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Politics is at the heart of everything we do.

Politics is about people expressing and settling their differences. Those differences might be about the distribution of resources or involve the clash of ideas or identities. Without a means of channeling, negotiating and resolving those conflicts, living alongside each other in relative peace would be impossible.

Politics is about who exercises power. Studying Politics means understanding where power lies in government institutions as well as considering the sometimes transformative power of political protest.

Understanding politics is vital. Studying Politics at Sussex will extend what you already know about your own country and continent to the rest of the world.
Studying Politics at Sussex brings you into one of the most vibrant and successful departments in the country. We are known for our expertise in global comparative politics, European politics and the study of corruption.

A Politics degree at Sussex will equip you with the knowledge, analytical and communications skills that a globalised world demands. We emphasise quality, student-centred teaching, a dynamic research environment and a wide range of course combinations and options.

The department has been recognised for its outstanding teaching with three academic staff being awarded national teaching prizes. In 2011 our students nominated the whole department for the University’s Team Teaching Prize, which we won. Our strong sense of commitment to teaching is one reason why students consistently score us highly in the National Student Survey (NSS).

Politics at Sussex is ranked in the top five UK institutions for research publications. In the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF) 75 per cent of our research was rated as world-leading or internationally excellent. All our academics teach on our degree courses which means that you will learn from the leading experts in their field and because we are a small department you will get to know us well.

The degree offers invaluable experiences to develop your political knowledge and skills beyond the classroom, preparing you for the career path you choose. You can join our Berlin or Paris trips, work with an MP on our Westminster internship scheme, or take a role in our very active Politics Society.

95% of our students are satisfied with the quality of the course
Source: National Student Survey 2014

Sussex was voted third in the UK for the best political scene 2014/15
Source: Which? University

75% of our research is rated ‘world-leading’ or ‘internationally excellent’
Source: Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014

75% of our students are satisfied with the quality of the course
Source: National Student Survey 2014

Sussex was voted third in the UK for the best political scene 2014/15
Source: Which? University

75% of our research is rated ‘world-leading’ or ‘internationally excellent’
Source: Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014
The Politics Department is based in the state-of-the-art Freeman Building. Opened in 2014, Freeman offers outstanding facilities to support your studies: computer suites, seminar rooms, and a common room with free newspapers, tea and coffee.

Claire Annesley
Comparative politics and gender
claire.annesley@sussex.ac.uk
@ClaireAnnesley

Sabina Avdagic
Comparative political economy
s.avdagic@sussex.ac.uk

Sue Collard
French politics, European
citizenship
s.p.collard@sussex.ac.uk

Elizabeth David-Barrett
Corruption, international business
e.david-barrett@sussex.ac.uk
@LizDavidBarrett

Rekha Diwakar
Indian politics, research methods
r.diwakar@sussex.ac.uk

James Hampshire
Migration and citizenship
j.a.hampshire@sussex.ac.uk

Olli Hellmann
East Asian politics, corruption
o.hellmann@sussex.ac.uk
@OlliHellmann

Dan Hough
Corruption, German politics
d.t.hough@sussex.ac.uk
@TheDanHough

Francis McGowan
European Union policy making
f.mcgowan@sussex.ac.uk

Kai Oppermann
Foreign policy analysis
k.oppermann@sussex.ac.uk

Emily Robinson
British political history
e.a.robinson@sussex.ac.uk
@ea_robinson

Aleks Szczepanik
Central East European politics
a.a.szczepanik@sussex.ac.uk
@AleksZschenik

Paul Taggart
Political parties and populism
p.a.taggart@sussex.ac.uk
@PaulAdamTaggart

Adrian Treacher
International politics and the European Union
a.h.treacher@sussex.ac.uk

Paul Webb
Parties and elections
p.webb@sussex.ac.uk
@PaulDWebb1
Undergraduate teaching

Our degrees are designed so you can explore subjects in ways that interest you, as you develop your knowledge and understanding.

