

European Political Economy and Finance Programme

Monday 1st October– Friday 14th December 2018

1. Programme Overview

The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), through LSE Custom Programme has produced on behalf of the Diputación Foral de Bizkaia a programme for young professionals. The interdisciplinary programme draws on three core LSE Departments: the European Institute, the Department of Government and the Department of International Relations. Over the eleven weeks (160 hours), the programme blends regular LSE lectures at a postgraduate level with seminars specifically designed for the group and led by key LSE faculty. The participants will also attend guest lectures, visits to UK institutions and bodies, and attend LSE Public Lectures. Accommodation and social events are also included in the programme.

The various programme components have been designed to deliver a comprehensive programme to enrich participants experience and facilitate interaction between the participants and leading specialists and practitioners. The participants should return to the Basque Country having received a strong academic grounding in the theory and structure of the subject matter, taught in the UK academic style of participation and critical debate, and with a high-level exposure to practitioners who have 'been there and done it'. The programme will enable participants to show dynamic leadership in their respective careers based on high-quality evidence and rigorous debate picked up through the programme.

Orientation

On arrival at LSE, a one-day special induction programme will be organised for the participants. This will include a personal welcome from the Academic Director and Coordinator and a series of introductions covering the programme, LSE Campus, the LSE Library, IT facilities, language centre, etc. to ensure the new participants become fully immersed in the life of the School from the outset. The participants will be provided with a welcome pack including relevant information about the School and life in London as well as a specially prepared course pack. In addition, they will receive a private study skills session, focusing on understanding the LSE teaching style and providing practical information on how to manage their workload as well as presentation skills and essay writing tips.

2. Programme Outline

Component 1: Core Lecture Programme

50 hours

Each participant will attend five compulsory lecture courses from the Department of International Relations, Department of Government and the European Institute. These could include:

Department of Government

- **European Politics: Comparative Analysis**

The course is intended to provide students with a systematic introduction to central conceptual and theoretical debates in the comparative analysis of politics and government in Europe. The core syllabus focuses on both traditional fields of comparative enquiry, such as the study of party competition and voting behaviour, and emerging fields of interest, such as European identity, immigration, Central banks, and Europeanisation. The course takes a thematic approach and places particular emphasis on the diverse experiences of liberal democracy in individual European countries. The course takes a thematic approach and places particular emphasis on the diverse experiences of liberal democracy in individual European countries.

Department of International Relations

- **The EU in the World**

This course is designed to give students an understanding of the development of the external activities of the European Communities since 1957, including the development of European Political Cooperation and the Common Foreign and Security Policy. The relationship between the member states and these external activities, in particular the impact of the evolution of EU institutions and policies on national foreign policies. The external relations of the European Community, including external trade and development policy. Relations between the EU and non-EU states and regions.

- **International Political Economy**

The course aims to introduce students to various approaches to the study of international political economy (IPE), and to apply theories to important contemporary empirical issues. The first part of the course introduces students to the main theoretical concepts in and analytical approaches to political economy, emphasising the overlap between international and comparative approaches. After surveying the main schools of thought in the subject, it examines more recent theoretical developments, including the comparative and domestic approaches that have become increasingly prominent in the literature.

European Institute

- **History and Theory of European Integration**

The course seeks to give students an understanding of the causes and nature of European integration. The topic is presented from a historical, social scientific and normative perspective: We critically examine various theories of, and current debates about European integration by studying the process of integration, its effect on EU member states and third actors, the EU's constitutional character and the crises it is facing.

- **European Political Economy**

This course tries to understand how the relation between state and economy in both Western Europe and Central and Eastern Europe has evolved over the post-war period and through this prism examine the politics and economics of the formation, governance and continuing development (deepening – widening) of the EU. The course aims to provide students with both an analytical understanding of, and a systematic treatment of empirical issues related to, the evolution of the European political economy.

Component 2: Core Seminar Programme

22 hours

In addition to the compulsory lecture courses, participants will attend a weekly seminar taught by the Academic Coordinator. The core seminar has been designed to thread the various streams of the programme contents into a tangible and usable understanding for the participants to apply upon their return to the Basque Country.

The core seminar provides an opportunity to study a major European issue relating to the European economy and finance system in some depth. Topics include key issues on the current European economic agenda and current proposals to reform and regulate the financial services sector. At the conclusion of the seminar series, participants will be familiar with a range of critical debates and discussions on European Political Economy and Finance, together with an understanding of differing national perspectives with respect to EU economic policy coordination, regulation and supervision of financial markets, and trade. In addition, this seminar will administer and advise participants in completing their assignments, including a book review, two class presentations and one final essay.

Component 3: Specialised Seminars**15 hours**

Participants will receive two 90 minute private seminars from each of the core lecture course teachers, a total of ten seminars across the programme. These seminars will aim to provide a forum for discussion on the key themes of the lecture courses.

Component 4: UK Institution Visits**18 hours**

Participants will attend six visits during the programme. Each visit has been designed to complement their studies at the LSE and provide relevant and tangible information to the participants on key areas of interest. These will include:

- House of Parliament
- General London Assembly
- UK Supreme Court
- Representation of the European Commission in the UK
- UKTI
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Component 5: Finance Masterclass**12 hours**

The finance workshops provide the opportunity for participants to expand their knowledge through in depth sessions using a variety of interactive teaching methods. Each of the four workshops will last three hours. The workshops will focus on corporate finance topics.

Component 6: LSE Public Lecture Programme**28 hours**

LSE Events run a series of special lectures and debates on topical issues from the most influential figures in the social sciences. Speakers during the last years include The Rt Hon Tony Blair, Bill Clinton, Alan Greenspan, Mary Robinson, and The Rt Hon Jack Straw MP.

Component 7: Guest Speaker Series**15 hours**

Each week, participants will receive a private session with an eminent expert speaker. These have been designed to provide a unique viewpoint into a key theme of the programme. Programme specialist speakers may include:

- Professor Mick Cox, International Relations Department, LSE
- Sir John Bourn, Ex-Comptroller and Auditor General, National Audit Office
- Professor Ian Gordon, Department of Geography and Environment, LSE
- Professor Kevin Featherstone, European Institute, LSE
- Mr Nilesh Dattani, Department of Management, LSE
- Professor Francis Terry, LSE Enterprise
- Dr Robyn Klinger-Vidra, Senior Programme Adviser, LSE Enterprise Adviser
- Mr Barry Tomalin, International House
- Baroness Barker, House of Lords
- Mr Slobodan Tomic, Department of Government, LSE