



School of Politics & International Relations (SPIRe)

# **Graduate Studies Handbook**

**for MA, MSc, MEconSc, GradDip, ProfCert  
programmes**

**2022/23**

Disclaimer: The information contained in this handbook is, to the best of our knowledge, true and accurate at the time of publication, and is solely for informational purposes. University College Dublin accepts no liability for any loss or damage howsoever arising as a result of use or reliance on this information.

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## Welcome to SPIRe

Welcome to the UCD School of Politics and International Relations (SPIRe), the oldest and the largest school of politics in the Republic of Ireland.

Our graduate programmes cover traditional areas of political science such as comparative politics, international relations, and political theory, as well as specialized and/or multi-disciplinary subjects such as European public affairs, human rights, international development, gender, political economy, and nationalism and ethnic conflict. Regardless of which programme you have chosen, we work hard to offer an academic environment that allows you to ensure that your time in SPIRe is both intellectually challenging and professionally valuable.

This handbook is designed to answer your basic questions about the school's and university's requirements and procedures for graduate study. For more information about the school and its staff, I recommend that you start by browsing the SPIRe website <http://www.ucd.ie/spire/>. In addition, the following website offers more information about college and university-level regulations and services for graduate students: <http://www.ucd.ie/humansciences/graduateschool/>.

If you have questions that neither this handbook nor the school website can answer, please do not hesitate to ask for help (see Contacts).

Dr Alexa Zellentin  
Chair, Graduate Studies Committee  
UCD School of Politics and International Relations

## Contacts

There are several points of contact best suited for different enquiries.

If you have a general question about registration, scheduling, assessment, theses, etc and you cannot find the answer in this Handbook, please contact the school's postgraduate administrator. Phone lines may not always be available as staff are operating a hybrid working schedule. Please **email** all your inquiries to: [graduatespire@ucd.ie](mailto:graduatespire@ucd.ie).

Please reference your student number in all correspondence.

If you have a specific question regarding your degree and programme requirements etc. and you cannot find the answer in this Handbook, please contact the coordinator for your programme:

MA/MSc Politics: Prof David Farrell ([david.farrell@ucd.ie](mailto:david.farrell@ucd.ie))

MA/MSc International Relations: Dr Joshua Alley ([joshua.alley@ucd.ie](mailto:joshua.alley@ucd.ie))

MA/MSc International Development: Dr Krishna Vadlamannati ([krishna.vadlamannati@ucd.ie](mailto:krishna.vadlamannati@ucd.ie))

MA/MSc Peace and Conflict: Dr Stephanie Dornschneider-Elkink ([stephanie.dornschneider@ucd.ie](mailto:stephanie.dornschneider@ucd.ie))

MA/MSc International Political Economy: Dr Sam Brazys ([samuel.brazys@ucd.ie](mailto:samuel.brazys@ucd.ie))

MA/MSc European Politics and Policy: Prof Niamh Hardiman ([niamh.hardiman@ucd.ie](mailto:niamh.hardiman@ucd.ie))

MA/MSc Gender, Politics and International Relations: Dr Dawn Walsh ([dawn.walsh@ucd.ie](mailto:dawn.walsh@ucd.ie))

MA Political Theory: Dr Alexa Zellentin ([alexa.zellentin@ucd.ie](mailto:alexa.zellentin@ucd.ie))

MA Middle East Politics: Dr Vincent Durac ([vincent.durac@ucd.ie](mailto:vincent.durac@ucd.ie))

MA Politics and International Relations: Dr Tobias Theiler ([tobias.theiler@ucd.ie](mailto:tobias.theiler@ucd.ie))

MEconSc European Public Affairs & Law: Dr Aidan Regan ([aidan.regan@ucd.ie](mailto:aidan.regan@ucd.ie))

MSc Human Rights: Dr Graham Finlay ([graham.finlay@ucd.ie](mailto:graham.finlay@ucd.ie))

MSc Politics and Data Science: Dr Stefan Müller ([stefan.mueller@ucd.ie](mailto:stefan.mueller@ucd.ie))

MSc European Governance: Dr Aidan Regan ([aidan.regan@ucd.ie](mailto:aidan.regan@ucd.ie))

Graduate Diploma in Politics and International Relations: Dr Tobias Theiler ([tobias.theiler@ucd.ie](mailto:tobias.theiler@ucd.ie))

Graduate Diploma in International Development: Dr Krishna Vadlamannati  
([krishna.vadlamannati@ucd.ie](mailto:krishna.vadlamannati@ucd.ie))

Graduate Diploma in Politics and Data Science: Dr Stefan Müller ([stefan.mueller@ucd.ie](mailto:stefan.mueller@ucd.ie))

Prof Certs in Programming for Soc Scientists & Quantitative Text Analysis: Dr Stefan Müller  
([stefan.mueller@ucd.ie](mailto:stefan.mueller@ucd.ie))

If you have questions about modules and assessments etc., please contact the **module coordinator** for the module in question. When emailing module coordinators, please make sure that you put the relevant module code in the subject line, along with your student number.

Please note that we try to reply to requests as quickly as possible and should normally be able to respond within three working days.

### **PhD Application**

If you would like to discuss the possibility of applying for admission to one of SPIRe's PhD programmes, please see [www.ucd.ie/spire/study/prospectivephdstudents/](http://www.ucd.ie/spire/study/prospectivephdstudents/) for basic information.

If you have any further questions, please contact the school's PhD coordinator, Dr Alexa Zellentin ([alexa.zellentin@ucd.ie](mailto:alexa.zellentin@ucd.ie)) for all academic concerns and the school's PhD administrator, Ms Dara Gannon ([dara.gannon@ucd.ie](mailto:dara.gannon@ucd.ie)) regarding any queries relating to the application materials not already answered on the website.

### **Current Covid 19 Advice**

Under current Government and HSE advice there are no restrictions to any University activities due to Covid. All University activities may proceed as normal.

Notwithstanding the absence of restrictions on University events, there are steps that all persons can take to further minimise the risks from Covid. For more details [see here](#)

International students joining UCD in 2022/23 may have a lot of additional questions relating to COVID-19. [This page](#) should address some of those queries.

## **MA Politics (W023 FT, W111 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Prof David Farrell ([david.farrell@ucd.ie](mailto:david.farrell@ucd.ie))

The School of Politics and International Relations offers an MA/MSc in Politics, which was developed for those who wish to understand the role of politics in shaping the great issues of our day including power and conflict, distribution and inequality, relations between nations, and the new challenges of globalization, financial crisis, national security and climate change. The course focuses on one of the main traditional pillars of the discipline –comparative politics.

Comparative politics looks at the European nation-states in a comparative perspective. It analyses regime types, political stability, change and crisis, electoral and party systems. The courses build on expertise within the School on international development, political economy and public policy, ethnic conflict and nationalism, and European Union politics. Furthermore, the study of Irish politics (North and South) in comparative context has deep roots at UCD.

### **Structure**

The MA in Politics is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the first trimester, and three 10-credit modules in the second trimester. Students must also register either for a thesis module or a SPIRe Internship module, both worth 30-credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design module in year 2.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MA Politics

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL42330 Research Design	POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL42000 Political Theory and the EU
Option Modules	POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance Pol Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender Peace and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties SOC40620 Nationalism and Social Change

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42300 SPIRe Internship (30 credits) <b>or</b> POL42310 Thesis (30 credits)
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## **MSc Politics (W233 FT, W234 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Prof David Farrell ([david.farrell@ucd.ie](mailto:david.farrell@ucd.ie))

The School of Politics and International Relations offers an MA/MSc in Politics, which was developed for those who wish to understand the role of politics in shaping the great issues of our day including power and conflict, distribution and inequality, relations between nations, and the new challenges of globalization, financial crisis, national security and climate change. The course focuses on one of the main traditional pillars of the discipline –comparative politics.

