



University College Dublin  
Ireland's Global University

Course code:

**W438/  
W436**

# MA/MSc Sociology

(One Year Full Time  
or Two Years Part-time)



## Introduction

The MSc/MA Sociology programme provides a broad range of cutting-edge analytical and research skills to better understand significant social issues and problems in contemporary society, and how to act to change them. It expands your sociological knowledge and competence to enable you to conduct social research to the standards required in professional settings. You will enjoy small classes organised as seminars and workshops in preparation for carrying out a substantial independent research and writing project under individual supervision. You will join an international community of postgraduate

students and encounter the latest research topics, methods, and styles of enquiry in the distinctive suite of modules provided by the programme. From social simulation to data mining, migration to financialisation, religious revivals to organised crime, pandemics to decolonialism, gender to nationalism - the MSc/MA in Sociology is enjoyable, challenging and exciting. Highly-regarded, it prepares you for roles in any number of professions and careers: from policy analysis to media and public relations, and from community development to the creative industries.

## Programme Highlight

The School of Sociology offers both the MA (W438) and the MSc (W436) in Sociology, with the MSc designed for those wishing to prioritise acquisition of advanced quantitative research skills. Both programmes share many modules and are equal contributors to the close-knit community of scholars in the school. The core difference is the additional methodological breadth of the MSc in that students graduate trained in both quantitative and qualitative approaches to sociological inquiry. The MA offers qualitative training and an additional optional module in place of the quantitative requirement found the MSc.

## Programme Content and Structure

**90 credits**  
Taught Masters

=

**60 credits**  
Taught Modules

+

**30 credits**  
Dissertation

### Core Modules:

- Social and Political Thought
- Sociological Research: Theoretical and Applied Issues
- Qualitative Research
- Introduction to Statistics (MSc Only)
- Dissertation

### Option Modules:

- Economic Globalisation & Social Change
- AI and Society
- Organised Violence and Society
- Sciences, Technologies and Societies
- Critical Race & Decolonial Theory
- Nationalism & Social Change
- Social Simulation: Methods and Models
- Policing & Social Conflict
- Health, Illness and Society
- Soc Thinking in the Digital Age
- Religion in Comparative Perspective
- Population and Society

Please see [www.ucd.ie/graduateadmissions](http://www.ucd.ie/graduateadmissions) for a full list of 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 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

The UCD School of Sociology Masters programmes are highly regarded by a range of public and private sector employers, national, EU and international institutions and civil society organisations. The cross-disciplinary content of these programme means there are exciting opportunities for students in a wide and dynamic range of professions including careers in: Media and Public Relations; Policy Analysis and Service Provision; Social, Community and Youth Development; Politics and Civil Society; and in Cultural and Creative Industries.

Recent graduates include those who proceed to PhD research as well as those now working as:

- University Lecturers in Dublin, Belfast, United States
- Researchers at ESRI and RCSI
- Journalists and Radio Presenters, RTE
- Community Workers in Belfast and Dublin
- Founder, Independent Community-Based Research Company, Ireland
- Writer and Editor, Humanitarian Organisation, Wicklow
- International Writer, Producer and Film Maker, Dublin

A large number of our Graduates continue through to PhD level. Some professions require further training, qualifications or certification.

## Applicant Profile

- Applicants should normally have a primary degree in sociology or social science, or a closely related discipline. A Second Class Honours Grade One (2:1) or higher is required but Second Class Honours Grade Two (2:2) standard or equivalent may be considered. Applicants who do not meet the academic requirements but can confirm professional qualifications and/or experience will be considered. Applicants may be called for an interview.
- All candidates are expected to be proficient in written and spoken English. Applicants whose primary language is not English must submit evidence of a certificate of proficiency (such as TOEFL, Cambridge or IELTS). Test results must be less than two years old.

## 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.

## Related Masters

- MSc Global Solutions
- MA Social and Political Thought
- MSc Comparative Social Change
- MA Race, Migration and Decolonial Studies

## Graduate Profile



### Anita Tuesley

I took a Joint Major in Sociology and Social Policy as a mature student, finishing in 2017.

I was so fascinated with the discipline of Sociology and impressed with the teaching at UCD that I decided to go straight on to the taught masters in Sociology. This was one of a range of options in the field, with others being more specialised. There are many modules to choose from that can sculpt the masters into one that would suit a preferred path or career, and there is a focus on research skills. Classes are small, so that learning takes place in a seminar type setting with strong support from the lecturers, and full participation expected. This has been a very rewarding experience, living up to expectations and more.

### CONTACT US

#### EU Students

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#### International Students

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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)