

- ▶ This meeting is for students on the following programmes:
  - Politics
  - Politics and International Studies
  - Politics and Sociology
  - Politics, International Studies and a Modern Language (French, German, Italian and Hispanic Studies)
  - Politics and International Studies with Chinese
  - Global Politics (with integrated year abroad)



# **WELCOME TO PAIS 2025/26!!!**

Professor Matthew Clayton

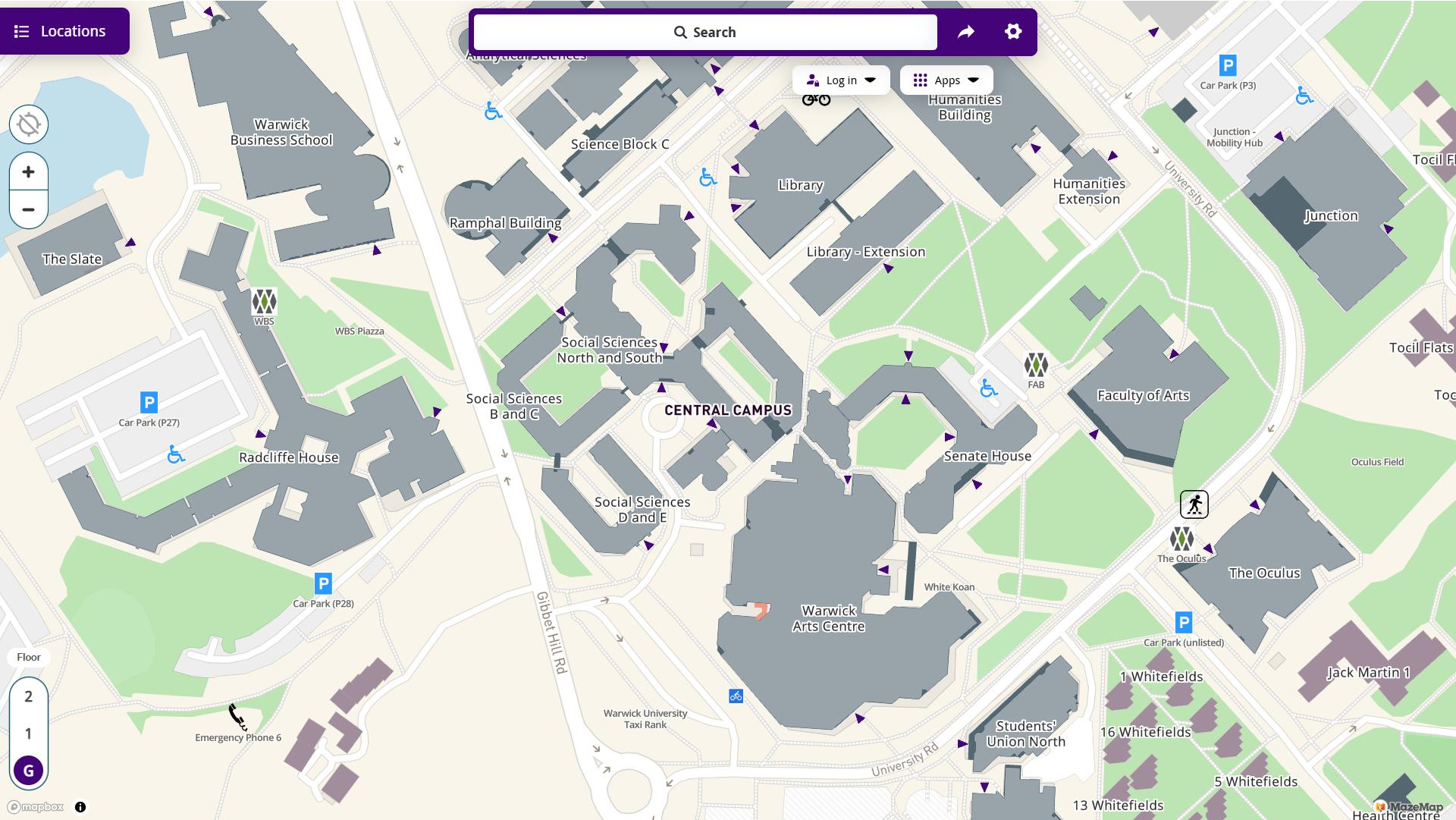
Head of Department

# PAIS Welcome Meeting (2025)

Professor Justin Greaves, Director of  
Student Experience and Progression  
(DSEP)



