

Your Department



What not to miss in Interpol 2023–24

Gwleidyddiaeth
Ryngwladol  International
Politics

A warm welcome to the Department of International Politics at Aberystwyth

You are now part of the very special place that is Interpol!

As you join the current generation of Interpol scholars, here's more about what makes Interpol so special...

We have a global reputation for excellence:

- Wherever in the world you go, you'll find that people with a serious interest in international politics have heard of Aberystwyth!
- We produce world-leading and internationally recognized research on varied subjects!

Plus...

- The 2023 National Student Survey (NSS) Interpol has an excellent **86% overall satisfaction rating**. In addition, we also achieved some excellent scores in specific areas of our teaching, for example:
 - 95% of students agree staff are good at explaining things,
 - 91% of students found they had the chance to explore the subject in depth,
 - 96% of our students agree that they have been able to contact staff when they needed to.

We look forward to continuing to provide you with an excellent setting to study – and working with you to achieve this!

As well as being the first department in the world, Interpol can boast a whole series of other ‘firsts’...

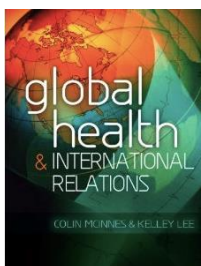
First lecturer in Strategic Studies

In 1962 John Garnett was appointed UK’s first lecturer in strategic studies, an important sub-field dealing with the nuclear revolution.



Intelligence

The Department appointed the UK’s first lecturer in intelligence studies, and set up the very successful Centre for Intelligence and International Security Studies.



Global Health at Aber

In 2007 the first UNESCO Chair in Wales held by Professor Colin McInnes was established for the study of global health, especially HIV/AIDS, and foreign and security policy.

First ever ‘politics’ degrees in Welsh

We pioneered teaching politics through the medium of Welsh from the 1980s onwards. We have continued to expand the range of our provision and are a key provider of teaching through the medium of Welsh.



Opportunities of a lifetime!

As an Interpol student, you have the chance to join in with the wealth of extra-curricular activities to enhance your personal development and employability.



- Representation and Participation – the **Staff/Student Consultative Committee**.
- Skills sessions – activities coordinated by the Department’s Employability Officer and Careers Consultant and **tailored for Interpol students**.
- Helping other students – be a **Freshers’ Peer Guide** or Signpost Guide
- Practical experiences – **sessions with alumni and employers**.
- Journalism experience – **Interstate Magazine**.
- Creative organization – the **Interpol Society**.
- Exciting role-play experience – **Crisis Games**.
- International travel – **Exchange programmes**.
- Hands-on experience of political life – **the Placement schemes**.

Why should I get involved?

These activities will **enrich your time** as a student, expand your range of skills, and boost your confidence. All of this help you to be **more likely to get a rewarding job** and be more successful in your work and career.

How can I find out more?

- **Keep an eye out for emails** inviting you to meetings
- **Keep an eye on departmental Twitter feed: @InterpolAber**
- Student-led activities – see them at the **Freshers’ Fair** and look for emails too!

Student Voice

Each semester the Department meets with student reps to hear about any problems or great ideas. Why not take part?

The **Staff-Student Consultative Committee (SSCC)** plays a **vital role in departmental life**. It...



- **Allows students to feedback to us and suggest** ideas, raise queries, identify problems and help us to develop new initiatives.
- **Feeds into our policy-making** on a whole range of things from new degree schemes and modules to diversity initiatives.

This kind of thing looks great on **your CV** and is really rewarding...

How can I get involved?

Any student can stand for election. There are posts representing: first year students; second year students; third year students; Welsh medium students; joint honours students; and international students. Representatives are in post for **one year** and may stand for re-election.

- The Student Union holds the elections for Staff Student Consultative Committee positions, with the standing open from **25th September to 10th October as the deadline for nominations.**
- The following week, **voting occurs 16-19 October.** Keep an eye on your email for further information on the elections!
- All new reps will have **training** organized by the Student's Union.

For more information, go to: [Elections \(abersu.co.uk\)](http://abersu.co.uk)

How do I contact my rep?

