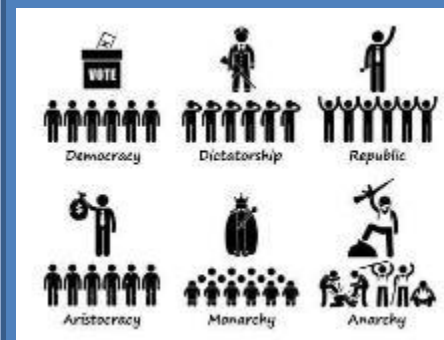
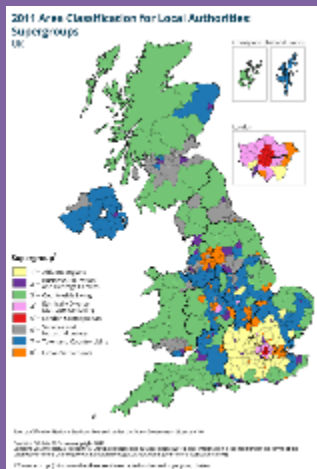




ECED7001: Political Influences in Inequality & Diversity

Theme 1: Module Overview

What does 'Politics' mean to you?

We will first look at the posts on the Forum under this Topic.

This will help to set the scene for our discussions and explorations in this Module.



What is Politics?

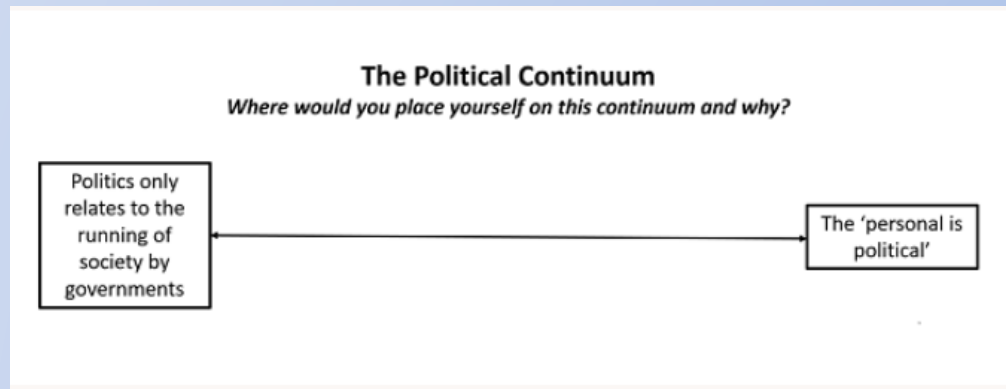
- Politics derives from the Greek root *polis* meaning city/state
- It therefore literally means *affairs of the city/state*
- It shares this root with the following words in English;
 - *Policy*
 - *Police*
 - *Cosmopolitan*
 - *Metropolis*
- Therefore in one sense it can be seen to relate to society as a whole

What is Politics?

- However, the concept of politics is, as we shall see, far more complex in its modern usage
- As we have already seen, taken at face value it can be seen to be ‘the practice of the art or science of directing and administering states or other political units’ (Brown *et al*, 2018).
- The definition of politics is, perhaps, one of the most contested concepts in sociological debate
- There are almost as many views on what constitutes the ‘political’ as there are theorists

What is Politics?

- On one side of the debate we would find those, such as feminists, who argue that the 'personal is political' i.e. that everything is a matter of politics
- Others would take an opposing view that the political only refers to the level of government and the state and usually involves party competition.
- If we visualise this as a continuum where would you place yourself?



What is Politics?

- Over the course of this Module we will explore not only this debate but also the many approaches to politics that exist in contemporary society
- However for the rest of this session we will look at the Module Outline and the Assignments.
- Please note that you can ask any questions about the Assignments in the General Forum at the top of the Moodle Page



Module Outline

As usual this is included in the Assignment Submissions section of Moodle;



Assignment 1

As usual this is included in the Assignment Submissions section of Moodle;



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

Assignment 2

As usual this is included in the Assignment Submissions section of Moodle;



Assignment 3

As usual this is included in the Assignment Submissions section of Moodle;



Moodle (continued)

As well as these, usual features of Moodle, there are two other features to take note of;

- General Module Forum – for any questions regarding the Module and/or Assignments
- The Leganto online reading list



Suggested format for teaching

Mondays will be primarily tutorials with a chance for questions

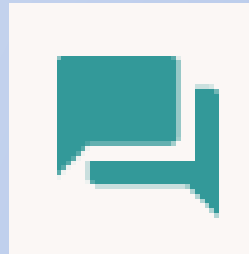
The Friday & Saturday sessions will be lectures but discursive and interactive

I will supplement these activities with some other Guided Learning Activities (such as the Forums etc.)

Any Questions?



Please post any questions that are not raised in this first session in the General Forum on Moodle



References

Brown, Garrett W, McLean, Iain & McMillan, Alistair, (2018) *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Politics and International Relations* Oxford: Oxford University Press Available at: <https://www-oxfordreference-com.ezproxy.uwtsd.ac.uk/view/10.1093/acref/9780199670840.001.0001/acref-9780199670840-e-1042?rskey=UVSICN&result=1> [Accessed 22/09/2022]