Comparative politics looks at the European nation-states in a comparative perspective. It analyses regime types, political stability, change and crisis, electoral and party systems. The courses build on expertise within the School on international development, political economy and public policy, ethnic conflict and nationalism, and European Union politics. Furthermore, the study of Irish politics (North and South) in comparative context has deep roots at UCD.

### **Structure**

The MSc in Politics is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take one 10-credit core module and two 10-credit option modules in the first trimester, and three 10-credit core modules in the second trimester. Students must also submit a thesis worth 30 credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take core modules in Year 1.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MSc Politics

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL40950 Introduction to Statistics	POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL42000 Political Theory and the EU
Option Modules	POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42350 Connected_Politics POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties SOC40620 Nationalism and Social Change

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42310 Thesis (30 credits)
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## **MA International Relations (W235 FT, W236 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Joshua Alley ([joshua.alley@ucd.ie](mailto:joshua.alley@ucd.ie))

As an academic discipline, international relations deals with the causes and consequences of international phenomena such as war, trade, regional integration, migration and terrorism. While rooted in political science, teaching and research on international relations at SPIRe brings together different methodologies and theoretical perspectives. Particular strengths in the School include international political economy, international security, cultural and social-psychological approaches to international politics, regional integration, international institutions, development and human rights. Geographical expertise centres on Europe, Africa, North America and the Middle East.

### **Structure**

The MA in International Relations is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester, and three 10-credit modules spring trimester. Students must also register either for a thesis module or a SPIRe Internship module, both worth 30-credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design module in year 2.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MA International Relations

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL40050 Theories of International Relations or POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL42330 Research Design	
<b>Core Options</b> <b>Choose minimum of 1</b>	POL42440 Political Economy of Security	POL42060 International Security
Option Modules	POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security POL42450 Russian Foreign Policy	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42300 SPIRe Internship (30 credits) <b>or</b> POL42310 Thesis (30 credits)
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## **MSc International Relations (W036 FT, W109 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Joshua Alley ([joshua.alley@ucd.ie](mailto:joshua.alley@ucd.ie))

As an academic discipline, international relations deals with the causes and consequences of international phenomena such as war, trade, regional integration, migration and terrorism. While rooted in political science, teaching and research on international relations at SPIRe brings together different methodologies and theoretical perspectives. Particular strengths in the School include international political economy, international security, cultural and social-psychological approaches to international politics, regional integration, international institutions, development and human rights. Geographical expertise centres on Europe, Africa, North America and the Middle East.

### **Structure**

The MSc in International Relations is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take two 10-credit core modules and one 10-credit option module in the autumn trimester, and two 10-credit core modules, one 10-credit option module in the spring trimester. Students must also submit a thesis worth 30 credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable to take the core modules in Year 1.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MSc International Relations

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL40050 Theories of International Relations <b>or</b> POL41800 Theories of International Relations Stream2 POL40950 Introduction to Statistics	POL41640 Qualitative Research Methods for Politics
<b>Core Options Choose Min. 1 of</b>	POL42440 Political Economy of Security	POL42060 International Security
Option Modules	POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security POL42450 Russian Foreign Policy	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42350 Connected_Politics POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42310 Thesis (30 credits)
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## **MA International Development W301 FT, W302 PT)**

MA International Development (W301 FT, W302 PT)

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Krishna Vadlamannati ([krishna.vadlamannati@ucd.ie](mailto:krishna.vadlamannati@ucd.ie))

The programme is designed to provide participants with an interdisciplinary understanding of the process of development and with a range of skills to enable them to work effectively in this field. The programme is also designed to develop participants' existing skills by critically evaluating these from the perspective of a number of disciplines.

The aim of development is broadly understood as being about the improvement of quality of life in a world characterised by unprecedented opulence but also by widespread deprivation, destitution and poverty. Development, however, is about more than higher incomes – it is a multidimensional process of change in social structures, posing challenges in such areas as the reduction of inequality and inclusion, the expansion of the range of economic and social choices, the progressive realisation of human rights and of progress towards a more sustainable world.

The academic subject of International Development focuses on processes of social, political and economic change taking place primarily – although not exclusively – in developing countries. Teaching and research on development is multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary, bringing together academic expertise in politics, economics, political economy and other areas, while also drawing on the broader strengths of the School of Politics and International Relations.

### **Structure**

The MA in International Development is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester, and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. Students must also register either for a thesis module or a SPIRe Internship module, both worth 30-credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design module in year 2.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### **Core and Option Modules for MA International Development**

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42330 Research Design	POL40100 Politics of Development
Option Modules	GS40100 Gender, Harm and Justice LAW40760 NGO Law POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security	POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42300 SPIRe Internship (30 credits) <b>or</b> POL42310 Thesis (30 credits)
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## **MSc International Development (W303 FT, W304 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Krishna Vadlamannati ([krishna.vadlamannati@ucd.ie](mailto:krishna.vadlamannati@ucd.ie))

The aim of development is broadly understood as being about the improvement of quality of life in a world characterised by unprecedented opulence but also by widespread deprivation, destitution and poverty. Development, however, is about more than higher incomes – it is a multidimensional process of change in social structures, posing challenges in such areas as the reduction of inequality and inclusion, the expansion of the range of economic and social choices, the progressive realisation of human rights and of progress towards a more sustainable world.

The academic subject of International Development focuses on processes of social, political and economic change taking place primarily – although not exclusively – in developing countries. Teaching and research on development is multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary, bringing together academic expertise in politics, economics, agriculture, political economy and other areas, while also drawing on the broader strengths of the School of Politics and International Relations.

The programme is designed to provide participants with an interdisciplinary understanding of the process of development and with a range of skills to enable them to continue on to further study (including at PhD level) in development, in particular through the acquisition of substantive skills in research design and methodology. The programme is also designed to develop participants' existing skills by critically evaluating these from the perspective of a number of disciplines.

### **Structure**

The MSc in International Development is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester, and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. Students must also submit a thesis worth 30 credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

A Graduate Diploma in International Development is also available: see the description later in this Handbook.

### Core and Option Modules for MSc International Development

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev	POL41640 Qualitative Research Methods for Politics POL40100 Politics of Development
Option Modules	GS40100 Gender, Harm and Justice LAW40760 NGO Law POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security	POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42350 Connected_Politics POL42430 Social Theory & IR

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42310 Thesis (30 credits)
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## **MA Peace and Conflict (W410 FT, W411 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Stephanie Dornschneider-Elkink ([stephanie.dornschneider@ucd.ie](mailto:stephanie.dornschneider@ucd.ie))

This programme uses comparative political science models and methods to analyse patterns of conflict and settlement, with a focus on internal violent conflicts, past and present. Internal conflicts are among the most important factors destabilising entire regions and affecting wider international relations. Equally international and global developments – from global economic trends, to climate change, to the rise and fall of empires and states – affect the likelihood of internal conflict.

The understanding of issues concerning peace and conflict is vital to the broader understanding of issues of war, peace and conflict resolution in the world. This programme develops that understanding on the part of students and familiarises them with cutting edge debates on key issues from various parts of the world. The vision of this programme is to nurture people capable of constructively intervening on these debates - either as practitioners or as academic/policy specialists.

The wide range of expertise in SPIRe feeds into the programme, with its specialist resources in the study of theories of ethnicity, identity, conflict; comparative ethnic conflict; Northern Ireland, Western Europe and relevant cognate specialisms in civic republicanism, justice and human rights, international security, European politics, and development studies.