**#WeArePAIS**



Locations

Search

Log in

Apps

Compass, Zoom In, Zoom Out

Floor: 2, 1, G

mapbox

MazeMap HealthCentre

# Outline of this welcome

- ▶ The standing of the department
- ▶ Who am I? My role in PAIS
- ▶ Key people in PAIS
- ▶ Welcome week and the start of term
- ▶ Information on modules
- ▶ The 'value added' student experience – politics society, study abroad, film club etc



# That was then



# This is now



- ▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Russell Group for Politics in the National Student Survey (NSS)



# A Decade of Success in the NSS

Year	PAIS position in Russell Group
2025	2 <sup>nd</sup>
2024	1 <sup>st</sup>
2023	1 <sup>st</sup>
2022	1 <sup>st</sup>
2021	1 <sup>st</sup>
2020	1 <sup>st</sup>
2019	2 <sup>nd</sup>
2018	1 <sup>st</sup>
2017	2 <sup>nd</sup>
2016	1 <sup>st</sup>

# In my view PAIS is

- ▶ Modern
- ▶ Dynamic
- ▶ Innovative
- ▶ Friendly
- ▶ Supportive
- ▶ Stimulating
- ▶ And believe it or not – fun! (as well as being a research and teaching leader!)



# Our goal and purpose

- ▶ To help you launch yourselves into the world as fully fledged global citizens
- ▶ We teach and we research
- ▶ We teach Politics and International Studies because we love the subject
- ▶ Our research shapes what we teach and, we hope, what will be taught in future (the benefits of cutting-edge research!)



# We view students as:

- ▶ Partners
- ▶ Collaborators
- ▶ Producers
  
- ▶ Co-creation is our ethos!



# So – who am I?

- ▶ 26 years in PAIS (student & staff)
- ▶ Teaching background on several of our modules
- ▶ Currently module director of *Political Research in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*
- ▶ Worked on big research projects – published a number of books and articles
- ▶ Now putting the ‘student experience’ right at the heart of PAIS



# I live here too!

- ▶ I currently live on campus too!
- ▶ So you may see me around
- ▶ Say hello if you see me in the Dirty Duck!



# Wider Student Experience Team

- ▶ Student Experience Co-Ordinator – **Alex Breeze**
- ▶ Study Skills – **Shannon Matthieu, Aila Trasi (Term 1), Miri Davidson, Aila Trasi (Terms 2 & 3)**
- ▶ Employability and Alumni Relations – **Kerem Oge**
- ▶ Student Research – **Joe Haigh**
- ▶ Community building – **Sam Anim**



# Key people in PAIS

- ▶ Professor Matthew Clayton (who welcomed you at the start)



# PAIS Course Support Team

- ▶ D0.27, PAIS building, Social Sciences (9.30-13.00 & 14.00-16.00), Monday to Friday)
- ▶ [PAISUG@Warwick.ac.uk](mailto:PAISUG@Warwick.ac.uk)
- ▶ Your administrative queries (e.g. module registration, seminar sign up, timetables etc)
- ▶ Please check for emails from the Course Support Team and other colleagues (including any spam/other folders)



# Personal tutor (1)

- ▶ Your personal tutor's name will be on [Tabula](#)
- ▶ First port of call for general academic advice and any difficulties you are facing
- ▶ [Personal tutor checklists](#) to make the meetings as helpful as possible for you
- ▶ Personal tutors will hold group meetings with students by year group at the beginning of term one
  - For First-years, group meetings will be run by the First Year Senior Tutor
- ▶ PAIS & Modern Languages – personal tutor in SMLC



