



# MA/MSc International Relations

(One Year Full Time or Two Years Part Time)



## Introduction

The study of International Relations examines the causes and consequences of phenomena such as war, trade, regional integration, migration and terrorism.

You will examine theoretical approaches in the contemporary study of international politics and their application. You will improve your skills in research design as well as qualitative and quantitative analysis. A wide range of specialisations are available to enable you to develop your specific expertise.

In UCD, you may choose to study for an MA or MSc qualification in International Relations. The MSc track includes additional research components 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.

## Programme Highlight

The MA/MSc International Relations probes into the causes and consequences of phenomena such as war, trade, regional integration, migration and terrorism. As part of the programme, you will:

- Examine theoretical approaches in the contemporary study of international politics and their application.
- Improve your skills in research design and qualitative and quantitative analysis.
- Have a wide range of specialisations available to you to enable you to develop your specific expertise.

## Programme Content and Structure

90 credits  
Taught Masters

=

60 credits  
Taught Modules

+

30 credits  
Dissertation

or

30 credits  
Internship\* (MA only)

\*Students are responsible for securing their own internship placements. The School provides a list of potential host organisations, and UCD Careers offers support with application writing and related resources.

### MSc

#### Core Modules:

- Introduction to Statistics
- Theories of International Relations
- Qualitative Research Methods for Political Science
- International Security
- Thesis (30 credits)

#### Option Modules include:

- Theories of Global Justice
- Quantitative Text Analysis
- The Politics of International Trade and Investment
- Politics of Authoritarianism
- International Political Economy

### MA

#### Core Modules:

- Theories of International Relations
- Research Design
- International Security
- International Political Economy or Politics of Trade and Investment
- Thesis or Internship (30 credits)

#### Option Modules include:

- Comparative European Politics
- Introduction to Statistics
- Politics of Human Rights
- IR Theory: Conflict and Identity
- Politics of European Governance

The option modules are consistent across both the MA and MSc programmes.

## Why study at UCD?



### Graduate Education

13,000 graduate students; 15% graduate research, 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

10,000 international students and 300,000 alumni network across 189 countries



### Global Profile

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



### Sustainability

UCD is ranked number one in Ireland and 50th in the world for Sustainability



## Career Opportunities

Graduates work with international private-sector employers, government agencies and NGOs in roles such as: government social researcher, diplomatic advisor, public affairs consultant and political advisor.

Recent graduates work in:

- United Nations
- World Trade Organisation
- International Monetary Fund
- European Commission
- Asia Development Bank

## Student Profile



**Angeliki Kourri**

The MA program in International Relations at UCD has been a transformative experience for me. The UCD faculty are highly knowledgeable, friendly, and always ready to advise. Their dedication to their field and to their students made learning deeply engaging and helped me develop critical thinking skills essential for the professional world. The programme offers a diverse range of courses that provide a comprehensive understanding of the international system. This breadth of study has given me a well-rounded perspective on global issues, allowing me to analyze and approach these issues from multiple perspectives.

One remarkable aspect of the program is the opportunity to collaborate with people from diverse backgrounds. This diversity has not only enhanced classroom discussions but also prepared me to work effectively in multicultural environments, a crucial skill in the field of international relations.

I am currently interning with an NGO in Cyprus focused on women, peace, and security. The classes have been instrumental in applying this knowledge to my job, providing invaluable practical experience for my future career.

Overall, the MA program in International Relations at UCD has not only deepened my academic knowledge but also equipped me with the skills and experiences necessary to succeed in the field. I highly recommend it to anyone looking to advance their understanding and career in international relations.

## Applicant Profile

- A primary degree with at least Second Class Honours Grade 1 (2H1) in any discipline. 2H1 is equivalent to 60 percent, B minus or 3.08 GPA - in American system: B or 3.00 GPA.
- Applicants with a Second Class Honours Grade 2 (2:2) in their primary degree may be considered for the Graduate Diploma in Politics and International Relations.
- 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. Other accepted certificates include TOEFL, the University of Cambridge, and the Duolingo English Test. Please refer to **UCD's Minimum English Language Requirements** for full details.

## Fees and Scholarships

Tuition fee information is available on [www.ucd.ie/fees](http://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](http://www.ucd.ie/global/scholarships) for further information.

SPIRe also offers a Masters Graduate Scholarship to full-time EU and Non-EU Masters students. Please see [www.ucd.ie/spire/study/prospectivemastersstudents/spiremastersgraduatescholarship](http://www.ucd.ie/spire/study/prospectivemastersstudents/spiremastersgraduatescholarship) for further information.

## Related Masters

- MSc International Political Economy
- MA Peace and Conflict

### CONTACT US

#### EU Students

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w: [www.ucd.ie/spire](http://www.ucd.ie/spire)

#### International Students

e: [internationalenquiries@ucd.ie](mailto:internationalenquiries@ucd.ie)

w: [www.ucd.ie/global](http://www.ucd.ie/global)

### APPLY NOW

This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at

[www.ucd.ie/apply](http://www.ucd.ie/apply)