as the ‘new’ poverty emerge, which subsequently split into relatively distinct discourses, on the one hand framed by the notion of an ‘underclass’, and on the other hand by the problem of ‘social exclusion’. As we bring these contexts together we will see how the meaning and social significance of poverty is constructed (and is thus contingent), and in particular how the poor are governed through technologies of discipline and indirect control.

Lecturer: Kevin Ryan.

**SP493 Environmentalism**

Descriptor to Follow

Lecturer: George Taylor

**SEMESTER 2**

**All other Third Year BA Government students (not spending a year abroad) must choose one of the following**

**Pick ONE 30 ECTS module from**:

**SP3210: Work Placement for Government and Policy (30 ECTS)**

**OR**

**Choose 6 of the following 5 ECTS modules**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module Code** | **Module Title** | **ECTS** | **Sem** |  **Time and Venue** |
| BSS2104 | Introduction to Sustainability 2 (Aspire) | 5 | 2 | TBC |
| MG3115 | Megatrends | 5 | 2 | TBC |
| SP3103 | European Union: Political Theory and Political Economy | 5 |  2 | Wed 11-1pmG036 |
| SP3134 | Human Rights Advocacy, Concepts, Law and Practice | 5 | 2 | Friday 11-1pmENG 2033 |
| SP3194 | Theories of Nationalism | 5 | 2 | Tuesday 12-2 AC204 |
| SP3144 | Political Liberty | 5 | 2 |  |
| SP3150 | Teaching Methods for the Politics and Society Classroom | 5 | 2 | Wednesday 1-2 plus (one hour online content) |
| SP721 | Ocean and Marine Politics | 5 | 2 | Tuesday 12-2 IT125 |
| SPL315.II | Smart and Liveable Cities and Suburbs | 5 | 2 | Thursday 11-1 ENG2035 |
| SP419 | Marxist Theory | 5 | 2 | Thursday 12-1 CA003Thursday 2-3 CA003 |
| SP3209 | The Sociology of the Bio economy | 5 |  2 | Wednesday 4-6 CA003 |

**NOTE:** *MOST OF THE ABOVE OPTIONS (COMMENCING WITH SP CODE) WILL BE AVAILABLE IN FOURTH YEAR WHEN STUDENTS MAY CHOOSE ONE OPTION MODULE PER SEMESTER. AN OPTION COMPLETED IN THIRD YEAR CANNOT BE TAKEN AGAIN IN FOURTH YEAR.*

**SP3210: Work Placement for Government and Policy (30 ECTS)**

In Year Three of the BA Government (Politics, Economics and Law) students go on a supervised work placement from January to May. Work experience provides an opportunity for each student to accept responsibility for their own personal and professional development, training and progress.

Lecturer: Lisa Walshe

Work placement co-ordinator: Kat McDermott.

**BSS2104 Introduction to Sustainability 2**

The module is future oriented and explores the concept of sustainability in the face of global change. It encompasses a wide range of theory and practice, including social, economic and environmental issues, and links international examples to local context and relevance. The module will challenge students to critically reflect on sustainability and current approaches to sustainability

Lecturer: TBC

**MG3115: Megatrends**

The aim of this class is to enable students to become proficient in environmental scanning, by researching the world’s most significant long term trends in technology, climate or demography that could open up new opportunities for business, such as the Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, autonomous vehicles, personalised medicine, wearables, climate change, international demographic and migration patterns, megacities, veganism, income inequality, fintech, and cybersecurity. In the first seven weeks, diverse student teams will research one Megatrend. During this process, students will learn to distinguish research-based evidence from hype, gauge the limits of prediction in long term trends, and assess implications for an organization of their choice. In weeks 8 and 9, teams will present audiovisual presentations on their research in conference format and be peer assessed. In

weeks 10 to 12, students will develop personal reflections on how each Megatrend might affect their chosen organization and their career.

**SP3103: European Union: Political Theory and Political Economy.**

This course aims to analyse the ‘European Project’ – an ‘Unidentified Political Object’ – through a discrete combination of three approaches: those of Political Theory, Political Economy and International Relations (IR). Students are not expected to be a priori theoretically au fait with academic scholarship in these three fields: you shall effectively be practically acquainted with and 21 use political theory, political economy and IR ideas in analysing the various facets of the European Union (EU). The course shall be taught in four parts: first, we shall examine critically the historical origins of the European Idea and its 1980s ‘re-launch’; secondly, we will try to understand what the EU actually is, what it represents in terms of the political theory of the State and legitimacy; thirdly, the origins, progress and problems of the political economy of the Euro shall be dissected; and finally, the global meaning, role and positioning of the EU shall be assessed. If structure is a function of purpose – what exactly is the purpose of the EU in the 21st century and how should it appear and work?