- Look on the **noticeboard** (the one going downstairs to seminar rooms on level 0).
- **Email** them directly.
- **Find them on:** [Academic Representatives \(abersu.co.uk\)](http://abersu.co.uk)



STUDENT

Voice





International Student Exchange Programme



We run academic exchanges to a wide range of countries, including: Australia, Canada, China, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and Turkey.



- Interpol students can study abroad for one semester of their second year (a full year on our four year degree schemes).
- A stipend is available to support exchange.
- For those not doing a language-based degree, all tuition is in English.



Who can participate?



- The scheme is open to first year students only and the exchanges take place in year two.
- All Interpol students can apply, including joint and major/minor students.



There are limited places and applicants are selected via a competitive interview process. We are looking for people who have proven that they are enthusiastic about studying international politics, can work hard under pressure, and who are able to adapt quickly to being in a very different environment.



How can I find out more?



We will hold a meeting on **Wednesday, 1 November** at 1.00pm where you can get all the details and hear from exchange students about their experiences.

Or email: Dr. Charalampos Efsthopoulos che15@aber.ac.uk

Placement Schemes



Get hands-on experience of political life, assisting political representatives in the House of Commons or the Senedd, the Welsh Parliament.

- Students work in the office of a serving Member of Parliament at the House of Commons (London) or a Member of the Senedd at the Senedd (Cardiff) for between 4 and 6 weeks during the summer.
- The work typically includes writing press releases and dealing with constituency matters, but also includes attending events (sometimes prestigious!). In the past students have even been on the campaign trail!

Who can participate?

- The scheme is open to second year students only and the application process is competitive. Successful applicants are chosen after an interview. We are looking for people who are enthusiastic and passionate about politics, who have good interpersonal skills, and who can work hard and diligently under pressure in a non-academic environment

Find out more

We will hold a Teams meeting on **Wednesday, 1 November 2.00pm** where you can get all the details. Keep your eyes peeled for an email reminder.

Or email: Dr. Gerry Hughes: rbh@aber.ac.uk

Crisis Game

The Crisis Games are extremely popular activities and this year in Hawkstone Park, Shropshire, 8–10 December. Through these simulations you can learn about aspects of international politics that cannot be taught in lectures and seminars, and build non-academic skills – negotiating, planning, team management, public speaking – which are clearly great assets for future careers...

What is it?

Students are given a crisis ‘scenario’ and allocated to one of several teams representing national leaders, government departments, transnational corporations, NGOs, international organizations or paramilitary groups, etc. These teams simulate, as realistically as possible, the interactions of the various participants in an international crisis. This ‘real time’ experience gives students the opportunity to test their abilities to plan strategically, work with others, engage in diplomacy (and, perhaps, a little subterfuge as well!) and put themselves in the shoes of those charged with facing some of international politics’ biggest challenges.



Find out more

Details on registration and more info on the scenario itself will be shared early in semester one. Places are limited so watch out for the emails!

Employability

This term is used to describe the **skills, understandings and personal attributes** that help graduates to be more likely to gain a job and **be successful in their chosen careers**. Employers are looking for graduates who stand out, because of the range of skills and experiences that they have. Enhancing employability has a wider role in **developing as an individual and your potential contribution as a citizen** to your communities.

Interpol Employability Workshops

Semester 1: **CVs and Cover Letter:** how to construct a good CV, showcase your skills, attributes and experiences.

Work experience and Internships: the importance of gaining good quality work experiences... and where to find them.

Semester 2: **Career Planning:** Job searching and considering Postgraduate Study. What's the right career path for you?

Interview Techniques & Assessment Centres: what to expect from the recruitment process...

We also plan to invite **prominent Interpol Alumni** to talk about their experiences.

Meeting employers

- Alumni or **former students now in great jobs** will also be speaking to students – and we can even link you up with them as advisers!
- There are **Careers Fairs** throughout the year
- There is also a **Year in Employment** scheme, as well as degree schemes with employment built-in.

Find out More

- Contact our dedicated Careers Consultant Tony Orme: awo@aber.ac.uk
- Receive updates from the Employability Officer, Gerry Hughes: rbh@aber.ac.uk

Work Experience in Interpol!

