

COURSE DETAIL

PUBLIC POLICY FAILURE AND THE BRITISH STATE: A HISTORY IN TWELVE CASE STUDIES

Country

France

Host Institution

Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po)

Program(s)

Sciences Po Paris

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Political Science History

UCEAP Course Number

158

UCEAP Course Suffix

P

UCEAP Official Title

PUBLIC POLICY FAILURE AND THE BRITISH STATE: A HISTORY IN TWELVE CASE STUDIES

UCEAP Transcript Title

PUB PLCY FAIL/BRIT

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

British living standards have stagnated for almost fifteen years, and on present trends will be the same as Poland's by 2030. What has gone "wrong" with the quality of Government in Britain? What errors and mistakes have its governments made? What lessons can be learned for other nations? Is relative British decline reversible? This interdisciplinary course draws on intellectual traditions in history, political science, economic history and economics to explore how the Academy explains the perpetual British crisis, drawing on the course leader's research in modern British history and politics at the University of Oxford. Its method is case study-based, beginning with the First World War (the conceptual, introductory topic) and passing through other "failures" of the British State since 1914, including Appeasement; the Suez Crisis; Concorde, the Community Charge (the "Poll Tax"); Rail Privatization; the Iraq War; and the Great Financial Crisis of 2007/8. An overview of "public policy failure" literature is integral to the course.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

DSPO 25A60

Host Institution Course Title

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Host Institution Course Details

<https://syllabus.sciencespo.fr/en/?202520/291233>

Host Institution Campus**Host Institution Faculty**

Host Institution Degree

Seminar

Host Institution Department

Political Science

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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