We offer a wide range of courses, including both single honours and joint honours degree courses:

- BA (Hons) in Politics
- BA (Hons) in American Studies and Politics
- BA (Hons) in Economics and Politics
- BA (Hons) in History and Politics
- BA (Hons) in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE)
- BA (Hons) in Politics and International Relations
- BA (Hons) in Politics and Philosophy
- BA (Hons) in Politics and Sociology
- LLB (Hons) in Law with Politics
You will develop the capacity to absorb, organise and cut through a mass of sometimes conflicting sources of information and arguments using different research skills and methods. In addition to this, you will develop transferable skills plus the confidence to construct and present logical and persuasive arguments in front of a group.

**The single honours Politics BA**

Studying for this degree will enable you to develop a heightened awareness of the importance of politics in shaping today’s world. You will acquire an understanding of both normative (how things should be) and empirical (how they are) approaches to politics as well as learning to analyse ideas, institutions and political developments. The aim is to encourage self-development through exposure to the main tenets and traditions of the discipline of Politics.

In Years 1 and 2, alongside your core modules in politics, you also choose ‘elective’ modules either from related subjects such as anthropology, international relations, philosophy, sociology, history, American studies and international development, or any other subject that interests you. You can also choose to follow an elective ‘pathway’ over the first two years that allows you to specialise in a particular topic such as Climate Change, Human Rights, Middle Eastern Studies, or a language. In the third year you study four politics options. Please note that the module options may be subject to change.

**The joint honours Politics BA**

In addition to the three year Politics single honours BA course, students can choose from a range of joint honours courses (see page 06). These joint courses are split 50:50 between Politics and the other subject. Joint degrees allow you to get the best of both worlds, and to be taught by experts from two departments.

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**Find out more!**

**Electives and pathways**

See pages 12–13 for more information about electives and pathways.

**Options**

See page 09 for more information about our optional modules.
### Undergraduate teaching

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Autumn term</th>
<th>Spring term</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Single honours Politics BA</strong></td>
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| Year 1 | Foundations of Politics  
British Political History  
Contemporary Issues in Politics  
Elective | Research Skills and Methods  
Explanatory Concepts in Political Science  
International Politics  
Elective |
| Year 2 | Modern Political Thought  
European Politics  
Comparative Public Policy  
Elective | Politics of Governance option  
Politics of Governance option  
Politics of Governance option  
Elective |
| Year 3 | Political Change option  
Political Change option | Special Topics in Politics option  
Special Topics in Politics option |

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Autumn term</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Joint honours Politics BA</strong></td>
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</table>
| Year 1 | Foundations of Politics  
British Political History  
Joint degree module  
Joint degree module | Research Skills and Methods  
Explanatory Concepts in Political Science  
Joint degree module  
Joint degree module |
| Year 2 | Modern Political Thought  
European Politics  
Joint degree module  
Joint degree module | Politics of Governance option  
Politics of Governance option  
Politics of Governance option  
Joint degree module |
| Year 3 | Political Change option  
Joint degree module | Special Topics in Politics option  
Joint degree module |
In the second and final year, students can choose a number of politics options. The options offered reflect the wide range of research interests covered by faculty. This list shows examples of optional modules that have been offered in recent years.

**Politics of Governance:**
- East Asia
- Eastern Europe
- European Union
- France
- Germany
- India
- International Institutions and Issues
- USA

**Political Change:**
- Eastern Europe
- India
- Latin America
- Modern Germany
- Political Parties and Party Systems
- Politics and International Business
- State Building and State Failure
- The EU as a Global Actor
- The Evolution of Post War European Integration

**Special Topics:**
These modules enable you to learn about the areas of research specialism of tutors in the department
- Democracy and Inequality
- EU Politics and Policy
- France: The Mitterrand Years
- Foreign Policy Analysis
- Ideas of Progress and Decline in Modern British Politics
- Immigration and the Liberal State
- Independent Study/Internship
- Parties and Voters in the UK
- Political Corruption
- Populism and Politics
Beyond the classroom

Politics at Sussex is keen to link to the world outside of academia. Through internships, field trips or the Politics Society, we will help you to apply your political knowledge and skills in a different context.

**Westminster Internships**
In the final year of your degree you can apply for an internship with a Westminster MP or in local government at Brighton & Hove council. This opportunity allows you to try out what you have learnt in the classroom in the real world of politics and public policy. At the end of the placement you will write a dissertation based on your experience.

