



# UCD SOCIOLOGY

**GRADUATE  
TAUGHT COURSES  
ENTRY 2024**





# MSc Global Solutions

One Year Full Time

Course code: W536



Global Solutions is a new and innovative MSc programme delivered by the UCD School of Sociology. It centres on the study of solutions that address the most pressing global social, economic, political and environmental problems. MSc Global Solutions introduces you to a unique analytical framework that combines academic, activist, business and policy perspectives (the AABP model) to explore and study solutions. By bringing together multiple analytical perspectives, this programme is uniquely positioned to help you look into the future with a focus on opportunities and trends that carry the potential for social change.

Throughout the programme, we explore a range of current global problems, such as global inequalities, war and violence, climate change, and analyse relevant case studies applying innovative solutions. As a student, you will be encouraged to develop your own project and follow your particular interests as part of your Master's dissertation.

## Course Highlights

MSc Global Solutions is the first social science Master's programme focused on analysing solutions in their economic, political, social and environmental context. MSc Global Solutions is open to applicants from a broad range of social sciences, and arts and humanities. We also welcome professionals with relevant work experience who wish to critically explore their own ideas in an academic environment.

## Course Content and Structure

90 CREDITS  
Taught Masters

= 60 CREDITS  
Taught Modules

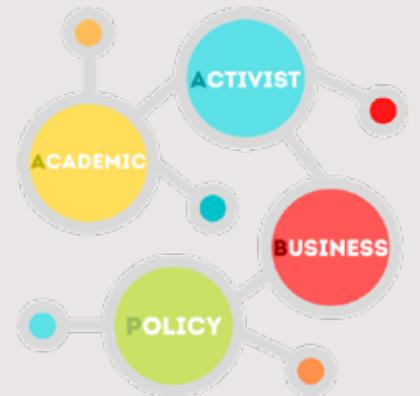
+ 30 CREDITS  
Dissertation

### Core Modules:

- Global Solutions in an Academic, Activist, Business and Policy (AABP) Perspective
- Global Solutions to Climate Change
- Human Development in the Global South
- Peace, Conflict and Social Change
- Dissertation

### Option Modules:

- Economic Globalisation and Social Change
- Identities and Rights in a Global Context
- Organised Violence and Society
- AI and Society
- Nationalism and Social Change



### AABP Model:

We develop and apply an innovative AABP model that explores the intersections of

**A** academic knowledge and latest research;

**A** activism and social movements;

**B** business and technological innovations

**P** social policy

to understand the design, operations, and innovative potential of global solutions.

## Career Opportunities

Many organisations and social enterprises use the skills developed throughout the programme and look for talent who are highly effective at working collaboratively to identify creative solutions to complex problems. Academic and analytical skills are required for work in the social research sector, including think tanks, market research and academic organisations. The programme's focus on activism and business will prepare you for working in the NGO sector and as a social entrepreneur. Its policy perspective is essential if you wish to pursue a career in the civil service, governmental organisations, and social policy organisations.

The MSc Global Solutions at UCD is ideal if you're determined to innovate and focus on solutions as part of your future career.

## EU Enquiries

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## Non-EU Enquiries

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## Apply Now

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# MSc Social Data Science

One Year Full Time | Two Years Part-Time

Course code: W559 | W560

The MSc in Social Data Science is a one year taught programme with strong interdisciplinary features and components across social and computational sciences. It equips students with a range of social scientific, computational, informational, statistical, and visualisation skills, for curation and analysis of large or complex data that arise from human activities and interactions in the digital world.

Students will receive training in sociological analysis, as well as core coding and programming skills, allowing them to avail of emergent computational methods and technologies to tackle real-world societal challenges, and inform decision making processes. Students may opt to complete an internship as part of their studies. The MSc in Social Data Science is suitable for graduates of social science or computer science programmes.

## Course Highlights

**Leading centre for sociological research and teaching in Ireland.**

UCD School of Sociology is the leading centre for sociological research and the largest teaching centre for sociology in Ireland. The School has played and continues to play a key role in the development of sociology in Ireland. Among its current faculty are many of Ireland's foremost sociologists and social commentators.