Internship opportunity with the DDMI



The David Davies Memorial Institute (DDMI) is an important research centre in the Department. It has an active **programme of speakers and events** aiming to develop the normative vision of Lord David Davies, the founder of our Department. Central to this vision are questions of peace and justice in world affairs. The DDMI promotes research through networking with academic and non-academic communities in Wales, the UK, and internationally.

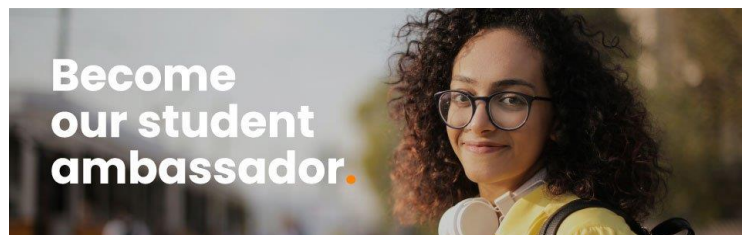
It will appoint up to **five interns** for the academic year 2023-24 from second or third year undergraduate cohort, or MA students in the Department of International Politics. The interns will help with running the DDMI's core activities. This includes, organization of lectures, talks, workshops and other events hosted by the DDMI; maintenance of the DDMI's website and Twitter account, editorial assistance and research assistance.

For more information on **how to apply**, please contact the Director of the DDMI, Jan Ruzicka, jl@aber.ac.uk. The application deadline is Friday, 6 October 2023 at 4:00PM.

Student Ambassador

Why not earn a little extra cash by welcoming prospective students

and their families in Open Days and Visiting Days. Ambassadors greet and direct visitors, and share their experience of being a student at Aberystwyth. **Contact Lucy Taylor**, Director of Admissions on lft@aber.ac.uk.



AberForward

This is a Uni-wide scheme which provides a range of work-related training and work experience opportunities to Aberystwyth University students and recent graduates. A superb way to learn skills and get an extra line on your CV! For more information on **how to apply** see [the AberForward website](#).

Skills Development and Careers

Tony Orme, Interpol's Careers Consultant awo@aber.ac.uk

Tony is the Careers Consultant for the Department of International Politics and is available to support students. As well as being involved in 'skills sessions', you can meet up with Tony for **one-to-one slots** for students throughout term time. Come along for a chat and to get the support you need in thinking about applying for internships, developing your CV and career planning.



Career Skills Webinars

| | | Finding your Confidence: 2 Oct -20 Oct | | |
|----------|--------|---|--|---------------|
| Tuesday | 03-Oct | 10.10am | How to find a part-time job | Union Room |
| Thursday | 05-Oct | 11.10am | Career confident – meet your Careers Service for brunch | Picture House |
| Tuesday | 10-Oct | 11.10am | Presenting with Confidence | TEAMS |
| Monday | 16-Oct | 11.10am | Utilising ABERCareers to find a job, events, placements and advice | Union Room |

| | | Get Work Ready: 23 Oct - 10 Nov | | |
|----------|--------|--|---|------------|
| Monday | 23-Oct | 11.10am | Attending a careers fair | TEAMS |
| Tuesday | 24-Oct | 11.10am | Postgraduate study | Union Room |
| Tuesday | 24-Oct | 10:30 | How to network and connect with employers – Karl Swanepoel – Revolancer | TEAMS |
| Tuesday | 31-Oct | 10.10am | How to write great CVs and cover letters | Union Room |
| Thursday | 02-Nov | 11:10 | Adjustments and disclosure | TBC |
| Monday | 06-Nov | 12.10pm | How to succeed at interviews | Union Room |
| Tuesday | 07-Nov | 10.10am | Graduate Schemes - Busting Myths !! | TEAMS |

| | | Digital Festival: 6 Nov - 10 Nov | | |
|----------|--------|---|---|-------|
| Tuesday | 07-Nov | 11.10am | How to use LinkedIn. | TEAMS |
| Thursday | 09-Nov | 10.10am | Improving your Digital Footprint and your Online Shadow | TEAMS |