**Experience Politics abroad**
We organise trips to Germany and France to learn more about the current political scene and meet with politicians and academics there.

Professor Dan Hough takes students in his second year ‘Politics of Governance: Germany’ module to Berlin. The trip includes a visit to the German parliament, the Bundestag, for discussions with politicians from all major political parties as well as to other prominent historical landmarks such as the Holocaust Memorial, Checkpoint Charlie and remnants of the Berlin Wall.

Students of French politics have taken study trips to Paris to attend debates in the National Assembly on same-sex marriage, quiz politicians at the Communist Party headquarters, and visit the Paris City Hall.

**Politics Society**
The Politics Society is a student-led group which is passionate about politics. It puts on talks and events throughout the academic year, publishes an annual undergraduate politics journal, and organises the final year ball.

Many Politics Society events are high-profile, like the ‘Sussex Question Time’ for candidates competing for the seat of Brighton Pavilion which over 400 students and staff attended. The most regular event is ‘Politics Wednesdays’ which brings together staff and students for discussions that begin in the department and are usually continued with food and drink in the campus bar.

Politics Society activities in 2014/15 included film screenings, debates on the future of the UK, ISIS, and free speech, and talks from members of staff about their research on corruption, foreign policy fiascos, inequality and French politics. We have also welcomed a wide range of external speakers including senior journalists, a newspaper editor, an election observer, an ex-special advisor and a former political prisoner.

@SussexPolSoc
Beyond the classroom

The Politics Society organised Sussex Question Time in 2015.
Sussex Choice allows you to broaden your studies by adding a placement, choosing from a variety of elective courses, or by spending some time studying abroad.

Electives
At Sussex, we offer electives in other subjects that are not necessarily related to your main subject.

As a student on single honours courses, you can broaden and enrich your studies by choosing to spend 25 per cent of your time in Years 1 and 2 of your course on electives, exploring other subject areas.

Pathways
On single honours courses, you may choose to study a pathway – a coherent programme of study in a single subject – taking up 25 per cent of your time in Years 1 and 2 of your course. Once you have successfully completed a pathway, this is recorded on your degree certificate, allowing you demonstrate an additional specialism.

Pathways are delivered over the first two years of a course so you can explore your interests early on in your studies, while allowing you to focus on your core subject in the final year.

Neither pathways nor electives have specific entry requirements.

Placements
The University of Sussex recognises that professional/industrial placements can make a valuable contribution to an individual’s learning and development. We aim to support you to organise, manage and make the most of opportunities for gaining work experience during your time at Sussex.

We support students throughout the professional/industrial placement recruitment and selection process through a Placement Preparation Programme delivered by the Careers and Employability Centre. A central Placement Officer provides information, advice and guidance along with individual student support. Key topics in the programme include:

- How to find the best placement for you
- What employers look for and how to make your application stand out
- Identifying your unique selling points
- How to impress at interview
- Getting the most out of your placement.

Study abroad
Once students have embarked on their degree they also have the opportunity to apply to spend time studying at a university abroad. This can extend the degree into a four year course.

We have close relationships with numerous universities across the globe: in Europe, America, Australia, North Africa and East Asia.

You will be given plenty of advice and information about studying abroad and you will be invited to attend meetings and meet returning study abroad students who will give you valuable insights into what awaits you. You will be allocated a Study Abroad Tutor from among the academic staff of the Department of Politics, and you will be able to contact that individual while living and studying abroad. Additionally you will benefit from the student support services within your institution of study.
Electives and pathways for Politics students

Electives
This list shows some of the electives that have been offered in the past:
- American Identities
- Applied Psychology
- Arabic
- Chinese
- Education for Development: Aid, Policy and the Global Agenda
- English Language Teaching
- Ethnographic Film
- Film Analysis
- French (Intermediate)
- German
- Global Issues
- International Business Environment
- Introduction to Financial Markets and Trading
- Italian
- Japanese
- Leadership Foundations
- Mathematics Demystified
- Music and Society
- Our Place in the Universe(s)
- Paradox and Argument
- Reading as a Creative and Critical Writer
- Spanish for Professional Purposes
- Spanish (Intermediate)
- The Making of Modern Europe
- Thinking Like a Criminologist
- Understanding Law