## Course Content and Structure

**90 CREDITS**  
Taught Masters

=

**60 CREDITS**  
Taught Modules

+

**30 CREDITS**  
Dissertation

or

**30 CREDITS**  
Internship and Project

### Core Modules:

- AI and Society
- Social Simulation
- Research Design
- Data Programming with R
- Sociological Thinking in the Digital Age

*\*\*A student may be able to substitute more advanced modules for specific core modules, where a student can demonstrate sufficient prior learning in those areas.*

### Option Modules:

- Introduction to Programming
- Algorithmic Problem Solving
- Databases and Info. Systems
- Computational Thinking
- Machine Learning (Blended Del)
- GIS for Environmental Assessment
- Introduction to Statistics
- Policing & Social Conflict
- Health Illness and Society
- Organised Violence and Society
- Crit Race & Decolonial Theory
- Monte Carlo Inference
- Data Science in Python (MD)
- Machine Learning with Python
- Creativity & Innovation
- Spatial Information Systems
- Information Visualisation
- Recommender Systems & Collective Intelligence
- Advanced Computational Social Science
- Quantitative Text Analysis
- Programming for Soc Scientists
- Social Dynamics and Networks

## Career Opportunities

A wide range of different organisations including government departments, semi-state bodies, private companies in IT, finance and consultancy, as well as sectors such as education, health and social welfare are now exploring the benefits of combining large and complex data resources, including administrative data, for decision making and resource use.

The MSc in Social Data Science at the UCD is ideal for graduates who want to upskill and avail of these excellent employment opportunities. It is designed to enable individuals to combine their social science and/or cognate training with strong technical and analytical skills, and to exploit the wide range of digitised and digital data now accessible by public and private sector organisations.

## Graduate Profile

**Killian McLoughlin | Graduate**

During my time at UCD, I have been exposed to a variety of computer science techniques for data analysis which I have been able to apply in complementary social science modules.

I highly recommend the MSc to anyone who is interested in using technology to do social science in entirely new ways.



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# MSc Social & Political Thought

One Year Full Time | Two Years Part-Time

Course code: W544 | W545



The MA in Social and Political Thought is a new inter- and multidisciplinary Master's degree. It brings together expertise from a range of UCD's academic departments, namely Sociology, Philosophy, Geography, History, Music, and Politics and International Relations. Thinking about social and political issues and problems doesn't stop at disciplinary boundaries. The MA in Social and Political Thought harvests the benefits that come with a more openly structured, interdisciplinary approach that is based on a wider contextual appreciation of political and social ideas. It will provide students with a rich understanding of the theoretical and practical dimensions of key social ideas. Students will develop the knowledge base and critical skills required to think beyond disciplinary boundaries when addressing contemporary social and political problems. This new degree pursues a more self-reflective approach vis-à-vis a purely practical-oriented political engagement or a propensity towards ideological politics. The aim is to encourage political and social engagement by stressing the processual patterns and not just the outcome oriented dimensions of citizenship and civic engagement.

## Course Highlights

The new Social and Political Thought degree puts an emphasis on improving analytical and interpretative skills through analysing politically and socially relevant meanings in texts and other media, and engaging with critical methodological approaches; developing an awareness and diagnostic skills that allow for addressing the complex relationship between thinking and action; and building the resourcefulness and facilitating scholarly/intellectual capacity-building powers to address social and political problems and issues.

## Course Content and Structure

90 CREDITS  
Taught Masters

=

60 CREDITS  
Taught Modules

+

30 CREDITS  
Dissertation

### Core Modules:

- Social and Political Thought in past and present: traditions, theories, paradigms
- Social and Political Thought: Problems of Method

*\*\*A student may be able to substitute more advanced modules for specific core modules, where a student can demonstrate sufficient prior learning in those areas.*

### Option Modules:

- Organised Violence and Society
- Critical Geographies
- Global History
- Feminist and Gender Theory
- Modern Asia
- French Colonial Identities
- Political Theory & the European Union
- International Political Theory
- Sociological Thinking in the Digital Age
- Critical Acting
- Jonathan Swift and Ireland

## Career Opportunities

The degree provides the necessary inter- and transdisciplinary skills to understand, analyse and communicate appropriately about a given social and political issue, problem or task. It is crucial to comprehend that thought, theories, ideologies and/or ideas never just appear out of nowhere and are never just free-floating or 'relative', that is without any context or history.

Graduates are prepared for careers in journalism, policy analysis, civil society and the NGO sector, the civil service as well as further studies and academia.

## Academic Profile

Prof Andreas Hess | Director

Being a good citizen and intellectual openness depend on each other.

The Social and Political Thought Masters degree offers a critical perspective on the all-too-often prevailing methodological nationalism and the tendency to form fragmented communities of academic disciplines that all too often follow solely the somewhat limited horizon of the existing division of labour.



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# MA/MSc Sociology

One Year Full Time | Two Years Part-Time

Course code: W438 | W436



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.

## Course Highlights

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.

## Course 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

The core difference between the MA and the MSc in Sociology 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.

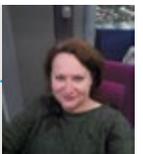
## Career Opportunities

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; and Community Workers in Belfast and Dublin. A large number of our Graduates continue through to PhD level. Some professions require further training, qualifications or certification.

## Graduate Profile

Anita Tuesley | Graduate

There are many modules in the masters 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 with strong support from the lecturers, and full participation expected. This has been a very rewarding experience, living up to expectations and more.



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