UCD School of Information and Communication Studies | **UCD iSCHOOL**

MSc/Graduate Diploma Digital Policy

(One Year Full Time or Two Years Part Time)

Introduction

Our Digital Policy programmes are interdisciplinary. Flowing from content developed at our UCD Centre for Digital Policy, they are designed to offer graduates the opportunity to study some of the core topical, theoretical, and methodological issues that arise today. These include investigating the institutional and public policy dimensions of the prevalence of digital technologies, digital infrastructures, and data processing in all dimensions of life. Our programmes will allow students to study the underlying social conditions (economic, political, and cultural) that give rise to and influence such technologies and their governance, as well as the multiple public sector and commercial contexts where policy is made and enacted.

Our innovative programme mixes theoretical and applied approaches. We introduce students to basic concepts and issues in digital policy, giving historical, contextual, regulatory, and critical understandings of how to theorise digital technologies and environments. We situate concepts in perspectives such as platform capitalism, governance, data infrastructures, information analytics, interface critique and AI regulation.

Programme Highlight

With support from Microsoft Ireland, UCD's School of Information and Communication studies presents the Microsoft-UCD Digital Policy Programme with the goal of building digital policy training and capability.

The proposed Graduate Diploma/MSc course, in addition to related initiatives, will build on existing expertise and infrastructure across government, industry, civil society and academia in Ireland to address the increased demand for digital policy knowledge and skills.

Programme Content and Structure

	MSc			Graduate Diploma
90 credits Taught Masters	=	**60 credits** Core Modules	+ **30 credits** Thesis	**60 credits** Core Modules

Modules:

- Digital Policy I
- Research Theory and Practice
- Data & Society
- Digital Policy II
- Platform Governance
- Media Law & Policy
- Thesis

The Graduate Diploma is 60 credits with no thesis requirement.

Our modules are designed to provide students the option to join remotely if they can't attend our on-campus modules.

Why study at UCD?

Graduate Education

12,000 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs

Graduate Employability

Ranked no. 1 in Ireland in QS Graduate Employability ranking

Global Careers

Dedicated careers support; 2 year stayback visa to work in Ireland

Global Community

8,500 international students and a 300,000 alumni network across 165 countries

Global Profile

UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide

Welcoming Campus

Modern parkland campus with 24 hr security. Wide range of facilities, clubs, societies and supports

Career Opportunities

Our new MSc degree aims to produce future professionals with a deep understanding of both theoretical and applied issues in digital policy. On graduating, our students will be able to embark on a variety of careers in Ireland and globally.

Our Digital Policy programme is designed to prepare graduates for careers in evaluating, implementing, and studying core topical, theoretical, and methodological issues that arise in digital policy today, both in the public and private sectors.

About the School

The UCD School of Information and Communication Studies (ICS) is the only Irish member of the prestigious iSchools consortium, an international, university-level organisation devoted to understanding the role of information in society.

Academic Profile

Elizabeth Farries
Assistant Professor
Programme Director

Assistant Professor Elizabeth Farries is a Director of the UCD Centre for Digital Policy together with Professor Eugenia Siapera. Liz also directs the MSc, Graduate Diploma, and Professional Certificate programmes in Digital Policy with the School of Information and Communication Studies. Elizabeth's research lies at the intersection of tech and regulation.

She has a particular interest in emergent digital policy cycles and assemblages in the 4th industrial revolution. Her related research interests included gendered safety online, secure and private online communications, digital identities, policing surveillance technologies, pandemic technologies, data retention and protection, and international intelligence sharing. She considers these topics in relation to tech impacts on vulnerabilised and special interest communities.

Applicant Profile

- Applicants should present with a primary (bachelor's) degree in any subject with an overall score of 2.1 or higher.

- Names and contact details of two referees who can assess their intellectual ability, maturity and motivation.

- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

- While applications are accepted up to August of the year of entry, offers are made to suitably qualified candidates on a first-come-first-served basis. Early application is recommended as entry to the programmes is very competitive and the number of places is limited.

Fees and Scholarships

Tuition fee information is available on **www.ucd.ie/fees**. Please note that UCD offers a number of graduate scholarships for full-time, self-funding international students, holding an offer of a place on a UCD masters programme. Please see **www.ucd.ie/global/scholarships** for further information.

Our Centre offers a number of scholarships for EU students applying to the MSc. Please inquire at the contact details below.

Related Educational Offering

Professional Certificate in Digital Policy
Running in the autumn term from September to December, this one term module is offered fully online Wednesdays from 2 - 4 pm. It is developed as both an introduction to Digital 4.0 policy concepts or an opportunity to upskill.

APPLY NOW
This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at:

www.ucd.ie/apply