MSc Critical Geographies: Power and Inequalities
1 year Full Time or 2 years Part Time

Critical geographies allow us to engage with power relations and inequalities that create contemporary societies, spaces, places, environments and lives. It develops a robust critical analysis of power relations and inequalities that define our contemporary and past worlds, in search of improved futures. Hands on, in the field learning includes a choice of fieldtrips, including a Global South option.

UCD Geography has an impressive range of engaged international experts leading their fields in Radical scholarship, Anarchism, Geopolitics, Global South, Postcolonialism and Decoloniality, Feminism, Queer, Healthcare and Urban studies. Advised by these world leading scholars, who work with you to engage in ways that develop your analytical, intellectual and practical skills, and informed by cutting edge research, you develop both in-depth contemporary critical geographies and the breadth of Geographical insights.

This Masters is for anyone who has an interest in considering how power and inequalities are created in different places, and created through the places that they are in.

Course Content and Structure

Your studies will cover a broad engagement with critical and radical geographies and a choice regarding your focus. These choices vary annually, but include critical environmental studies, anarchism, critical geopolitics, critical urban studies, critical engagements with the Global South. Within your courses, you will choose what to focus on and for your dissertation you will work on a one-to-one basis with an expert member of staff who will guide you in creating your own research project.

Over the course of the Masters, you will complete five compulsory modules:
- Critical geographies,
- research design (I and II),
- dissertation (with a choice of focus within the course content) and
- a fieldtrip (chosen from International fieldwork, international urban fieldwork and Global South fieldwork).

You will choose four further modules, with choices including:
- Critical Geopolitics
- Geographies of the Global South
- Latin America
- Applied/Advanced GIS
- The Urban Environment

Why study at UCD?

Tradition
Established 1854, with 160 years of teaching & research excellence

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

Global community
Over 6,000 international students from over 120 countries study at UCD

Global careers
Degrees with high employability; dedicated careers support; Two-year stay-back visa for Non-EU students

Safety
Modern parkland campus with 24 hour security, minutes from Dublin city centre
Career Opportunities

The MSc in Critical Geographies offers key intellectual and academic insights to consider in-depth the power relations that constitute our world. These skills will ensure that graduates are both employable and augment civil society through a keen engagement with social, cultural and political inequalities.

In addition, to critical intellectual development, the course supports students to develop key advanced skills, including critical dissemination across a range of media (blogs, journal articles, report writing) research design and delivery of a large scale project. Field based experiences that are part of your modules develop your methodological expertise and experience, alongside the practical application of concepts.

This programme offers direct employment prospects including in NGOs, voluntary sector, government, civil service, as well as further academic studies. Beyond this, critical geographies and the intellectual and practical skills developed are designed to enable graduates to understand the world in order to change it.

Entry Requirements

- A good undergraduate degree in Geography or a related discipline. We would encourage applications from those who have studied degrees related to critical understandings that provides appropriate background to the programme.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 7.0 (no band less than 6.5 in each element) or equivalent.

Fees

Fee information at www.ucd.ie/fees

Staff Profile

Prof. Kath Browne
Programme Director

My work is in the field of Critical Geography, particularly feminist and sexualities geographies, where I have developed new understandings of the shifting relations of sexual and gendered power through their manifestations in place and space. I see the spatial as key to the conceptualisation, and manifestation, of socially just worlds. I am passionate about understandings of power and inequalities through practically engaged research that seeks to experiment in different futures. My expertise in Sexualities and Space; Gendered Lives and Sexed Bodies and Empowering and Effective Methodologies has affected positive social change, including through working with marginalised communities, civil society and government. I am excited to lead this Masters programme, and hope that just as we challenge you, your experience and ideas

Related Masters

MSc Applied Geospatial Analysis
MSc Development and the Global South
MA Geography
MA Geopolitics and the Global Economy
Msc Risk, Resilience and Sustainability
Msc Urban Environment

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