### **Structure**

The MA in Peace and Conflict is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester, and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. Students must also register either for a thesis module or a SPIRe Internship module, both worth 30-credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design module in year 2.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MA Peace and Conflict

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL42330 Research Design	POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in the Middle East
Option Modules	AMST40030 Media and US Foreign Policy GS40100 Gender, Harm and Justice POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR SOC40620 Nationalism and Social Change

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42300 SPIRe Internship (30) <b>or</b> POL42310 Thesis (30)
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## **MSc Peace and Conflict (W408 FT, W409 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Stephanie Dornschneider-Elkink ([stephanie.dornschneider@ucd.ie](mailto:stephanie.dornschneider@ucd.ie))

This programme uses comparative political science models and methods to analyse patterns of conflict and settlement, with a focus on internal violent conflicts, past and present. Internal conflicts are among the most important factors destabilising entire regions and affecting wider international relations. Equally international and global developments – from global economic trends, to climate change, to the rise and fall of empires and states – affect the likelihood of internal conflict.

The understanding of issues concerning peace and conflict is vital to the broader understanding of issues of war, peace and conflict resolution in the world. This programme develops that understanding on the part of students and familiarises them with cutting edge debates on the issues from various parts of the world. The vision of this programme is to nurture people capable of constructively intervening on these debates - either as practitioners or as academic/policy specialists.

The wide range of expertise in SPIRe feeds into the programme, with its specialist resources in the study of theories of ethnicity, identity, conflict; comparative ethnic conflict; Northern Ireland, Western Europe, the Middle East, and relevant cognate specialisms in civic republicanism, justice and human rights, international security, European politics, and development studies.

### **Structure**

The MSc in Peace and Conflict is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take two 10-credit core modules and one 10-credit option module in the autumn trimester, and two 10-credit core modules, one 10-credit option module in the spring trimester. Students must also submit a thesis worth 30 credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MSc Peace and Conflict

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL40950 Introduction to Statistics	POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL41640 Qualitative Research Methods for Politics POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in the Middle East
Option Modules	AMST40030 Media and US Foreign Policy GS40100 Gender, Harm and Justice POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev 10cr POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42350 Connected_Politics POL42430 Social Theory & IR SOC40620 Nationalism and Social Change

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42310 Thesis (30)
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## **MA International Political Economy (W290 FT, W291 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Sam Brazys ([samuel.brazys@ucd.ie](mailto:samuel.brazys@ucd.ie))

The MA International Political Economy (IPE) is designed to provide an in-depth understanding of the institutions, actors, events, and politics of the global economy. Basing itself in international relations theory and method, the programme explores the international trade, monetary and finance systems, the processes of globalization, the impact of emerging economies, and the causes and consequences of economic underdevelopment. The program also probes the linkages of the global economy with international environmental, human rights, gender and migration issues. The programme includes core modules covering both the “British” and “American” schools of IPE. Participants in the subject-oriented MA programme can choose four electives from the wide range of courses offered in the School.

### **Structure**

The MA in International Political Economy is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester, and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. Students must also register either for a thesis module or a SPIRe Internship module, both worth 30-credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design module in year 2.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MA International Political Economy

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL42330 Research Design	POL40370 International Political Economy
Option Modules	POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security POL42450 Russian Foreign Policy	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42300 SPIRe Internship (30 credits) <b>or</b> POL42310 Thesis (30 credits)
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## **MSc International Political Economy (W293 FT, W294 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Sam Brazys ([samuel.brazys@ucd.ie](mailto:samuel.brazys@ucd.ie))

The MSc International Political Economy (IPE) is designed to provide an in-depth understanding of the institutions, actors, events, and politics of the global economy. Basing itself in international relations theory and method, the programme explores the international trade, monetary and finance systems, the processes of globalization, the impact of emerging economies, and the causes and consequences of economic underdevelopment. The program also probes the linkages of the global economy with international environmental, human rights, gender and migration issues. The programme includes core modules covering both the “British” and “American” schools of IPE. Participants in the research-oriented MSc programme also complete two core modules in research methods and can freely choose the two remaining modules from a wide range of options. In the two research design core modules, MSc students will learn how to address political and social problems using quantitative and qualitative research methods. The courses that can be chosen as electives include all courses offered at the School of Politics and International Relations.

### **Structure**

The MSc in International Political Economy is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take two 10-credit core modules and one option module in the autumn trimester, and two 10-credit core modules and one 10-credit option module in the spring trimester. Students must also submit a thesis worth 30-credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MSc International Political Economy

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL40950 Introduction to Statistics	POL41640 Qualitative Research Methods for Politics POL40370 International Political Economy
Option Modules	POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security POL42450 Russian Foreign Policy	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42350 Connected Politics POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42310 Thesis (30 credits)
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## **MA European Politics and Policy (W346 FT, W347 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Prof Niamh Hardiman ([niamh.hardiman@ucd.ie](mailto:niamh.hardiman@ucd.ie))

European politics and events that occur at a European level shape our lives on a daily basis. Issues such as the rise of Euroscepticism across the EU, the origins and implications of the Eurocrisis, and the security concerns developing on the southern and eastern borders of the European continent are all topics that require urgent attention from political decision makers. Understanding similarities and differences between European states, their political systems, and the way in which they interact in International Organisations such as the European Union can help us design policy solutions that address some of these challenges. The MA program in European Politics and Policy-making aims to attract students interested in understanding European Politics and the challenges faced by European states in the 21st century. The programs are structured around a set of courses dedicated to different aspects of European politics, both EU and comparative European. In completing these courses, students will gain a well-grounded knowledge of the issues facing European governance and the manner in which different European political systems have sought to address the challenges they face in an increasingly Europeanized and globalized world.

### **Structure**

The MA European Politics and Policy is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester, and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. Students must also register either for a thesis module or a SPIRe Internship module, both worth 30-credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design module in year 2.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MA European Politics and Policy

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL40970 Politics, European Governance POL42330 Research Design	POL40540 Comparative European Politics
Option Modules	LAW41040 Law and Governance of the EU POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev 10cr POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security POL42450 Russian Foreign Policy	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42090 Engaging Brussels POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42300 SPIRe Internship (30) <b>or</b> POL42310 Thesis (30)
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## **MSc European Politics and Policy (W344 FT, W345 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Prof Niamh Hardiman ([niamh.hardiman@ucd.ie](mailto:niamh.hardiman@ucd.ie))

European politics and events that occur at a European level shape our lives on a daily basis. Issues such as the rise of Euroscepticism across the EU, the origins and implications of the Eurocrisis, and the security concerns developing on the southern and eastern borders of the European continent are all topics that require urgent attention from political decision makers. Understanding similarities and differences between European states, their political systems, and the way in which they interact in International Organisations such as the European Union can help us design policy solutions that address some of these challenges. The MSc program in European Politics and Policy-making aim to attract students interested in understanding European Politics and the challenges faced by European states in the 21st century. The programs are structured around a set of courses dedicated to different aspects of European politics, both EU and comparative European. In completing these courses, students will gain a well-grounded knowledge of the issues facing European governance and the manner in which different European political systems have sought to address the challenges they face in an increasingly Europeanized and globalized world.

### **Structure**

The MSc European Politics and Policy is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit core modules in the autumn trimester and, one 10-credit core module and two 10-credit option modules in the spring trimester. Students must also submit a thesis worth 30-credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MSc European Politics and Policy

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics, European Governance	POL41640 Qualitative Research Methods for Politics POL40540 Comparative European Politics
Option Modules	LAW41040 Law and Governance of the EU POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security POL42450 Russian Foreign Policy	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42090 Engaging Brussels POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42350 Connected Politics POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42310 Thesis (30)
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## **MA Gender, Politics and International Relations (W458 FT, W459 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: : Dr Dawn Walsh (dawn.walsh@ucd.ie)

In recent years there has been a recognition of the central role of gender in politics. Given this increased appreciation of the need to consider the impact of gender, now is an exciting time to explore the far-reaching and important ways in which gender intersects with politics and international relations.