| | | Finding your Career Direction: 13 Nov - 1 Dec | | |
|-----------|--------|--|---|-------|
| Wednesday | 15-Nov | 11.10am | Using Prospects (bring your own device) | TEAMS |

| | | | | |
|----------|--------|---------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Thursday | 16-Nov | 11.10am | Applying for teacher training | Union Room |
| Thursday | 23-Nov | 14:10 | Developing a Growth mind set. | Union Room |
| Thursday | 30-Nov | 14:10 | Know your learning styles | Union Room |

| | | | | |
|---------|--------|-------|---|----------------------|
| | | | Career Wellbeing: | 4 Dec - 8 Dec |
| Tuesday | 05-Dec | 11:10 | Mince pie brunch careers chat and quiz – include Student Support, CRS staff | Picture House |

For more details and to book a visit the [AberCareers website](#). Workshop dates and times are subject to change, so please check for up-to-date information.

Find out more

Check on up-coming Careers and Employability events, **book an appointment** to meet your Careers Consultant or to see up to date job vacancy information, go to the [Careers Service website](#) and click on the AberCareers link (you will need to register your details here on the first occasion you visit AberCareers).



Mentoring – careers advice and networking

What is eMentoring?

A chance for Aberystwyth students, alumni and career professionals to give and receive advice via online mentoring. Visit the [eMentoring website](#) to register.

Mentors can offer:

- advice via email.
- feedback on CVs and application forms.
- Provide insight into a specific career.
- Enable visits to a mentor's place of work.
- Offer opportunities for work shadowing and work experience.



The eMentoring scheme can help students to build networks and **expand their opportunities**. Search the mentor profiles by profession, interests or location, and build a **supportive network** quickly and easily.

Benefits for the mentee

- Practical advice on job search techniques and skills.
- Build a network to help you reach that first step of the career ladder.
- Gain an insight into a job and career.
- Expand your career horizons.
- Develop your knowledge of specialist skills.
- One-to-one support from an experienced professional.

Get the advice and support of someone who has been where you are right now...



Who could be my mentor...?

Josh Fedder

One of our many experienced graduates is now Assistant Director for Oxfordshire - **Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy**. Josh has worked with in the Civil Service for the past 8 years and is a successful applicant to the Civil Service's Future Leaders Scheme. Register with eMentoring to see Josh's full profile and connect with him as a mentee.

Here are some other InterPol graduates happy to mentor you:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Sarah Bennett | Deputy Head of Mission at UK Mission to ASEAN |
| Jim Poole | former Senior Civil Servant (MoD, Cabinet Office) |
| Owen Hathway | Sport Wales : Ass Director, Policy and Public Affairs, |
| Nick Williams | Project Support Officer at NPO Development Initiatives |
| Neal Barcoe | Deputy Director, Family Justice Policy |
| Kok Liang Chew | General Council - Malaysian Territorial Army |
| Ross Paton | Community Resilience Officer, Local Government |

Sneha's experience – how did her mentor help?



“My mentor would help me with career options, what Masters degree to do, his wider network influence and helping with dissertation interviewees. He helped me to get in touch with an employer for an interview related to my research and to work on my methodological skills where my degree had not been able to. I realised that my degree wouldn't teach me everything,

the mentoring system helps to plug some of those gaps. Being mentored made me realise what routes of entry there are to career paths in policy. I am now a Research Analyst and my understanding of research and analysis has been shaped by the mentoring system and the help my mentor gave me.” Interpol graduate Sneha is now a **research analyst with Defence and Security think tank RUSI** and had a long mentoring relationship both during and after her time at Aberystwyth University.

Register with eMentoring by [visiting the eMentoring website](#).

International Politics Society



Organizing an a range of guest speakers, socials, and other events, the International Politics Society (IPS) at Aberystwyth are a group of students who have an interest in politics, whether that be domestic issues and/or foreign. **Any student, in any department, is able to join.** As a society, we run a number of different events throughout the year. This year, they will include.

- Inviting **guest speakers** to talk about a range of different topics and their experiences of being involved in politics.
- **Academic support** sessions to help students that are studying International Politics
- **Social events** in Aberystwyth, we plan to organize weekly events and activities- these ranging from pub crawls to sports.
- **Trips** to different places with political significance or history, including the Senedd.