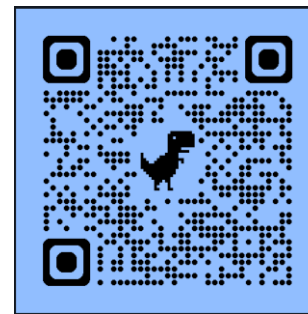
# Personal tutor (2)

- ▶ First-year students should then book one-to-one meetings with their personal tutors in Weeks 1-5 of Term 1
- ▶ During Term 2 students will be expected to book one-to-one meetings with their personal tutors; the expectation is that they will meet in weeks 1-5
- ▶ In all three terms, personal tutors set aside time for personal tutor meetings and will communicate these to their tutees as well as their availability in advice and feedback hours (found on their staff pages)



# Wellbeing support (1)

- ▶ Director of Student Well-Being and Senior Tutor – [Mouzayian Khalil](#)
- ▶ First Year Senior Tutor – [Catalina Carpan](#)
- ▶ Disabled Student Champion and alternate Senior Tutor – [Mark Fabian](#)
- ▶ First Year Students should see Catalina (or Mouzayian) if their PT is unavailable
- ▶ [Reasonable adjustments](#)
- ▶ [Extensions \(Self-certs and Specific\)](#)
- ▶ [Mitigating Circumstances](#)
- ▶ [PAIS Wellbeing & Support](#) →



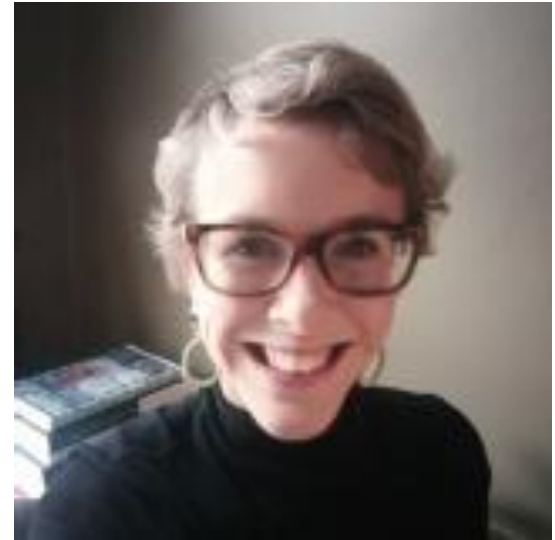
# Wellbeing support (2)

- ▶ PAIS Student Engagement and Progression Officer – [James Rodger](#)
- ▶ Dedicated personal tutor for students who have experienced or are affected by sexual abuse and/or intimate partner violence – [Mareike Beck](#)



# Julia Welland

- ▶ Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUGS)
- ▶ [J.Welland@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:J.Welland@warwick.ac.uk)
- ▶ Academic oversight of [extension requests](#) (via Tabula)
- ▶ Deputy DUGS – [Shannon Mathieu](#)



# DUGS messages

- ▶ Please review the information in the [UG handbook](#)
- ▶ The handbook is the **definitive** source of information
- ▶ Please note that attendance at seminars is a requirement (monitoring points – viewable in [Tabula](#))



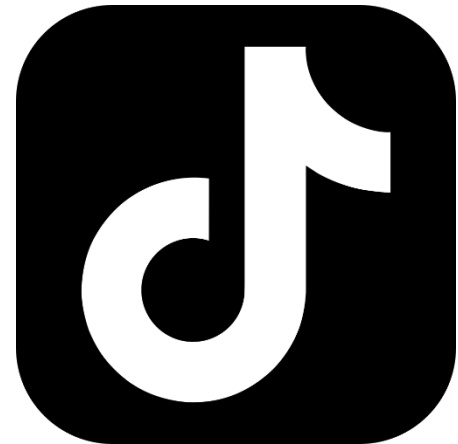
# Don't think twice

- ▶ **Don't think twice** about speaking to someone if you have a problem
- ▶ There's lots of people with different roles to remember but the important thing is tell someone and they will signpost you in the right direction



# Do think twice

- ▶ **Do think twice** about what you post on social media
- ▶ Consider how it might be read by others, and if you would want yourself associated with that comment in perpetuity



# Essential Learning for Positive Student Conduct

The Student Conduct Team

We deliver the 'We Act' programme which includes:



## 1. The 'Student Conduct: What you need to know' Moodle programme

This resource is packed full of useful information to help you settle in and make the most of your time here at Warwick. It is expected that you complete this programme as part of your enrolment.