Lecturer: Gerry Fitzpatrick.

**SP3134: Human Rights Advocacy: Concepts, Law and Practice**

This module is divided into two parts. Part I offers an introduction to the different elements of the international human rights paradigm, including: fundamental ideas and principles that underpin human rights (e.g. equality, non-discrimination, universality, indivisibility); the content and practice of human rights laws, treaties and mechanisms (e.g. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights or the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women); the role of states and governments, how they are held accountable and their relation to human rights monitoring institutions (e.g., the UN Human Rights Council); and the dynamics of human rights advocacy, the central role of human rights non-governmental organisations (e.g., Amnesty International) and individual activists. Part II focuses on a selection of timely human rights issues and challenges in particular contexts. The module also examines human rights concerns of particular groups, such as discrimination based on gender, ‘race’, disability, and/or other prohibited grounds, and how these are addressed within a human rights framework.

Lecturer: Niamh Reilly

**SP3194 Theories of Nationalism**

Whilst many would agree that nationalism is a loyalty or devotion to one’s nation above all others, some theorists have asked how this affiliation comes into being. Is nationalism an innate natural emotion or is it a social construct? This course will examine the main contemporary theories of nationalism, analyse key concepts and discuss classical debates in the study of nationalism. We will analyse nationalism's emergence and endurance as a factor in modern politics and society. Topics covered include: nationalism and state-building, nationalism and economic modernization, nationalism and identity, by applying these theoretical perspectives to the contemporary experience of conflict in Northern Ireland and Israel/Palestine

Lecturer: Judith O’Connell

**SP3144: Political Liberty**

This module provides the opportunity for students to engage critically with the philosophical literature on the concept of political liberty. Students will read and discuss key texts in modern political philosophy, beginning with Thomas Hobbes's Leviathan. Students will critically analyze the various ways in which liberty has been conceptualised by the most important political thinkers in the modern era. The first half of the module addresses three of the most important conceptions of political liberty: negative freedom, autonomy, and individuality. The second half of the module examines concrete political problems

Lecturer: Alllyn Fives

**SP3150 Teaching Methods for the Politics and Society Classroom**

This module aims to provide students with the ability to examine and critically engage with the Leaving Certificate subject ‘Politics and Society’. It will provide students with clear knowledge and understanding of the subject specification, the strands of study and the topics of learning and discussion. It will give students the skills to identify and employ a range of materials, resources and teaching methodologies, which will allow them to effectively teach and engage with the subject. The module aims to provide students both with the skills and the confidence to provide a collaborative, participative and democratic learning environment for those studying the subject in a post primary school context.

Lecturer: Lisa Walshe

**SP721 Ocean and Marine Politics**

This course explores some of the politics that happens at sea. In particular we will focus on the politics of fishing and marine renewable energy, and to a lesser extent we will look at conflicts over marine natural resources, disputes on marine boundaries, and the role of the state as regards all matters of the sea. The course explores various theoretical perspectives, in particular an emerging literature that stresses the ‘social construction’ of the sea, and the concept of ‘resilience’. We will also examine methodological questions, or how should we study a politics of the seas? Here the focus is on exploring to what extent qualitative ethnographic methods can help shed understanding and context on complex marine based activities

Lecturer: Brendan Flynn

**SPL315.II Smart and Liveable Cities and Suburbs**

The year 2008 marked a turning point in global historical settlement patterns; for the first time in human history the majority of people now live in urban areas. By 2030, two-thirds of the world’s population will be urban. This module explores the need to improve the way we plan and maintain our urban places in order to make them better for people and the planet. Three interrelated policy and business trends associated with urbanism are examined: Smart Cities, Liveable or Healthy Cities, and efforts to reduce the effects of car-dependent suburban sprawl. Each of these trends has importance for enhancing our quality of life and addressing climate change. Each also creates unique economic opportunities and public and social policy challenges. The course will critically examine these trends and their unique relevance internationally and for Ireland.