Where can you see us? Upcoming events in the next two weeks.

- On the **26th of September** (Tuesday) we have our first social! More information can be found on our social media
- We are attending some of the **departmental events**: including the freshers reception on Monday 25th Sept and the departmental roundtable on Friday 29th Sept. We will also be at Fresher's Fair (Wednesday).
- We will also be hosting a coffee event for you to see how you are doing so far in the department and to help you with any problems that you may have. If we cannot help, we are able to direct you to a member of staff who can.

If this sounds like something you would enjoy, make sure to follow our social media, become a member and join our mailing list. Here are the links.

Email: scty16@aber.ac.uk

Mailing list and membership: <https://www.abersu.co.uk/society/ips/>

Instagram link: https://www.instagram.com/aber_interpol/



Model UN

In Model UN we give you the opportunity to debate the issues affecting our world in a wide range of simulations using an ACMUN specific format of the United Nations. Participants often have to take uncomfortable positions and defend their chosen countries' records on a wide range of topics. Everyone will attempt to put forward resolutions that either benefit them or veto proposals that hurt participants and/or their interests. You don't need to have any previous knowledge of the topic to participate as long as you look up your country's involvement on the issue at hand. Previous Model UN events have included "Refugee crisis" held by the UNHRC, "Scar on Myanmar" held by Asean. We also hold meetings from the past such as the "Yalta Conference" and the "Congress of Vienna".



Crisis Events

Modelled on the highly successful department games, Crisis Games are a dynamic and complex geopolitical simulation of potential and past crises. Last year, these have included events such as the "Franco-Prussian War" and "1956 Suez Crisis". Teamwork, complex problems, backroom deals and the application of creative solutions is what makes Crisis Games unique and thrilling. You do not need to have previous knowledge of the scenario to play our Crisis Events. Keep an eye on our [Instagram](#) & [ACMUN SU webpage](#).



INTERSTATE JOURNAL

Journal of Politics and International Relations / *Cyfnodolyn Gwleidyddiaeth a Gwleidyddiaeth Rhyngwladol*

Interstate

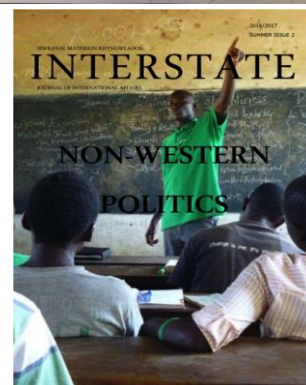
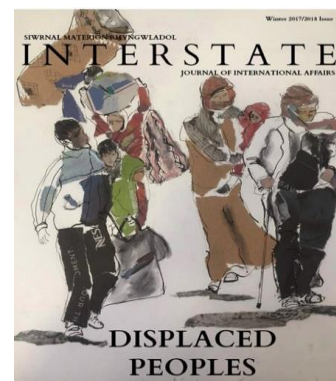
The media is one of the most important ways to **shape the political world...** so why not get involved!

Founded in [1965](#), *Interstate Journal of Politics and International Relations* is an exclusively **undergraduate-run academic journal** organized under the auspices of Aberystwyth University's prestigious Department of International Politics. Interstate focuses mostly on the contemporary with our annual issues, however, our blog is more encompassing allowing for submissions on anything international, domestic, or historical of significance.

Interstate allows students – from **Freshers to Masters** – to publish alongside world leading academics and practitioners. It provides a fitting space in which students can apply newly acquired skills and express their academic interests.

We **welcome all students** - come and get involved with writing, editing or running the magazine.

- You can read current and past issues on the [Interstate website](#).
- For more information, check out our [Facebook](#) page.
- You can email us: inestaff@aber.ac.uk



leithoedd i
bawb...
Languages
for all...



Learning a language is one of the most **life-enriching** things that you can do... and it is **fantastic for the CV**. Why not take up a new language this year, taking advantage of Aber's courses?



Penglais Campus, P5

01970 621580 learning@aber.ac.uk

Visit the Lifelong Learning [Modern Language website](#)

Dysgu Gydol Oes 
Lifelong Learning