This programme investigates the ways in which gender is implicated in the structure, practice, and theorising of politics. The programme explores the ways in which gender identity impacts on individual and group interactions with the domestic political system and global politics. It also recognises that national and international political structures are gendered and that this affects power relations, political behaviour, and public policies. Specific topics which are covered include gender and political representation, gender and elected institutions, and the role of gender in security and conflict.

### **Structure**

The MA Gender, Politics and International Relations is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester, and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. Students must also register either for a thesis module or a SPIRe Internship module, both worth 30-credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design module in year 2.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MA Gender, Politics and International Relations

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42330 Research Design	POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security
Option Modules	EQU40310 Masculinities & Equality GS40100 Gender, Harm and Justice POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev 10cr POL42440 Political Economy of Security POL42450 Russian Foreign Policy	GS40030 Gender, Inequality and Policy POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42300 SPIRe Internship (30) <b>or</b> POL42310 Thesis (30)
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## **MSc Gender, Politics and International Relations (W525 FT, W526 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: : Dr Dawn Walsh (dawn.walsh@ucd.ie)

In recent years there has been a recognition of the central role of gender in politics. Given this increased appreciation of the need to consider the impact of gender, now is an exciting time to explore the far-reaching and important ways in which gender intersects with politics and international relations.

This programme investigates the ways in which gender is implicated in the structure, practice, and theorising of politics. The programme explores the ways in which gender identity impacts on individual and group interactions with the domestic political system and global politics. It also recognises that national and international political structures are gendered and that this affects power relations, political behaviour, and public policies. Specific topics which are covered include gender and political representation, gender and elected institutions, and the role of gender in security and conflict.

### **Structure**

The MSc Gender, Politics and International Relations is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester, and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. Students must also submit a thesis worth 30-credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design module in year 2.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MSc Gender, Politics and International Relations

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL40950 Introduction to Statistics	POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security
Option Modules	EQUL40310 Masculinities & Equality GS40100 Gender, Harm and Justice POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42440 Political Economy of Security	GS40030 Gender, Inequality and Policy POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42310 Thesis (30)
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## **MA Political Theory (W277 FT, W278 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Alexa Zellentin (alexazellentin@ucd.ie)

Political Theory—contemplating how we should live together —is as old as politics itself. Issues such as justice, freedom, inequality, democratic participation, human rights, immigration and multiculturalism, security and terror call for consideration of the moral dimension of politics, informed by both contemporary political thinkers and the history of political thought.

Analysing, criticising, and ordering moral values and principles is important for governments, the media, civil society groups and individual citizens. Political theory combines a rigorous training in argument analysis and value theory with room for an imaginative search for and discussion of solutions. Some of the biggest challenges in political life is how to prioritise our moral commitments: How do we square free speech with protections from hate speech?, Given the urgent need for climate action, is it permissible or even required to close down entire industries with the resulting loss of jobs and livelihoods?, How should we balance the commitment to democratic participation with the need for expert advice on many important policy issues? etc. Part of doing political theory is to analyse the different normatively significant concerns and discuss how to argue for and against different orderings.

The MA in Political Theory offers an attractive and flexible programme of study whereby students can follow a themed pathway of study, yet avail of options that can focus on deepening their understanding of theoretical approaches or of different areas of application including insights from other branches of political science.

### **Structure**

The MA in Political Theory is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester, and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. Students must also submit a thesis worth 30-credits.

Part-time students take a total of 90 credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design module in year 2.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MA Political Theory

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL42330 Research Design	
<b>Core Options – Select Two</b>		PHIL40420 The Good Society POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL42000 Political Theory and the EU
Option Modules	EDUC41520 Children's Rights & Participation EQUL40310 Masculinities & Equality PHIL41280 Feminist & Gender Theory POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security	PHIL40420 The Good Society PHIL41510 Ethics in Public Life POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42310 Thesis (30 credits)
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## **MA Middle East Politics (W393 FT, W394 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Vincent Durac ([vincent.durac@ucd.ie](mailto:vincent.durac@ucd.ie))

This programme is designed to deepen knowledge and understanding of the domestic and regional politics of the Middle East. It is structured around a set of thematic modules that encourage students to explore political dynamics in the region from a number of different perspectives

The key learning outcomes will be that students have demonstrated specialised, detailed or advanced theoretical and conceptual knowledge and understanding of Middle East Politics, which is based on current debate and controversy at the forefront of the field and that provides a basis or opportunity for originality in developing and/or applying ideas, often within a research context.

### **Structure**

The MA in Middle East Politics is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester, and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. Students must also register either for a thesis module or a SPIRe Internship module, both worth 30-credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design module in year 2.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MA Middle East Politics

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL42330 Research Design	POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in the Middle East
Option Modules	POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security LANG10080 Arabic Gen Purp 1 (5 credits)	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR LANG10710 Arabic General Purposes 2 (5 cr)

Please note: if you intend to do LANG10080 you **MUST** also register for LANG10710 and vice versa.

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42300 SPIRe Internship (30 credits) <b>or</b> POL42310 Thesis (30 credits)
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## **MA Politics and International Relations (W292)**

Duration: two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Tobias Theiler ([tobias.theiler@ucd.ie](mailto:tobias.theiler@ucd.ie))

The School of Politics and International Relations offers an MA in Politics and International Relations that is specifically designed to cater for students wishing to study part-time.

This is designed as an 'omnibus' degree, to give students an opportunity to cover a wide range of subjects in the study of politics and international relations.

### **Structure**

The MA in Politics and International Relations is a 90-credit programme for part-time students. Students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. Students should complete the research design module in year 2.

### Core and Option Modules for MA Politics and International Relations

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL42330 Research Design (Should be completed in Year 2)	
Option Modules	POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security POL42450 Russian Foreign Policy	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester (Year 2)	POL42300 SPIRe Internship (30 credits) <b>or</b> POL42310 Thesis (30 credits)
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## **MEconSc European Public Affairs and Law (W216 FT, W264 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Aidan Regan ([aidan.regan@ucd.ie](mailto:aidan.regan@ucd.ie))

The broadening and deepening of European integration has made the EU an increasingly diverse and complex system of regional governance. These developments have created exciting new opportunities for professionals who are capable of working in a cross-national context, who understand the new political, legal, economic and social structures in Europe, and who understand the complexities of European decision making. Drawing on UCD's expertise in these areas, the MEconSc in European Public Affairs and Law is ideal for those seeking to launch or advance a career in any area of public policy related to the EU, in the various EU institutions themselves, or elsewhere in the private, public and voluntary spheres. It also provides a strong foundation for further academic research.

The MEconSc in European Public Affairs and Law is designed to equip graduates with strong expertise in contemporary European affairs, based on a genuinely interdisciplinary approach to the study of the European Union. Close co-operation between the UCD School of Politics and International Relations and the UCD School of Law integrates core modules in the internal and external affairs of the European Union, whilst a core module in European political economy ensures that students will graduate having a facility to engage in debates drawing on multiple perspectives. Students must also submit a thesis in the area of European politics, international relations or public affairs. Students will also have the option to pursue an internship, preferably related to European public policy.

Students have an opportunity to attend various seminars organised by the UCD School of Politics and International Relations and the UCD Dublin European Institute.

### **Structure**

The MEconSc in European Public Affairs and Law is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit core modules in the autumn trimester, and three 10-credit option modules in the spring trimester. Students must also register to a thesis module or a SPIRe Internship module, both worth 30-credits.

