



University College Dublin
Ireland's Global University



MA/MSc Politics (One Year Full Time or Two Years Part Time)

The School of Politics and International Relations offers an MA/MSc Politics degree, which was developed for those who wish to understand the role of politics in shaping the great issues of our day including power and conflict, distribution and inequality, relations between nations, and the new challenges of globalisation, financial crisis, national security, and climate change. The course focuses on the two traditional pillars of the discipline – political theory and comparative politics.

Comparative politics looks at the European nation-states in a comparative perspective. It analyses regime types, political stability, change and crisis, electoral and party systems. The courses build on expertise within the School on international development, political economy and public policy, ethnic conflict and nationalism, and European Union politics. Furthermore, the study of Irish politics in comparative context has deep roots at UCD.

Political theory—the reflection on the nature and morality of politics—is almost as old as politics itself. As part of a human being's appreciation of their condition, it has always been understood as valuable in its own right. Government, media and other groups with immediate practical concerns increasingly look to theory to find new ways forward in situations of conflict, inequality and global change. SPIRe has a tradition of strength in political theory, addressing issues such as democracy, justice, human rights, citizenship, multiculturalism and immigration, security and terror, freedom and inequality, which call for reflection on the moral implications of politics and knowledge of the history of political thought. You may choose to study for an MA or MSc qualification in Politics. The MSc track includes additional research training and is particularly suitable if you want a career in research or academia. The MA track is more flexible and allows you to choose to complete a dissertation or an internship.

Why study at UCD?



Tradition

Established 1854, with 160 years of teaching & research excellence



Global profile

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



Global community

Over 8,000 international students from over 120 countries study at UCD



Global careers

Degrees with high employability; dedicated careers support; Two year stay-back visa for Non-EU students



Safety

Modern parkland campus with 24 hour security, minutes from Dublin city centre

Oldest and largest School of its kind in Ireland

UCD School of Politics and International Relations is the oldest and largest school of its kind in Ireland, with staff drawn from many countries.

Course Content and Structure

90 credits
taught masters

60 credits
taught modules

30 credits
dissertation

or

30 credits
internship (MA only)

Core modules:

- Comparative European Politics
- Political Theory and the EU
- Research Design (MA only)

Additional core modules required for MSc:

- Introduction to Statistics
- Qualitative Research Methods for Political Science

MA students choose three optional modules and MSc Students choose two optional modules from the following partial list:

- Theories of International Relations
- Global Political Economy of Europe
- Political Violence
- Theory of Human Rights
- Psychology of Conflict in MENA
- Gender & the Political System
- Programming for Soc Scientists
- International Political Economy
- EU Foreign and Security Policy
- Gender, Peace, and Security
- Peace & Conflict Studies
- International Security
- Politics of (mis-)information
- Connected_Politics

Please see www.ucd.ie/graduateadmissions for a full list of modules.





Career Opportunities

Graduates work with a wide variety of international private-sector employers, government agencies and non-Governmental Organisations in roles such as: government social researcher, diplomatic advisor, public affairs consultant, public relations officer, political advisor.



Recent graduates of UCD School of Politics & International Relations now work in:

- United Nations
- World Trade Organisation
- IMF
- European Commission
- European Parliament
- Asia Development Bank



Graduate Profile

**Sandra Perron, Canada,
President Imagine Inc.**

Completing a masters at UCD was one of the best decisions of my life. Interacting with high calibre students and professors from around the world, I quickly realised how little I knew about international politics and relations, and how my cultural paradigms, mostly based on limited knowledge, have influenced my decision-making in the past.

Now, whether it is in my role as a Global Purchasing Director, President of a non-profit organisation, or simply a citizen of my country, my studies at UCD have enabled me to better understand the world I live in, and consider more profoundly such elements as human rights, global climate change, or international security in my decision making.

Fees Fee information at www.ucd.ie/fees

Entry Requirements

- 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.

Contact Us

EU Students

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International Students

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internationalenquiries@ucd.ie

*Visas / Funding / Scholarships /
Accommodation*

Related Masters

MA/MSc International Relations

MSc International Political
Economy

Master in Public Policy

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