



# MSc Comparative Social Change

(One Year Full Time Joint UCD-Trinity College Dublin Programme)



## Introduction

The MSc Comparative Social Change is a one year full time programme which is jointly delivered by the UCD School of Sociology and the Department of Sociology at Trinity College Dublin. It provides students with the theoretical frameworks and practical research skills necessary to understand the processes and pressing issues presented by global social change, and with the skills to critically explore the social, cultural and economic forces that drive social change today.

The programme aims to develop students' knowledge of major social change issues, such as globalisation, the changing roles of women and the interrelated areas of migration, education and employment, and to offer insights into the different forms they take across states. The MSc uses the recent experience of Irish social change in a comparative European and global context to provide training in substantive topics relating to issues of comparative social change.

## Programme Highlight

The programme provides advanced training in conceptualising, designing and conducting comparative research, across countries, and examines the role that this can play in policy development. The MSc has a strong international dimension drawing on rich and informative experiences from Ireland, Europe and further afield particularly India and China.

Applicants become fully registered students at Ireland's top two universities - Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin - and will have full access to all campus facilities including the libraries, sports centres and postgraduate study facilities.

## Programme Content and Structure

**90 credits**  
Taught Masters

=

**60 credits**  
Taught Modules

+

**30 credits**  
Dissertation

### Core Modules:

- Research Methods
- Globalisation and Social Change: India, China and Brazil
- Introduction to Comparative Social Change: Concepts and Cases

### Option Modules:

- Labour, Migration, Conflict
- Gender and Social Change in a Comparative Context
- Sociological Thinking in the Digital Age
- Religion in Comparative Perspective
- Economic Globalisation and Social Change
- Comparing Healthcare Systems
- Nationalism and Social Change
- The Migration Challenge: Comparative Educational Perspectives
- Social Change and Adolescent Health and Well-Being: Issues and Challenges

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 MSc Comparative Social Change is particularly relevant for students who are interested in pursuing careers in the public and private sector, international institutions and civil society organisations. Students receive a solid academic training in social change issues - such as gender, education and the labour market - which can be applied to real-world problems. This training has the potential to open up career opportunities in fields such as research, policy development and advocacy.

Some of our graduates are currently PhD students in Trinity, UCD, Oxford, St Andrews, and the European University Institute. Others are working in nonprofit and governmental organisations like DINIT, Peter McVerry Trust, Alcohol Action Ireland, and INTERSOS Migration Unit.

## Graduate Profile



**Monika Pedroso**

When I first came to find this MSc in Comparative Social Change I felt like my search for a postgraduate programme, which lasted almost four years, had finally come to an end. Its comparative approach provides a better understanding of the current international scenario, going beyond European affairs and addressing the dynamics of emergent countries such as Brazil, India and China through the lenses of a contemporary globalisation. Discussions involved ongoing, at times provoking themes such as migration processes and their social and educational implications, the emergence of the neoliberal economy and its political, financial and social repercussions, ethnicity, race and patterns of social exclusion/stratification, among many other relevant themes. Discussions were further enriched by... having colleagues from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds as well as by having a remarkable team of professors and staff who were at all times very approachable and tried their best to inspire, support and challenge all of us. Furthermore, it was a very interesting experience to be part of a course offered jointly by TCD and UCD as I had the opportunity to meet professionals and to enjoy the structure and facilities of two of the leading educational institutions in Ireland. I would highly recommend this program not only for those who are already pursuing careers in Sociology but also for those who want to have a broader and clearer view of our current society.

## 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. This is equivalent to a GPA of 3.08 under the UCD honours classification system. Applicants with a strong 2:2 equivalent will also be considered
- Applicants who do not meet the academic requirements but can confirm relevant professional qualifications and/or experience will be considered
- All candidates are expected to be proficient in written and spoken English. Applicants whose primary language is not English must meet the UCD English language entry requirements

## 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/MA Sociology
- MSc Global Solutions
- MSc Spatial Demography
- MA Race, Migration and Decolonial Studies
- MSc Social Data Analytics

### CONTACT US

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

**Additional Resources for 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)