Lecturer: Kevin Leydon

**SP419: Marxist Theory**

The module examines the core themes within Marx’s work through a detailed textual examination of his major publications. The last three seminars explore critical views of Marx’s work from the Weberian, feminist and environmentalist positions

Lecturer: George Taylor

**SP3214 Biosociality and Bioeconomy: The value(s) of Living things.**

An increasing number of national governments and international organizations in the past 15+ years has been proposing, ratifying, and implementing a Bioeconomy strategy. Ireland published its National Policy Statement on the Bioeconomy in 2018, integrated with the constantly updated EU Bioeconomy Strategy (following from the 2005 FP7 programme “Knowledge-based Bioeconomy”). This, on the one hand conceptually vague and ambiguous agenda, on the other hand comprehensive and concerted regime of transformation of the Global Political Economy across all scales (micromeso-, macro-), supported, implemented, and coordinated by policy-makers, investors, and (private sector) researchers, across the globe, has largely passed by the attention of the public at large. In this module, the genealogy of the Bioeconomy will be traced alongside the reconstruction of the transformative potentials it has realized across globe-spanning economic structures and into the reaches of people’s everyday lives. Scientific and ethical questions regarding emerging biotechnologies and exploiting ecosystem services will be reviewed through the social scientific lens. Related programs, such as the reforestation-and-carbon-offsetting REDD+ regime will be reviewed in terms of neo-colonial context of development financing architectures and the disenfranchising of vulnerable and indigenous peoples for a second time. A shift of perspective is provided in taking alternative concepts, histories, and futures of ‘bioeconomy’ into view. The goals and promises of the current Bioeconomy agenda will be reviewed in light of real outcomes and compared with the potentials that an opening up of the current agenda with its geopolitical focus on the Global North and the Eurocentric definition of concepts such as “value”, “equivalence”, or “sustainability” would undergo, if it allowed for the diversity of multiple bioeconomies otherwise to be realized.

Lecturer: Alex Stingl

**Fourth Year Registration Information**

**You will be expected to take modules adding up to 30 ECTS for your major, and 15 ECTS for each of your minors.**

Those minoring in Law, take 2 modules in one semester and 1 ECT module in the other Semester

**Law Modules for Year 4 Majors**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module Code** | **Module Title** | **ECTS** | **Semester** | **Core/Optional** |
| LW409 | Criminal Law 1 | 5 | 1 | Core  |
| LW4103 | Administrative Law 1 | 5 | 1 | Core |
| LW503 | European Union Law 1 | 5 | 1 | Core |
| LW413 | Criminal Law 2 | 5 | 2 | Core |
| LW4104 | Administrative Law 2 | 5 | 2 | Core |
| LW504 | European Law 2 | 5 | 2 | Core |

**Law Modules for Year 4 Minors**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| LW4103 | Administrative Law 1 | 5 | 1 | Core |
| LW503 | European law 1 | 5 | 1 | Core |
| LW504 | European law 2 | 5 | 2 | Core |

**Please note: If you choose the Law major as part of the BA: Government (Politics, Economics & Law) you will earn 75ECTS of law modules. You are then eligible to complete the LLB in one year.**  The LLB is normally a three year postgraduate degree– effectively you are exempted from years 1 and 2 of the LLB programme and proceed directly to year three. The LLB programme is designed to prepare graduates to work as legal professionals or in a law-related environment.

Dr Rónán Kennedy is the Programme Director for the LLB and he can answer any further questions you have on the LLB or the path to becoming a solicitor/lawyer. His email address is:   ronan.m.kennedy@nuigalway.ie. You can also find more information about the LLB [here](https://www.nuigalway.ie/business-public-policy-law/school-of-law/internationalstudy/us/llb/).