Part-time students take a total of 90 credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design module in year 2.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MEconSc & Law

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	LAW41040 Law and Governance of the EU POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe	
Option Modules	LAW40120 Foundations of Enviro Law POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42330 Research Design POL42440 Political Economy of Security POL42450 Russian Foreign Policy SPOL41060 Public Administration & Policy	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42090 Engaging Brussels POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42300 SPIRe Internship (30 credits) <b>or</b> POL42310 Thesis (30 credits)
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## **MSc Human Rights (W035 FT, W110 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Graham Finlay ([graham.finlay@ucd.ie](mailto:graham.finlay@ucd.ie))

In this programme, students learn about one of the most profound and consequential developments in the contemporary world – the idea that all people are entitled to certain rights and freedoms simply by virtue of their humanity. This idea, now enshrined in international law and enforced by a plethora of supranational courts and non-governmental organizations, has transformed relations between governments and their citizens in many parts of the world. Even where people’s dignity and security are routinely violated and their voices repressed, the idea of ‘human rights’ remains a powerful catalyst for change.

The programme’s core modules enable students to approach human rights from multiple disciplinary perspectives, drawing on staff expertise within the School of Politics and International Relations, the School of Law, and other units at UCD. From a philosophical perspective, they evaluate the meaning of the claim that people have ‘rights’, various arguments about the sources of rights, debates over the indivisibility vs. hierarchy of rights, and the tension between individual and group rights, among other topics. From a legal perspective, they examine how the idea of human rights has been embodied in treaties, constitutions, and legislation at the national, regional, and global levels, and the legal mechanisms that exist to enforce this law. And from a political science perspective, they explore theories and evidence regarding why and when governments commit to protect human rights, as well as theories and evidence regarding why and when they fulfil or violate these commitments. In addition, students are able to select optional modules related to social contract theory, citizenship, social and international justice, development, international relations, comparative politics and ethno-national conflict.

The School has strong connections with governmental and non-governmental organizations in the human rights field in Ireland, across Europe, and further abroad. The MSc in Human Rights thus prepares students for careers with national governments, NGOs and international organisations, as well as journalism and other fields. For those interested in a research or university teaching career, the programme also offers a firm basis for advanced research on human rights as part of a PhD programme.

## Structure

The MSc in Human Rights is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester, and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. Students must also register either for a thesis module or a SPIRe Internship module, both worth 30-credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design module in year 2.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

## Core and Option Modules for MSc Human Rights

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL42330 Research Design	EQU40070 Human Rights Law and Equality POL41030 Theory of Human Rights
Option Modules	GS40100 Gender, Harm and Justice POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security	LAW42130 UN Human Rights Practice POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42430 Social Theory & IR

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42300 SPIRe Internship (30 credits) <b>or</b> POL42310 Thesis (30 credits)
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## **MSc Politics and Data Science (W473 FT, W474 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Stefan Müller ([stefan.mueller@ucd.ie](mailto:stefan.mueller@ucd.ie))

The explosion of online and social media, the proliferation of digitized information, and improved electronic access to political decision-making processes provide new opportunities to study existing and emerging political processes in various democratic and non-democratic political regimes. The simultaneous development of cutting-edge data science methods to study digital text, audio, and video provide the tools we need to take advantage of these opportunities. The MSc Politics and Data Science is designed to equip students with the theoretical knowledge and methodological skills necessary to examine and understand politics in the digital age.

### **Structure**

The MSc Politics and Data Science programme is organised around two streams of study. The first stream grounds students with backgrounds in political science and related social sciences in data science methods. The second stream is geared towards students with computer science or related technical backgrounds, teaching them about research design and theories in political science. Apart from two required core modules in each stream, all students can select four optional modules that best fit their interests. These modules can either revolve around methods needed to study digital and digitised politics, such as programming and machine learning, quantitative text analysis, statistics, and experimental methods. Or they can be modules relating to comparative politics, international relations, political violence, political economy, and related fields that the School of Politics and International Relations has strengths in.

The programme thus provides a thorough grounding in political science and its sub-disciplines, and in-depth training in the empirical methods necessary to study important questions emerging in these areas of study.

MSc Politics and Data Science is a 90-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester, and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. Students must also submit a thesis worth 30-credits.

Part time students take a total of 90-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for MSc Politics and Data Science Social Science Background Stream

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL40950 Introduction to Statistics	POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42350 Connected_Politics
Core Option <b>Choose One</b>		IS41210 Platform Governance IS41240 Social Networks Online & Offline POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis SOC41070 SocThinking in the Digital Age
Optional Modules	IS40840 Data & Society POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev 10cr POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security	IS41210 Platform Governance IS41240 Social Networks Online & Offline POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42460 Understanding Political Parties POL42430 Social Theory & IR SOC41070 SocThinking in the Digital Age

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42310 Thesis (30)
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### Core and Option Modules for MSc Politics and Data Science Technical Background Stream

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules		POL42350 Connected_Politics
Core Option <b>Choose Min of 1</b>		IS41210 Platform Governance IS41240 Social Networks Online & Offline POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists SOC41070 SocThinking in the Digital Age
Optional Modules	IS40840 Data & Society POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security	IS41210 Platform Governance IS41240 Social Networks Online & Offline POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties SOC41070 SocThinking in the Digital Age

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

Summer Trimester	POL42310 Thesis (30)
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## **MSc European Governance (W351)**

Duration: two years full time

Programme Director: Dr Aidan Regan ([aidan.regan@ucd.ie](mailto:aidan.regan@ucd.ie))

The MSc in European Governance is a double degree programme to be run in conjunction with the University of Utrecht School of Governance, starting in September 2016. As an interdisciplinary programme leading to two degrees, with bi-location and internships (in the Netherlands), and a co-supervised, end of programme(s) thesis, students will develop interdisciplinary skills, working in the domains of law and politics, with an enhanced capacity for problem solving. The distinctive contribution of the UCD programme is that it brings legal insights into questions of European governance, exploring law as a framing and constraining device and looks at the EU as an actor from a global perspective paying close attention to political economy questions.

This innovative two-year double-masters degree from University College Dublin and the Utrecht University investigates vital questions facing European countries today.

It will equip you with the knowledge and skills to answer these questions and formulate appropriate responses to the challenges they pose. In Year 1 you study in UCD with a particular focus on Law and Governance of the EU, and European Political Economy.

In Year 2, you study in the Utrecht University in the Netherlands and complete a research internship as part of your masters thesis, which is co-supervised by both universities.

You graduate with two masters degrees – an MSc in European Governance from UCD and an MSc in European Governance from the Utrecht University

### **Year 1 - University College Dublin**

You will study six modules worth ten credits each in UCD Sutherland School of Law and UCD School of Politics and International Relations (60 credits in total).

### **Year 2 - Utrecht University**

Year 2 is taken at Utrecht University focusing on an interdisciplinary study of European governance, using the combined insights of law, economics, public administration and organisational science.



You will study four modules worth fifteen credits each in the School of Law, Economics and Governance (60 credits in total).

### Research Internship and Thesis (30 credits)

In the final semester, all students write a thesis as part of a research internship within an organisation that deals with issues of European governance. This can be an EU organisation in Brussels or an organisation working at the national, regional or local level. The dissertation is supervised jointly by UCD and the Utrecht University.

### Core and Option Modules for MSc European Governance

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

#### Year 1 UCD

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	LAW41040 Law and Governance of the EU POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe	POL42090 Engaging Brussels
Optional Modules	LAW40780 Law of the ECHR POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2	LAW41090 Climate Change Law and Policy POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis

## **Graduate Diploma in Politics and International Relations (W231 FT, W232 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Tobias Theiler ([tobias.theiler@ucd.ie](mailto:tobias.theiler@ucd.ie))

The graduate diploma is designed for students who wish to complete postgraduate taught coursework in any area(s) of politics and international relations but who wish to do so without writing a thesis or who lack a strong academic background in a cognate discipline.

Students in the GradDip can choose modules from the broad list of SPIRe courses. Depending on their performance, aspirations and selection of modules in the first semester (or first year for part-time students), GradDip students can transfer from the graduate diploma into any MA whose core modules they have completed.