It communicates your rights and responsibilities as members of the Warwick community, as well as the support options available throughout your time at Warwick:

- Where everyone feels welcomed and safe to be themselves.
- Where everyone is treated with dignity and respect.
- Where there is equal opportunity for all to reach their potential.

If you haven't already done so, you can access the course by clicking on the following Moodle link:

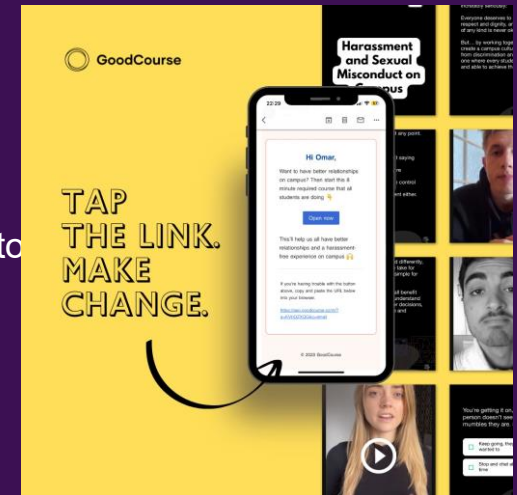
['Student Conduct: What you need to know' Moodle course](#)

# Essential Learning for Positive Student Conduct

## 2. Four Short Online Courses (which you can do on your phone!)

- ❖ Consent
- ❖ Being and Active Bystander
- ❖ Bullying and Harassment
- ❖ Freedom of Speech

- Each course takes just 4 to 7 minutes
- A link to each course will be shared straight to your phone via message or to your email
- The message will be from 'Good Course' and Warwick's 'Student Conduct and Resolution' Team (it's not spam, so don't delete it)
- You'll receive one course at a time.



**These courses are for all students and help us to create a safe environment for a**

# Report + Support

A confidential online platform



# Welcome Week

- ▶ A number of PAIS events in welcome week
- ▶ They should automatically have populated to your timetable
- ▶ Also available to view [here](#)
- ▶ Our [PAIS welcome webpages](#) are also a helpful source of information



- ▶ PAIS first year social in Fusion Tuesday (30<sup>th</sup>), 18.00-20.00
- ▶ Drinks voucher on arrival
- ▶ Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks



# Seeking information

- ▶ [PAIS Undergraduate Webpages](#)
- ▶ Your PAIS modules are on [Moodle](#)
- ▶ [Personalised timetable](#) (and when lectures/seminars will appear)
- ▶ Check your university email regularly
- ▶ [Who to contact in PAIS online guide](#)
- ▶ [Email policy](#) (5 working day turnaround policy)



- ▶ We have a great Common Room
- ▶ **Activate card via card reader on front of the building (need to do this to access building too)**
- ▶ Respect space, keep clean and tidy, clear up after yourselves



# Lectures and seminars

- ▶ PAIS lectures from week 1 (w/b 6<sup>th</sup> Oct)
- ▶ PAIS seminars normally start in week 2 (w/b 13<sup>th</sup> Oct)
- ▶ PAIS Seminars to open for sign up by Wednesday of week 1 (8<sup>th</sup> Oct)
- ▶ Teaching timetable 9.00 – 19.00
- ▶ Where lectures are double (or triple taught) it is the same lecturer and all in person (allocation will show in Tabula)
- ▶ Module registration opens Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> October (more details [here](#) on how it all works)