**YEAR FOUR MODULES POLITICS**

**Those majoring in Politics, take all core modules and one optional module**

**Those minoring in Politics, select any 3 from the following list including those highlighted in yellow.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module Code** | **Title** | **ECTS** | **Semester** |  |
| SP219 | Political Sociology | 5 | 1 | Core to majors |
| SP305 | Comparative Public Policy | 5 | 2 | Core to majors |
| SP3139 | Comparative Government and Politics | 5 | 2 | Core to majors |
| SP3197 | Thinking Politically: The Power of Ideas | 5 | 1 | Core to majors |
| SP3208 | Contemporary American Politics | 5 | 1 | Core to majors |
| SP3144 | Political Liberty | 5 | 2 | Optional/SpecialistTo minors only |
| SP3214  | Biosociality and Bioeconomy: The Value(s) of Living Things | 5 | 2  | Optional/SpecialistTo minors only |
| SP419 | Marxist Theory | 5 | 2 | Optional/SpecialistTo minors only |
| SP3103  | European Union: Polity, Political Economy and International Role | 5 | 2 | Optional/SpecialistTo minors only |
| SPL315.ii | Smart and Liveable Cities and Suburbs | 5 | 2 | Optional/SpecialistTo minors only |
| SP3133 | The Northern Irish Conflict | 5 | 2 | Optional/SpecialistTo minors only |

**SP219: Political Sociology**

Lecturer: Niall Ó Dochartaigh

Political sociology seeks to understand the social origins and dynamics of political phenomena such as the modern state, nationalism, political mobilisation, civil war, conflict, and citizenship. Located at the boundary between the disciplines of sociology and political science it takes a sociological approach to the analysis of politics. It focuses in particular on the changing relationship between society and state. This course covers key themes and issues in political sociology, providing an overview of the major debates and perspectives in the field, tracing the changing relationship between state and society in the modern era. It provides an introduction to both classical and contemporary issues in political sociology and reviews the leading theoretical and historical approaches in the field in a way that illustrates theory with concrete empirical work and case studies. The course explores how the nation-state became the dominant form of political organisation in the modern world and why it persists; why nationalism is such a powerful political and social force; why people get involved—and stay involved—in political parties and social movements; how civil wars break out and why people take up arms; how governments maintain their legitimacy and why it matters; the changing nature of warfare and its role in shaping societies and states; and how practices and concepts of citizenship have developed and changed in the modern era. Prerequisites: None Min./max. no. of students: restrictions apply. Teaching and learning methods: Weekly in-person lectures. Assessment: continuous assessment (midterm essay) 30%; end of semester exam 70% Language of instruction: English

**SP305 Comparative Public Policy**

Lecturer: George Taylor

The module is divided into two parts. The first part deals with a range of theoretical issues involved in the comparative analysis of public policy. The second part of the module deals with a number of specific policy areas, exploring similarities and differences in how these have been handled in different national contexts. Prerequisites: None Min./max. no. of students: restrictions apply. Teaching and learning methods: Weekly in-person lectures. Assessment: Mid-term assignment (30%), and end-of-semester exam (70%). Language of instruction: English

**SP3197 Thinking Politically: The Power of Ideas**

**Lecturers: Kevin Ryan and Allyn Fives**

This module explores the practical application of political theory to real-world issues and problems, thereby exploring ‘the power of ideas’. Topics include the use of torture against accused terrorists, restricting freedom of expression so as to maintain order, parental power over children, gender equality and queer identities, whistle-blowing, and the climate emergency. It also provides an introduction to and overview of some of the key arguments in the two main traditions in political theory: Analytical (e.g. Isaiah Berlin, John Rawls, Judith Shklar, Philip Pettit) & Continental (e.g. Michel Foucault, Judith Butler, Chantal Mouffe, Jacques Rancière). We draw attention to incommensurability between the two traditions and its significance for the conceptualization of critical thinking. From a standpoint of epistemic toleration, motivated in part by an awareness of family resemblances between the traditions, our aim is not to overcome incommensurability, but rather to make students aware of, and encourage their critical analysis of, the two traditions.

**SP3139: Comparative Government and Politics**

**Lecturers: Kevin Leyden, Niall Ó Dochartaigh**

This module aims to provide a comparative introduction to contemporary systems of government and the politics of states around the world. It begins by analysing the major traditions in comparative political science, comparing methodological approaches and identifying the central questions addressed in comparative research. It shall select examples of political institutions and governance from across the world in order to determine, for example, how universal certain domestic Irish political phenomenon are, what common causes they may share, and how different trajectories of political development are possible and why they occur. The module will give students a basic grasp of the comparative method, of its role in political science research, and of the usefulness of comparison in understanding our political environment. The module also intends to provide students with sufficient empirical knowledge to appreciate the diversity of political life, to situate the Irish Republic in a wider context - and to match generalised insights about the nature of political institutions and behaviour with sophisticated factual examples that illustrate variation and complexity.