### **Structure**

The Graduate Diploma in Politics and International Relations is a 60-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. All students are required to complete a research design module.

Part time students take a total of 60-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design module in year 2.

Please contact the course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Modules for Graduate Diploma in Politics and International Relation

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Option Modules	POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42330 Research Design POL42440 Political Economy of Security POL42450 Russian Foreign Policy	POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

## **Graduate Diploma in International Development (W299 FT, W300 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Krishna Vadlamannati ([krishna.vadlamannati@ucd.ie](mailto:krishna.vadlamannati@ucd.ie))

The aim of development is broadly understood as being about the improvement of quality of life in a world characterised by unprecedented opulence but also by widespread deprivation, destitution and poverty. Development, however, is about more than higher incomes – it is a multidimensional process of change in social structures, posing challenges in such areas as the reduction of inequality and inclusion, the expansion of the range of economic and social choices, the progressive realisation of human rights and of progress towards a more sustainable world.

The academic subject of International Development focuses on processes of social, political and economic change taking place primarily – although not exclusively – in developing countries. Teaching and research on development is multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary, bringing together academic expertise in politics, economics, agriculture, political economy and other areas, while also drawing on the broader strengths of the School of Politics and International Relations.

The Graduate Diploma in International Development is designed to provide participants with an interdisciplinary understanding of the process of development and with a range of skills to enable them to work effectively in this field. Unlike the MA/MSc (International Development), this programme does not require the completion of a minor thesis.

Depending on their performance, aspirations and selection of modules in the first semester (or first year for part-time students), GradDip students can transfer from the graduate diploma into the MA International Development.

### **Structure**

The Graduate Diploma in International Development is a 60-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. A list of core and optional modules is presented below. All students are required to complete a research design workshop.

Part time students take a total of 60-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1. PT students should complete the research design workshop in year 2.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for Graduate Diploma in International Development

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev	POL40100 Politics of Development
Option Modules	GS40100 Gender, Harm and Justice POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42330 Research Design POL42440 Political Economy of Security	POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

## **Graduate Diploma in Politics and Data Science (W475 FT, W476 PT)**

Duration: one year full time, two years part time

Programme Director: Dr Stefan Müller ([stefan.mueller@ucd.ie](mailto:stefan.mueller@ucd.ie))

The explosion of online and social media, the proliferation of digitized information, and improved electronic access to political decision-making processes provide new opportunities to study existing and emerging political processes in various democratic and non-democratic political regimes. The simultaneous development of cutting-edge data science methods to study digital text, audio, and video provide the tools we need to take advantage of these opportunities. The MSc Politics and Data Science is designed to equip students with the theoretical knowledge and methodological skills necessary to examine and understand politics in the digital age.

### **Structure**

The Grad Dip Politics and Data Science programme is organised around two streams of study. The first stream grounds students with backgrounds in political science and related social sciences in data science methods. The second stream is geared towards students with computer science or related technical backgrounds, teaching them about research design and theories in political science. Apart from two required core modules in each stream, all students can select four optional modules that best fit their interests. These modules can either revolve around methods needed to study digital and digitised politics, such as programming and machine learning, quantitative text analysis, statistics, and experimental methods. Or they can be modules relating to comparative politics, international relations, political violence, political economy, and related fields that the School of Politics and International Relations has strengths in.

The Graduate Diploma in Politics and Data Science is a 60-credit programme. Full time students must take three 10-credit modules in the autumn trimester and three 10-credit modules in the spring trimester. A list of core and optional modules is presented below.

Part time students take a total of 60-credits over the two-year duration of the part-time programme. It is advisable for students to take the core modules in Year 1.

Please contact your course coordinator about your part-time module choices.

### Core and Option Modules for GradDip in Politics and Data Science Social Science Background Stream

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL40950 Introduction to Statistics	POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42350 Connected_Politics
Core Option <b>Choose One</b>		IS41210 Platform Governance IS41240 Social Networks Online & Offline POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis SOC41070 SocThinking in the Digital Age
Optional Modules	IS40840 Data & Society POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev 10cr POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security	IS41210 Platform Governance IS41240 Social Networks Online & Offline POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties SOC41070 SocThinking in the Digital Age

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.

### Core and Option Modules for GradDip in Politics and Data Science Technical Background Stream

Each of the following modules carries 10 credits unless otherwise specified.

	Autumn Trimester	Spring Trimester
Core Modules		POL42350 Connected_Politics
Core Option <b>Choose Min of 1</b>		IS41210 Platform Governance IS41240 Social Networks Online & Offline POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists SOC41070 SocThinking in the Digital Age
Optional Modules	IS40840 Data & Society POL40050 Theories of International Relations POL40140 Global Issues in Pol Theory POL40950 Introduction to Statistics POL40970 Politics European Governance POL41020 Politics of Human Rights POL41510 Middle East & North Africa POL41650 Global Political Econ of Europe POL41800 Theories of Int'l Rels Stream2 POL41860 Governance, Pol, Dev POL42040 Gender & the Political System POL42440 Political Economy of Security	IS41210 Platform Governance IS41240 Social Networks Online & Offline POL40100 Politics of Development POL40160 Comparative Public Policy POL40370 International Political Economy POL40540 Comparative European Politics POL41030 Theory of Human Rights POL41640 Qual Research Methods for Pol POL41720 Gender, Peace, and Security POL41780 The Politics of Inequality POL41870 Pol Economy & Comparative Dev POL41930 Psychology of Conflict in MENA POL41980 Peace & Conflict Studies POL42000 Political Theory and the EU POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis POL42060 International Security POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists POL42430 Social Theory & IR POL42460 Understanding Political Parties SOC41070 SocThinking in the Digital Age

Please note, to be enrolled on POL42430 in Spring, students must have taken and passed either of the following two modules: POL41800 or POL40050.



## Professional Certificate Programming for Social Scientists

Duration: 4 months

Programme Director: Dr Stefan Müller (stefan.mueller@ucd.ie)

The Professional Certificate in Programming for Social Scientists provides an introduction to computer programming using the Python language. Python is the 3rd most popular programming language at the moment, the most popular among data scientists, and is generally known as an excellent language to learn programming. A basic grounding in programming will allow you to automate mundane and repetitive tasks, for example renaming files, extracting web data, or developing exciting social science simulations.

Graduates from this programme will be ideally positioned to apply their newly acquired programming skills for careers in government, think tanks, political campaigns, interest groups, and the civil service. Furthermore, the combination of a solid understanding of social science theory with the technical ability to understand the most common data science technologies, brings a unique addition to any data science team, in the corporate sector, the nonprofit sector, or within IT companies.

Graduates will gain:

- An understanding of the relevance of computer programming in the social sciences
- Foundational level knowledge of the Python programming language
- Solid experience in team-based development
- Basic experience with collaborative programming tools
- Good grasp of key concepts in object-oriented programming
- Basic understanding of developing social simulations

	Autumn Trimester
Core Modules	POL42340 Programming for Soc Scientists (10)

## Professional Certificate Quantitative Text Analysis

Duration: 4 months

Programme Director: Dr Stefan Müller (stefan.mueller@ucd.ie)

The Professional Certificate in Quantitative Text Analysis equips students with both the theoretical oversight and the empirical tools necessary to understand and engage with (political) text at scale. The programme introduces students in a hands-on fashion to a variety of methods and tools in the booming fields of quantitative text analysis and natural language processing.

Graduates from this programme will be ideally positioned to apply their newly acquired text mining skills for careers in government, think tanks, political campaigns, interest groups, and the civil service. Furthermore, the combination of a solid understanding of social science theory with the technical ability to examine text at scale, brings a unique addition to any data science team, in the corporate sector, the nonprofit sector, or within IT companies.