Pathways
You can choose from an array of fascinating options including:
- Criminology
- Culture and Society
- Education
- Entrepreneurship
- Gender Studies
- Global Studies
- Human Rights
- International Business
- Languages
- Legal Studies
- Psychology
- Strategic Management

Find out more!
For more information on electives visit www.sussex.ac.uk/study/ug/sussexchoice/electives

Find out more!
For a full list of pathways visit www.sussex.ac.uk/study/ug/sussexchoice/pathways
A Foundation Year is your step up to degree study at a top university

If you are keen to study Politics with us but lack the qualifications or grades needed for degree study, our Foundation Year could be for you. The Foundation Year bridges the gap academically from school to university, while building confidence too. Ideal for school leavers and anyone wanting to return to education after a study break, the University of Sussex Foundation Year develops your academic interests, allows you to participate fully in student life, and ensures you are taught by the same academics who deliver our degrees.

If you gain the required pass level at the end of your Foundation Year, you will be able to stay at Sussex for your chosen degree. Foundation Years are available in a range of subjects including:

- Arts and Humanities
- Social Sciences
- International Foundation Year for international students
Studying politics at Sussex gives you knowledge about political institutions, practices and cultures across the world. It also fosters analytical and communication skills that will equip you for success in a wide range of careers.

Politics graduates from Sussex go on to a variety of challenging careers in active politics, political lobbying and public affairs, local, central and international governance, journalism and publishing, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and charities, education and research. These are some of the areas where our graduates are making a difference:

**Members of Parliament**
- **Caroline Nokes MP, Politics 1991**
  Conservative MP for Romsey and Southampton North (2010–present)
- **Geoffrey Van Orden MBE MEP, Politics and International Relations 1966**
  Conservative Member of the European Parliament for the East of England (1999–present)
- **The Rt Hon Peter Hain, Politics 1973**
  Known for its political activism, Sussex also boasts a further five Members of Parliament amongst its alumni: Hilary Benn, Benjamin Bradshaw, Michael Fabricant, Peter Kyle and Owen Smith.

**Journalism**
- **Robin Lustig, Politics 1967**
  Journalist and broadcaster
- **Roy Greenslade, Politics 1976**
  Professor of Journalism at City University London and former editor of the *Daily Mirror*

**Media and the Arts**
- **Hattie Hayridge, Politics and International Relations 1983**
  Comedian and actor
- **Jolyon Rubinstein, Politics 2000**
  Actor, writer, producer and director

**Business**
- **Jane Root, Politics 1980**
  Founder of Nutopia
- **Andrew Newell, Politics 1999**
  MD and founder, Iris Connect
‘The University of Sussex was a great experience, full of free thinking and exciting people. We thrived on lively debate and endless Brighton sunshine.’

Caroline Nokes, Politics 1991
MP for Romsey and Southampton North, and Parliamentary Private Secretary at the Department for Work and Pensions.

‘I was almost 30 when I arrived to study politics at Sussex. I found it exhilarating and my sense of excitement never faltered. It was an invaluable experience because I learned how to learn. And I have been learning ever since.’

Roy Greenslade, Politics 1976
Professor of Journalism at City University London, media commentator, and columnist

‘The greatest thing about my Sussex Politics education is that it enabled me to look at many different subjects through which I learnt many different skills.’

Jolyon Rubinstein, Politics 2000
British actor, writer, producer and director.
Postgraduate teaching

The Department of Politics offers an exciting, cutting-edge learning environment with an impressive track record of internationally recognised research.

We offer a range of postgraduate taught and research courses, reflecting our Department's strength in international politics, European governance and policy, and corruption and governance.
MA in European Governance and Policy

One year full-time
Two years part-time

This MA offers you the chance to study how policy is made in Europe, covering national and EU level processes as well as the interaction between them. It focuses in particular on the political context to policy making in Europe. The course makes use of cutting-edge research and the insights of policy-makers and others seeking to shape policy.

This MA will prepare you for a range of policy-oriented careers at the supranational, national or subnational levels, or further academic study. The course attracts students from a wide range of European countries creating a culturally diverse mix which enriches teaching and social life.