Prerequisites: none

Min/max number of students: restrictions apply T

eaching and learning method: weekly in-person lectures.

Assessment: 30% for a midterm essay and 70% end of semester exam.

Core text: assigned readings

**SP3208 Contemporary American Politics**

Lecturer: Kevin Leyden

This module explores contemporary politics and political institutions in the United States. Students are introduced first to the basics of the American democratic system and then to examples of contemporary political issues. The module examines the basic American policy-making system, contemporary public opinion and voting behaviour, and the election of Donald Trump in 2016 and his defeat in 2020. The module will also examine pressing contemporary issues such as racerelations, gun violence, economic inequality, concerns about the election process, and America’s changing position in the world economically and politically. Prerequisites: None Min./max. no. of students: Restrictions apply. Teaching and learning methods: weekly in-person lectures. Lecture slides posted on Canvas. Assessment: Midterm (30%), end of semester exam (70%) Language of instruction: English Core texts: Assigned Readings

**SP3144 Political Liberty**

Lecturer: Allyn Fives

This module provides the opportunity for students to engage critically with the philosophical literature on the concept of political liberty. Students will read and discuss key texts in modern political philosophy, beginning with Thomas Hobbes's Leviathan. Students will critically analyze the various ways in which liberty has been conceptualised by the most important political thinkers in the modern era. The first half of the module addresses three of the most important conceptions of political liberty: negative freedom, autonomy, and individuality. The second half of the module examines concrete political problems

**SP3214 Biosociality and the Bio Economy: The value(s) of Living things**

Lecturer: Alex Stingl

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**SP419: Marxist Theory**

The module examines the core themes within Marx’s work through a detailed textual examination of his major publications. The last three seminars explore critical views of Marx’s work from the Weberian, feminist and environmentalist positions

Lecturer: George Taylor

**SPL315.II Smart and Liveable Cities and Suburbs**

The year 2008 marked a turning point in global historical settlement patterns; for the first time in human history the majority of people now live in urban areas. By 2030, two-thirds of the world’s population will be urban. This module explores the need to improve the way we plan and maintain our urban places in order to make them better for people and the planet. Three interrelated policy and business trends associated with urbanism are examined: Smart Cities, Liveable or Healthy Cities, and efforts to reduce the effects of car-dependent suburban sprawl. Each of these trends has importance for enhancing our quality of life and addressing climate change. Each also creates unique economic opportunities and public and social policy challenges. The course will critically examine these trends and their unique relevance internationally and for Ireland.

Lecturer: Kevin Leydon

**SP3133 The Northern Ireland Conflict**

The Northern Ireland conflict was the most serious violent conflict in western Europe in the late twentieth century, claiming more then 3,600 lives. This module examines the politics of the Northern Ireland conflict in comparative perspective, using it as an entry point for addressing broader scholarly debates on peace, conflict, divided societies and political violence. The module surveys the scholarship on the Northern Ireland conflict, relating it to the theoretical literature and comparing it to other episodes of violent political conflict. It covers the origins of conflict; dynamics of escalation; political violence; unionism, nationalism and other ideologies; state-society relations; all-Ireland dimensions; international influences including the European Union and the United States; diaspora involvement; peace processes; reconciliation; consociational structures and dealing with the past.

Lecturer: Niall O’Dochartaigh.

**FOURTH YEAR ECONOMICS**

**Those majoring take choose 6 modules including core modules**

**Those minoring take, 3 modules including the core modules**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module Code** | **Module Title** | **ECTS** | **Semester** | **Major** | **Minor** |
| EC3101 | Microeconomics and Public Policy | 5 | 1 | Core | Core |
| EC345 | Health Economics | 5 | 1 | Optional | Optional |
| EC369 | Money and Banking | 5 | 1 | Optional | Optional |
| EC388 | Environmental and Natural Resources Economics | 5 | 1 | Optional | Optional |
| EC3105 | Econometrics |  | 1 | Optional | Optional |
| EC3102 | Macroeconomics and Public Policy | 5 | 1 | Core | Core |
| EC362 | Economic of Financial Markets | 5 | 1 | Optional | Optional |
| EC386 | Public Economics | 5 | 2 | Optional | Optional |
| EC429 | Marine Economics | 5 | 2 | Optional | Optional |
| EC3106 | Behavioural Finance | 5 | 2 | Optional | Optional |

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**I’M NOT USED TO WRITING ACADEMIC ESSAYS: HOW OR WHERE CAN I GET HELP?**

Students will receive direction and help by means of in-class tasks, assignments, and essay structure advice, from their module/seminar tutors/teachers and fellow students. Many small seminars are designed to develop a student’s academic writing and guidelines are provided in relevant discipline handbooks. Further help is available to all students in the form of the Academic Writing Centre (contact the library directly or email writingcentre@universityofgalway.ie).