Graduates will gain:

- An understanding of various dictionary, supervised and unsupervised approaches of automated text analysis in social science research
- Experience in extracting useful features from text
- Experience in examining these features uses statistical methods
- Training in critically evaluating (social science) research that uses automated text analysis methods.

	Spring Trimester
Core Modules	POL42050 Quantitative Text Analysis (10)

## Transfer from Graduate Diploma to Masters

1. Students enrolled in SPIRe's three Graduate Diploma programmes may apply for mid-year transfer into certain of the school's master's programmes.
  - a. Students in the Graduate Diploma in Politics and International Relations may apply for transfer into the MA Politics, MA International Relations, MA Peace and Conflict, MA Political Theory, MA International Political Economy, MA European Politics and Policy, MA Middle East Politics, MA Gender, Politics and International Relations, MA Politics and International Relations (part time students only), MSc Human Rights, or MEconSc European Public Affairs and Law.
  - b. Students in the Graduate Diploma in International Development may apply for transfer only into the MA International Development.
  - c. Students in the Graduate Diploma in Politics and Data Science may apply for transfer only to the MSc Politics and Data Science.
  - d. Due to the structure of their core curricula, the school's other master's programmes are generally not available for mid-year transfer. In special cases, exceptions may be made for students who have earned final marks of B or higher in the research design/method modules that these programmes require in the autumn trimester.
2. Students who wish to transfer must complete the core modules of the programme they wish to pursue. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure they are registered on the core modules of the relevant programme, which can be found in the Graduate Handbook.
3. In order to be eligible for transfer into one of the master's programmes listed above, full-time Grad Dip students must pass (minimum D-) all marked modules taken in the autumn trimester and earn a minimum overall GPA of 3.2 (B-). A single IX in the autumn trimester will not disqualify a student from applying for transfer; students with multiple IXs who wish to transfer will be reviewed by the Graduate Studies Committee on a case-by-case basis. (For part-time students, see point 6 below.)

4. In order to apply for transfer, students must submit the following in a single e-mail to the school's Postgraduate Administrator (graduatespire@ucd.ie) no later than **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023**.
  - a. A formal letter indicating the student's name, UCD student number, which Grad Dip s/he is enrolled in and which master's programme s/he wishes to transfer onto.
  - b. A brief statement (250-350 words) regarding the topic of the thesis s/he wishes to write if admitted to a master's programme.

It is solely the student's responsibility to ensure that this application is submitted by the deadline. Applications will not be considered if they are submitted in hard copy or after the deadline.

5. Once applications are submitted, the school's Postgraduate Administrator will confirm each applicant's eligibility for transfer and then forward all eligible applications to the Graduate Studies Committee for review and decision. Decisions shall be communicated to the student by the Postgraduate Administrator.
6. Part-time GradDip students are covered by this same policy, but all requirements related to autumn trimester and spring trimester apply instead to Year 1 and Year 2. The deadline for part-time application is **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023**
7. Students approved for transfer will be required to pay the difference in fees that will apply. Students whose transfer applications are not approved will remain enrolled in their original Grad Dip programme.

## Registration

You will need to register online before you can begin your graduate studies. Registration allows you to obtain your Student Card (UCARD) and gain access to the wide range of facilities available to our students.

You can find a helpful **Guide to Registration** [here](#).

An FAQ for common queries about registration and choosing your modules is available [here](#).

Online registration for 2022/23 will open for you from **Friday 19th August 2022** onwards. You will be allocated an individual Start Date and Start Time, which will be sent to your UCD Connect email address. To access UCD Connect email, you will need to go to [www.ucd.ie/connect](http://www.ucd.ie/connect) and click on the Mail icon. Enter your username (UCD student number) and your password (Date of Birth in ddmmyy format).

Once online registration is open for you, please confirm your registration for 2022/23 by clicking on the **My Registration** button in [SISWeb](#).

**All graduate students must go online to confirm their registration to their programme. This is a formal requirement for all students at all levels.**

### Accessing Registration

To access online registration, go to [UCD Connect](#) and click on the SISWeb icon. Enter your UCD Connect username and password when asked.

- Your username is your UCD Student number.
- If you created a SISWeb password during the application process, please use that to log in. Otherwise, your password is your date of birth (in the format ddmmyy). For your own security, make sure you change that password by using the [Change Password tool](#) in UCD Connect.

Your UCD Connect account will be available **48 hours** in advance of online registration. Brightspace access will be available within 24 hours of registering to your programme.

If you want assistance with Document verification, have a fee query, or if you are having trouble accessing your UCD Connect Account or email, please contact the [Student Desk](#).

If you are having issues with module registration, please contact the SPIRe Graduate Team at [graduatespire@ucd.ie](mailto:graduatespire@ucd.ie) When doing so, please provide the following information:

- Your Name and Student Number
- Your Programme (ie. MSc Human Rights)
- Relevant module Names and Codes

We ask that all registration queries are sent in via **email only**. This is a busy time of year, however, we endeavour to reply to everyone as soon as possible.

Please find a [step by step guide to registration](#) for support.

## Orientation

There is an orientation event on **Wednesday, 7th September** in the UCD Village Auditorium at 2pm. More details will follow by email.

There will also be a separate introduction for each programme organised by the relevant programme director.

Please see some information about general orientation across the university:

<https://www.ucd.ie/newstudents/>

## Module Assessment and Submission Procedures

The methods of assessment vary from module to module, but may contain a combination of written assignments, presentations, and/or final exams. Details can be found in the course outlines or from the module coordinator. Where exams take place, they will be at the end of each trimester, and are scheduled by the UCD Assessment and Logistics Unit.

All students will be required to submit assessed written work in the course of the semesters. The modalities for the submission process vary between courses. If a hard copy has to be submitted (instead or in addition to an electronic copy via Brightspace or email to the lecturer), a signed “Declaration of Authorship” form must be attached to the essay (and handed in to the location specified by the lecturer).

All written work must be submitted on or before the due dates. Submission deadlines can be found on the course outlines distributed in the first session of each module.

In accordance with the University’s procedures for anonymous marking, please do not put your name on the work submitted. Please do ensure, however, that your student number, the module number and title for which work is being submitted, the lecturer to whom it is being submitted, all appear on any piece of work you submit.

Generally, coursework submitted at any time up to and including 5 working days after the due date will have the grade awarded reduced by one grade point (for example, from B- to C+). Coursework submitted more than five working days but up to and including ten working days after the due date will have the grade reduced by two grade points (for example, from B- to C).

The onus is on you to ensure that you receive a receipt for all work submitted and you should retain this receipt as proof of submission should it be needed at a later date. *If you have any questions about deadlines, contact your lecturer. If you have questions about submission receipts, contact the lecturer or the school office.*

All work submitted for assessment must comply with the policy on plagiarism (below) and the policy on re-use of assessed work (below).

Where circumstances beyond your control prevent you from submitting on time, please follow the ‘**Late Submission of Coursework**’ procedure, as outlined on P.68 of this handbook. Please note that module coordinators can extend deadlines for a **maximum of 10 working days**; for longer extensions, please follow the guidelines for extenuating circumstances below.

## Late Submission of Coursework

Where circumstances beyond your control prevent you from submitting on time, please apply for a new deadline via the Google form available on the [website](#). You should consult with your module coordinator in advance of submitting the Google form.

Please note that module coordinators can extend deadlines for a **maximum of 10 working days**.

Generally, coursework submitted at any time up to and including 5 working days after the due date will have the grade awarded reduced by one grade point (for example, from B- to C+).

Coursework submitted more than five working days but up to and including ten working days after the due date will have the grade reduced by two grade points (for example, from B- to C).

**A late submission application results in preventing these grade reductions, as long as you submit by the new deadline.** Note that if an extension of e.g. 8 days is awarded, this is 8 days *from the original deadline*. No coursework received more than ten working days after the due date is required to be accepted by the School.