Course structure

**Autumn term**
- European Governance
- Politics and Public Policy
- Research Methods and Approaches

**Spring term**
You choose two options from a specialist range that may include:
- Domestic Politics of European Integration
- Energy and Environmental Security in Europe
- EU Single Market Law
- European Political Integration
- International Politics of Public Policy
- International Relations of the EU
- Political Economy of EU Integration
- Political Parties and Party Systems in Comparative Perspective
- Politics of Immigration
- Politics of Eastern Europe in Transition
- Territorial Politics

**Summer term**
You research and write a 15,000-word dissertation on a topic of your choice, related to one of your options, under supervision of a member of faculty.
MA in International Politics

This MA offers you the opportunity to study the connection between politics at a domestic level with the wider regional and international levels. It looks at the political context in which different countries operate and how this influences their foreign policies. You develop an in-depth understanding of major powers in the world by examining political science methods, international politics and comparative governance and will have the opportunity to specialise in the regional politics of South Asia, East Asia or Europe.

Our International Politics MA prepares you for a broad variety of careers at the intersection between the domestic and the international. You are well placed to work in government, international institutions, NGOs, think tanks and journalism. The course also prepares you for a research degree in politics or international relations.

Course structure

Autumn term
- International Politics
- Comparative Governance
- Research Methods and Approaches.

Spring term
You choose two options from a focused range of specialist modules that may include:
- Domestic Politics of European Integration
- European Political Integration
- Foreign Policy Analysis
- International Politics of Public Policy
- Politics in India
- The State in East Asia

Summer term
You research and write a 15,000-word dissertation on a topic of your choice, related to one of your options, under supervision of a member of faculty.
MA Corruption and Governance

Our Corruption and Governance MA offers you a deep understanding of what corruption is and what can be done to counteract it. The MA addresses the problem of corruption from a number of perspectives: it embraces the political challenge, the legal dimensions, and business concerns and interests plus anthropological standpoints; and mixes theoretical insight with the opportunities to put these ideas into practice. You have the opportunity to undertake a three month internship with an organisation active in the field.

This MA attracts students with an interest in the study of corruption and governance from a wide range of backgrounds – legal, economic, business, sociological, anthropological or political science. Our Corruption and Governance MA will set you up for a career in private and public sectors, in public policy-making, the civil service and business, including corporate social responsibility. Career pathways into development, non-governmental organisations, charities or journalism are also options.

Course structure

**Autumn term**
- Interdisciplinary Approaches to Analysing Corruption
- Anti-corruption
- Research Methods in Corruption Studies

**Spring term**
You choose one module option and to do an internship, or you take two specialist options which may include:
- Corruption and Business
- Corruption and the Law (offered jointly with UNODC)
- Development, Business and Corporate Responsibility
- International Crime
- International Transnational Offending
- Political Parties and Party Systems
- State Capacity, Energy and Corruption
- Tackling Corruption: Methods, Means and Mechanisms
- The State in East Asia: Corruption, Theft and Collapse

**Summer term**
You research and write a 15,000-word dissertation on a topic of your choice, related to one of your options, under supervision of a member of faculty.
Postgraduate research

The Politics department hosts a vibrant community of PhD students. Your time at Sussex means being fully integrated into our research environment.

You will take part in research seminars by leading scholars and practitioners from around the world as well as workshops and conferences organised by research centres. The day-to-day interactions with a community of academics and the international, high-quality students we attract will set you up with an international network for life.

The diverse and international scope of our research means we supervise an impressive range of PhD projects. Research and study in Politics at Sussex covers the ground from the core areas of political science to a range of specialist subjects from migration to parties to public policy. Specialisations include Britain and Europe (with particular expertise on France, Germany and Poland), India, East Asia and the United States.

Research students can join the Sussex European Institute (SEI) or the Sussex Centre for the Study of Corruption (SCSC) or work on topics that cut across these areas. We are proud of the experience we offer research students but we are even more proud of our research students who have moved on to successful research careers in top universities.
Sussex offered a very international, intellectually stimulating research environment with a truly interdisciplinary research culture. There was a real sense of community. My doctoral training at Sussex provided me with solid foundations for my future academic career.