# Pol/Pol int Optional module(s)

- ▶ PAIS 15 CAT modules – one in term 1 and one in term 2
- ▶ Free to choose an option from other departments as long as willing to take you
- ▶ We encourage the study of languages
- ▶ We would like you to have made your module choices as soon as possible
- ▶ Module places are not guaranteed and so please make your choices promptly



# Support through the process

- ▶ For *administrative* queries on your options please speak to the PAIS Course Support Team
- ▶ For *academic* advice please contact me or your personal tutor
- ▶ PAIS modules fair, Wednesday (1<sup>st</sup> Oct), 11.00-13.00, Microsoft Teams



# Academic progression

- ▶ You need to pass ALL required core modules, pass at least 90 credits, and have an overall average of 40 to proceed to your 2<sup>nd</sup> year
- ▶ To reassure you – the vast majority of students proceed
- ▶ [The right to remedy failure](#)
- ▶ We want you to do well, we are all here to support you



# Independent learning

- ▶ Different to school and college
- ▶ Enhances your employability and intrinsic value of a PAIS degree
- ▶ Additional transition to studying in a new country and education system for many



# A different approach

- ▶ You aren't in competition with each other - we don't mark to a curve
- ▶ We have marking criteria, not a marking scheme
- ▶ There are many ways of doing well (70+ is a first, 60+ a 2.1).
- ▶ Essay writing skills session in week 5



# Advice and feedback hours

- ▶ Lecturers and seminar tutors hold these
- ▶ Seek advice and guidance on specific queries connected to your modules
- ▶ To be held face to face or online
- ▶ Details can be found on [staff web-pages](#)
- ▶ Mine are Tuesday's 13.30-14.30 (in person) and Thursday's 13.30-14.30 (Teams)- [Booking form](#) ([J.Greaves@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:J.Greaves@warwick.ac.uk))



# Academic support

- ▶ Academic (skills) support
- ▶ In-sessional English language classes
- ▶ Extensive employability support available
- ▶ But the key message is:
  - Enjoy your time at University and make the most of all the opportunities!



- ▶ PAIS Senior Careers Consultant – Millie Tissut
- ▶ Appointments via [My Advantage](#)
- ▶ [The Warwick Award](#)



# IT: an important slide!

- ▶ PAIS uses e-submission via Tabula for assessed essays – essays returned electronically too!
- ▶ Computer failure not a reason for an extension – please back up your work
- ▶ We have sophisticated software to check for plagiarism – please be careful
- ▶ Chat GPT – not allowed to use AI for essay writing
- ▶ Please see our guidance on Generative Artificial Intelligence



# Tabula!

- ▶ Please do look at the [student guides](#) available online
  - Seminar sign-up [*all our tutors are great, Warwick teaching hour*]
  - (Personal tutor) Meeting records
  - Apply for essay extensions, etc



- ▶ Study abroad and work placement opportunities in an intercalated year (third year of a four-year degree)
- ▶ Application process starts a few months into your second year
- ▶ Arzu Kibris – PAIS Director of External Affairs ([A.Kibris@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:A.Kibris@warwick.ac.uk))
- ▶ PAIS and Languages – year abroad built into your degree (will be explained in your joint degree session)



# PAIS Film Club



**Title:** The Last King of Scotland

**Genre:** Adventure, Drama, Thriller.

**Director:** Kevin Macdonald

**Writer(s):** Peter Morgan (screenplay); Jeremy Brock (screenplay); Giles Foden (novel).



**October 14, 2025. Time: Between 19:00 and 22:00**

**Venue: TBC.**

**Free Pizza (on first come, first served basis)!!!!!!**



# Warwick Politics Society

SCAN ME!



@WARWICKPOLSOC



Socials



Guest Speakers



Sports



International  
Tour



Winter Ball



Career Guidance



Award-winning  
Magazine

and more...

- ▶ I hope to be there when you all collect your degrees at graduation in three to four years time
- ▶ I wish you all the best for the 2025-26 academic year!



Any questions?

Q&A with PAIS Student  
Ambassadors and PAIS  
Staff

**THANK YOU!**