



MSc Human Rights

(One Year Full Time or
Two Years Part Time)

Introduction

The MSc in Human Rights is a one-year intensive course that prepares you for a career in human rights research, policy or advocacy in international organisations, governmental and non-governmental bodies, or academia. Studying human rights means exploring the rights that all people have as human beings, how these rights are reflected in national legislation and international law, how people mobilise collectively on behalf of these rights and how governments respond to these claims and obligations.

The course is delivered by academics in UCD School of Politics and International Relations, UCD School of Law, and UCD School of Social Justice, reflecting the inherently multidisciplinary nature of human rights practice encompassing political philosophy, empirical political science (comparative politics and international relations) and legal studies. You will explore the theory, politics and law of human rights and examine the mechanisms and limitations of national and international action to protect human rights.

Programme Highlight

The progressive realisation of human rights represents perhaps the most challenging political issue of our times. This programme aspires to develop and nurture the skills in students that would allow them to meet that challenge and contribute constructively to both policy and practice in the field of human rights.

Programme Content and Structure

90 credits Taught Masters = **65 credits** Taught Modules + **25 credits** Dissertation or **25 credits** Internship

Core Modules:

- International Human Rights
- Theory of Human Rights
- Law of the European Convention on Human Rights
- Politics of Human Rights
- Dissertation Design

Option Modules:

MSc Students choose two optional modules from the following partial list:

- Theories of International Relations
- Politics of European Governance
- Immigration and Citizenship
- Gender in Peace and Conflict
- Globalisation and Labour
- Political Psychology
- International Political Theory
- Comparative European Politics
- Governing the Global Economy
- Principles of International Politics
- Capital in 21st Century

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 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

Graduates work with international private-sector employers, government agencies and NGOs in roles such as: human rights specialist, field officer, human rights consultant, child protection adviser, public information officer and journalist.

Recent graduates of MSc in Human Rights now work in:

- Front Line Defenders
- United Nations
- Amnesty International
- Médecins sans Frontières
- PLAN Ireland
- Irish Aid
- Oxfam

Graduate Profile



Daniela Bachmann
Graduate

Understanding people and how they interact has always been of interest to me. I wasn't entirely sure about the kind of job I wanted to work in for the rest of my life, but studying Sociology, Politics and Social Justice at UCD opened up a whole new world. I went on to study for a masters degree in Human Rights at UCD, again with a focus on development. I tutored undergraduate students in Development and Globalisation during my masters studies, and many of them were surprised at how development affects their daily lives.

I'm hoping to work with NGOs such as Amnesty International or Frontline Defenders in the future. My studies in UCD have prepared me well for what's to come, and I am looking forward to taking the next step.

Applicant Profile

- This programme is intended for applicants with a degree in a relevant subject such as political science, international relations, social science, sociology, history, geography, economics, global studies, public policy, development studies, EU studies, law. An upper second class honours, or international equivalent is required.
- Your application will be considered on its individual merits and relevant professional experience will also be taken into account.
- 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.

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.

SPIRe also offers EU fee scholarships to graduate students. Please see www.ucd.ie/spire/study/prospectivegraduatesstudents/spiremastersgraduate scholarship for further information.

Related Masters

- MSc Equality Studies
- MA Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict
- Master in Public Policy

CONTACT US

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APPLY NOW

This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at

www.ucd.ie/apply