PRIFYSGOL ABERYSTWYTH UNIVERSITY

SEMESTER ONE 2025/2026

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

IP12820 : THE MAKING OF THE MODERN WORLD: WAR, PEACE AND REVOLUTION SINCE 1789

Time allowed : **8.5 HOURS**

Answer 1 question

You must submit your answer in a single document to the TurnItIn submission point on the module's Blackboard site before 6 P.M. (BST) the day the examination paper is released. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Your answer should take the form of an essay of 1,000 words (+/- 10%). Do not duplicate material you have submitted previously.

STUDENTS MAY SUBMIT ANSWERS TO THIS PAPER IN EITHER WELSH OR ENGLISH

All the texts referred to in the questions below are available digitally as “Essential Readings” on the Aspire reading lists on the IP12820 module Blackboard site.

Answer **ONE** question

1. Drawing specifically upon the work of Hans Wesseling and Daniel Headrick, assess the argument that the expansion of European colonial empires in the 19th Century was due to economic factors

2. Critically assess David Reynolds’ article ‘1940: Fulcrum of the Twentieth Century’ (*International Affairs*, Vol. 66, No. 2, April 1990).

3. Referring specifically to Richard Overy’s chapter ‘Empires Into Nations: A Different Global Age”, assess the argument that European decolonization was primarily a product of World War II.

4. Drawing specifically upon Mark Mazower’s chapter ‘The League of Nations’, consider the extent to which the League of Nations successfully embodied the principles of Woodrow Wilson’s “New Diplomacy”.

5. Referring specifically to Richard Evans’ article ‘The History Wars’ (*New Statesman*, Vol. 149, No. 5525, 19-25 June 2020), consider the extent to which the legacies of imperialism continue to shape British politics in the 21st Century.

END OF PAPER