Professor Lucia Quaglia was awarded her PhD on ‘Italy and Economic and Monetary Union: Domestic Politics and European Union Policy-Making’ in 2002.
The Sussex European Institute (SEI) is a Jean Monnet centre of excellence for research on Europe and the European Union. It has built a reputation since 1992 on its distinctive approach to the study of Europe, based on:

**Interdisciplinarity.** Big European issues such as migration, EU enlargement, economic and monetary union, and European security require an interdisciplinary approach provided in SEI by political science, law, sociology, economics, geography, and international relations.

**Breadth and inclusivity.** The SEI treats Europe not just as ‘the EU’ or ‘Western Europe’ and it engages with the often ‘forgotten’ parts of the continent.

**Grounded, policy-relevant research.** The SEI communicates its bold and ambitious research to a wide range of non-academic audiences including policy-makers, think tanks, NGOs, the media and business community.

**Integrating the European and national levels of analysis.** The SEI emphasises the need for scholars, analysts and policy makers to understand how the European integration process interacts with domestic political processes.

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**SEI co-director: Professor Paul Taggart**
p.a.taggart@sussex.ac.uk
www.sussex.ac.uk/sei
The Sussex Centre for the Study of Corruption (SCSC) is the UK’s first interdisciplinary centre for the analysis of corruption. Corruption is, it would appear, one of the great evils of our time. Citizens are appalled by it, politicians claim to want to reduce it, and international organisations have created entire reform agendas to tackle it.

The research of the SCSC analyses what corruption is, where and why it flourishes and – most importantly – what can be done to counteract it. Established in 2011, the SCSC has rapidly established itself as a dynamic hub of corruption and anti-corruption teaching and research.

SCSC researchers work closely with organisations such as Transparency International and anti-corruption agencies to develop recommendations and proposals for combating corruption where it occurs in the United Kingdom and across the globe.

SCSC director: Professor Dan Hough
d.t.hough@sussex.ac.uk
@SCSC_Sussex
www.sussex.ac.uk/scsc
The place is alive with mainstream and alternative cultures. It is a city where individuality and diversity are valued and applauded.

The best thing you could do is to come and find out for yourself.

For many, going to university will mean moving away from home for the first time. Surrounded by the South Downs National Park, the University of Sussex is a community with an atmosphere of intimacy and camaraderie that many students find encouraging, and reminisce about long after graduation.

From a social perspective, it is unbeatable – the restaurants, bars and sports facilities are only ever a short walk away.

The centre of Brighton is only ten minutes away from campus by either bus or train. Here you will find everything you could ask for – sun, sea, brilliant clubs, great places to eat, fabulous shops, and a truly cosmopolitan atmosphere.

Whether it’s down to something in the sea air or the protection of the South Downs, Brighton feels special. The atmosphere is unique, relaxed and friendly. Famous for its shopping and café culture, Brightonians have embraced the student lifestyle.
How to get to Sussex

The University campus is located at Falmer, on the outskirts of Brighton, within easy reach of London and major international airports (Gatwick and Heathrow).

For more information, visit www.sussex.ac.uk/findus

Disclaimer
Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the information presented in this brochure is correct at the time of going to print, the University of Sussex cannot be held responsible for any errors and/or omissions. In addition, subjects are constantly developing and hence, our degree courses are regularly reviewed and updated to reflect this.

The University regrets any unwilling infringements of copyright.

June 2015

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All other photography by Stuart Robinson at the University of Sussex.
How do I find out more?
For information about entrance qualifications and for advice on how to apply, see the University of Sussex Undergraduate and/or Postgraduate Prospectus. These can be obtained online from www.sussex.ac.uk/study/prospectus

For any further or more specific enquiries, please contact:
The Department of Politics
School of Law, Politics and Sociology
Freeman Building
University of Sussex
Brighton BN1 9QE, UK
T +44 (0)1273 678578
E j.dowling@sussex.ac.uk
www.sussex.ac.uk/politics
@SussexPolitics

Cover photo (Olli Hellmann): In 2014 Brighton & Hove city council wrote to the owner of these houses asking for properties to be ‘adequately painted’. The owner commissioned local artist Aroe MSK to paint this mural.