University College Dublin
Ireland's Global University

Course code:
W301
W302
W303
W304

MA/MSc International Development

(One Year Full Time or Two Years Part Time)

Introduction

The MA/MSc in International Development provides an interdisciplinary understanding of development processes, drawing on expertise in politics, economics, political economy, public policy and research methods.

You will critically examine some of the most pressing challenges facing societies today, including inequality and social exclusion, the expansion of economic and social opportunities, the progressive realisation of human rights, and the pursuit of equitable and sustainable development.

Throughout the programme, you will develop the analytical, research and practical skills needed to engage effectively with complex development challenges and to pursue a career in the development field.

A wide range of specialist modules enables you to tailor the programme to your interests and develop expertise in your chosen areas. You may study for either an MA or an MSc in International Development.

The MSc pathway includes advanced training in quantitative and qualitative research methods and is particularly well suited to students considering academic, policy or research-oriented careers.

The MA pathway offers greater flexibility and allows you to choose between completing a research dissertation and undertaking a supervised internship with a development-focused organisation.

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.*

Core Modules:

- Development and Postcolonial Politics
- Gender and Development **or** Economics of Sustainable Development
- Research Design (MA only)

Additional core modules for MSc:

- Introduction to Statistics ***or*** Quantitative Methods II
- Qualitative Research Methods for Political Science

Option Modules:

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

- Political Risk and Foreign Direct Investment
- Corruption, Governance & Development
- Politics of Human Rights
- Global Justice
- Gender, Peace, and Security
- Programming for Social Scientists
- Politics of Authoritarianism
- International Political Economy
- Quantitative Text Analysis
- NGOs: Law, Governance and Social Change
- Middle East & North Africa
- Social Protection and Labor in Developing Countries

The list of modules is subject to change annually.

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 of our Master's programme in International Development are well placed for careers across the full range of development practice and policy. The programme's interdisciplinary approach – drawing on politics, economics, political economy, and human rights – prepares graduates for roles in international NGOs, UN agencies, government departments, and research institutions. Those interested in academic careers will also find themselves well positioned to pursue doctoral research in development studies and related fields.

Graduates of the programme have gone on to work across a broad range of organisations, including:

- **International organisations and development agencies, such as:** UNICEF, UNDP, World Food Programme, UNOPS, Danish Refugee Council
- **International development and NGOs, such as:** Trócaire, GOAL Global, Plan International, British Red Cross, CAFOD
- **Government and public bodies, such as:** Department of Foreign Affairs, Ireland Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations, Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
- **Consultancy and advisory services, such as:** Deloitte, EY Parthenon, PwC, DAI

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 International Development.
- 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**. 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 a Masters Graduate Scholarship to full-time EU and Non-EU Masters students. Please see **www.ucd.ie/spire/study/prospectivemastersstudents/spiremastersgraduatescholarship** for further information.

Related Masters

- Masters in Public Policy
- MSc Humanitarian Action

Student Profile

Méabh Lonergan

My experience in the MA International Development was more fulfilling than I could ever have imagined. Each module was perfectly designed to maximise our learning, and the wide variety of electives offered allowed us to tailor our experience to the areas that most interested us. The faculty could not have been more encouraging and dedicated, and the small yet diverse class groups meant that networking and peer-to-peer learning was only natural. It seemed that every week, there was another email with a new opportunity or invitation, and class trips and projects meant that one's learning always feels connected to the real world. I would highly recommend this course to anyone with an interest in development and politics.

CONTACT US

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APPLY NOW

This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at

www.ucd.ie/apply