**DO I NEED TO STICK TO THE WORD LIMIT ON MY ESSAYS?**

The word limits are given for a specific reason in each case so it is important to aim for the particular word count instructed. Penalties will apply if the word count is more than 10% below or above the word limit. These word limits relate to the main text so exclude bibliography and footnotes.

**CAN I EMAIL ASSIGNMENTS AND ESSAYS?**

Generally speaking, email submission of examinable material will not be accepted. All examinable materials are required to be uploaded through Turnitin on Canvas and a digital receipt, plus the relevant submission form, handed to the lecturer/tutor on the proposed date.

**HOW CAN I FIND OUT ABOUT TURNITIN?**

Information on Turnitin is available from your seminar or module tutors or by following the link [www.nuigalway.ie/teaching-with-technology/technologies/turnitin/](http://www.nuigalway.ie/teaching-with-technology/technologies/turnitin/).

**WHAT IS PLAGIARISM AND WHAT IS THE POLICY?**

Plagiarism means presenting the words of another writer as if they were your own. It refers to stealing, without acknowledgement, from any other writer, including fellow students. Copying another student’s essay is as reprehensible as plagiarising a literary critic or a website. This is a serious matter, and if it is detected in your essay it may result in an automatic failure mark. The way to avoid plagiarism is very simple; always put quotation marks around someone else's words and credit them to their source. Further information can be found at: www.nuigalway.ie/plagiarism/ and see [www.nuigalway.ie/current\_students/university\_code\_conduct/index.php](http://www.nuigalway.ie/current_students/university_code_conduct/index.php).For first year students, suspected cases of plagiarism will initially be referred to the year coordinator and addressed as per internal policy. Cases may then be referred onwards depending on the seriousness of the circumstances.

**WHAT DO I DO IF I RUN INTO DIFFICULTIES WITH TIME TO SUBMIT AN ASSIGNMENT OR ESSAY?**

We all can run into difficulties from time-to-time so your first port-of-call, again, is your module tutor, teacher or lecturer BEFORE THE STATED DEADLINE. He/she may be in a position to give you an extension on the submission of your assignment or essay based on documented medical evidence or for other exceptional circumstances. It is important to note that penalties may apply to such extension so please consult the module handbook in each particular case.

**DO I HAVE TO REGISTER FOR CANVAS?**

Students are automatically enrolled on Canvas once registered with the University. Your courses will then appear once you log on with your username and password. It is advisable to confirm your access to Canvas before needing it for important module information, online contributions, or deadlines. Further information on Canvas is available at [https://nuigalway.Canvas.com](https://nuigalway.blackboard.com).

**I’M HAVING A PROBLEM WITH MY STUDENT ONLINE ACCOUNT OR EMAIL ACCOUNT?**

The Information Solutions and Services (ISS) Department provides support and advice to students experiencing IT problems(see [www.nuigalway.ie/informationsolutions-services/](http://www.nuigalway.ie/informationsolutions-services/)). Assistance is provided via the ticketing service and Helpdesk (at <https://servicedesk.nuigalway.ie>). Please note, ISS are not in a position to assist students with their personal computer & laptop problems.

**ARE THERE OTHER TYPES OF SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS?**

Students are entitled to draw on the network of support services across the University (please see www.nuigalway.ie/student\_services/ for further information). The Disability Support Service (see [www.nuigalway.ie/disability/](http://www.nuigalway.ie/disability/)) promotes inclusive practices throughout the campus community and are committed to the provision of an equitable learning environment that will enable students become independent learners and highly skilled graduates. The university also have a team of qualified and experienced counsellors, psychologists and psychotherapists and information about the Counselling Service is available at <http://www.nuigalway.ie/counsellors/>.