## Extenuating Circumstances

SPIRe understands that you might have circumstances outside your control which means that you will be unable to complete assessments and sit exams. The School of Politics and International Relations and UCD generally have a variety of excellent support services for students who are in need (see other sections on this page).

It is important that you advise us of problems **as early as possible**; preferably in advance of the deadlines that you are concerned about.

Problems of various kinds may be taken into account in marking work, or considering whether or not a late penalty should apply for an essay. It is important that you speak to the module coordinator.

If you require a longer extension than 10 days, you should follow the guidelines for [Extenuating Circumstances](#) and submit an [Online Extenuating Circumstances Application](#).

You will need to provide a form of proof for extenuating circumstances. In the case of illness, this must be in the form of a medical certificate (a letter from a GP or clinic specifying the dates of your illness or incapacity). Without proof, it is not possible to get extenuating circumstances. If you have questions about this, please contact the school office.



## Module Assessment Scheme

Assignments are graded on a letter scale from A to FM. Ranges A to FM are further subdivided (A+, A, A-, etc. ) For complete, up to date information on grading, please consult [UCD Assessment](#)

Grade range	
A	<p>A deep and systematic engagement with the assessment task, with consistently impressive demonstration of a comprehensive mastery of the subject matter, reflecting;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a deep and broad knowledge and critical insight as well as extensive reading;</li> <li>• a critical and comprehensive appreciation of the relevant literature or theoretical, technical or professional framework</li> <li>• an exceptional ability to organise, analyse and present arguments fluently and lucidly with a high level of critical analysis, amply supported by evidence, citation or quotation;</li> <li>• a highly-developed capacity for original, creative and logical thinking.</li> </ul>
B	<p>A substantial engagement with the assessment task, demonstrating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a thorough familiarity with the relevant literature or theoretical, technical or professional framework</li> <li>• well-developed capacity to analyse issues, organise material, present arguments clearly and cogently well supported by evidence, citation or quotation;</li> <li>• some original insights and capacity for creative and logical thinking.</li> </ul>
C	<p>An intellectually competent and factually sound answer with, marked by,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• evidence of a reasonable familiarity with the relevant literature or theoretical, technical or professional framework</li> <li>• good developed arguments, but more statements of ideas</li> <li>• arguments or statements adequately but not well supported by evidence, citation or quotation</li> <li>• some critical awareness and analytical qualities</li> <li>• some evidence of capacity for original and logical thinking</li> </ul>
D	<p>An acceptable level of intellectual engagement with the assessment task showing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• some familiarity with the relevant literature or theoretical, technical or professional framework</li> <li>• mostly statements of ideas, with limited development of argument</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● limited use of evidence, citation or quotation</li> <li>● limited critical awareness displayed</li> <li>● limited evidence of capacity for original and logical thinking</li> </ul>
D -	<p>The minimum acceptable level of intellectual engagement with the assessment task with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● the minimum acceptable appreciation of the relevant literature or theoretical, technical or professional framework</li> <li>● ideas largely expressed as statements, with little or no developed or structured argument</li> <li>● minimum acceptable use of evidence, citation or quotation</li> <li>● little or no analysis or critical awareness displayed or is only partially successful</li> <li>● little or no demonstrated capacity for original and logical thinking</li> </ul>
FM	<p>An unacceptable level of intellectual engagement with the assessment task, with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● no appreciation of the relevant literature or theoretical, technical or professional framework</li> <li>● no developed or structured argument</li> <li>● no use of evidence, citation or quotation</li> <li>● no analysis or critical awareness displayed or is only partially successful</li> <li>● no demonstrated capacity for original and logical thinking</li> </ul>

## Policy on Plagiarism

Students are required to familiarise themselves with standard academic practice in the preparation and presentation of their written work. In short, all work you present as your own must be the result of your own efforts only. It is not permissible to submit an essay or project reproducing wholly or in part the essay or project of another student. Nor may any student pass on their own writings for such a use by others.

All students, when submitting an assessment project for examination purposes, will be required to sign a formal declaration that the work they are submitting is their own unaided and original work. All the sources on which you draw must be duly acknowledged in the text or in footnotes, and the full source cited in the bibliography. Direct quotes must be contained in quotation marks and duly referenced. If you paraphrase someone else's argument, you must indicate the source you have used, including page references. For guidance on how to reference correctly, please see the School's pamphlet [Guidelines for Essay Writing](#) and UCD's [Plagiarism Policy](#). The bibliography should cite all the works you have consulted, and none that you have not personally used.

Failure to take account of these guidelines in their writing constitutes **plagiarism**. Plagiarism is defined as:

*"The copying of another person's writings or works or ideas in any thesis, essay, project, laboratory report or other exercise which forms part of the requirements for an academic course, where such copying is either unauthorised by the copyright owner or unacknowledged in the thesis, essay, project, laboratory report or other exercise, or both."* Failure to cite sources properly, and recourse to copying sections of text without proper referencing, counts as plagiarism just as much as use of another person's essay or project work.

Plagiarism is a serious breach of academic standards. The College regards plagiarism as cheating, and as such, a wholly unacceptable breach of discipline, as indicated in Section 6 of the [Student Code](#) for University College Dublin, which is given in full in the UCD Student Information Handbook.

Plagiarism will be penalised heavily and may result in no marks at all being given for a project or essay, exclusion from your examination, or expulsion from the programme. The School retains the right to refer suspected cases of plagiarism to the University's Disciplinary Committee.

**If in doubt about any of these guidelines, you must consult the lecturer for your module, in plenty of time before the date of submission.**

## Guidelines on Internship

1. Internship opportunity is limited to those on MA graduate stream in SPIRe and certain other designated graduate programmes, specifically MA Politics, MA International Relations, MA Peace and Conflict, MA International Political Economy, MA European Politics and Policy, MA Middle East Politics, MA Gender, Politics and International Relations, MA Politics and International Relations PT, MSc Human Rights, and MEconSc European Public Affairs and Law.
2. Internships *\*must\** be relevant to the graduate programme and if there is any doubt, must be agreed with the relevant programme director.
3. The internship module is taken instead of writing a thesis, and as such is a core feature of the degree programme. As a result, no student registered to this module can be awarded a masters degree without passing the internship.
4. NO internship will be credited without a signed and returned internship agreement and completed and submitted Host Agreement – all through UCD online internship management system.
5. We are flexible as to the timing of the internship but no retrospective credit is possible, i.e. the clock on an internship only commences with the final receipt of all necessary documentation (see above). Students must complete 480 hours of placement/work experience in the Summer Trimester.
6. Assessment is on a pass/fail basis to accrue the associated and necessary credit. This assessment has three elements:
  - five reflective journal reports (submitted roughly fortnightly over the course of the internship),
  - a host evaluation and
  - final reflective essay.

A workshop is held to advise on reflective writing.

7. Internships may be undertaken on a global basis - no restriction as to location. However, all documentation must be submitted - no exceptions. This includes the Host Agreement between the School and the Host (which must specify your Learning Goals) and an internship agreement

between the School and the Student. Internships may also be paid or unpaid - this is a matter between you and the host.

8. All internships are secured by you - there is no bank of internships available. A list of previous internship hosts and associated contact details will be distributed. Workshops with UCD Careers' service will be held to assist in targeting and identifying internship opportunities.
9. The requisite number of internship hours (480) must fulfil the specified ECTS credit requirements and must be validated by your host.
10. Regardless of your registration on the Internship module, you **MUST** complete thesis research training, submit a thesis outline/title as required therein and you will be assigned a thesis supervisor.

ALL internship documentation must be signed, sealed and delivered by **Friday 28 April, 2023**. This is done through the Internship portal on SISWeb, which you will be given information about in due course. If the forms have not been completed by this date, you **WILL** be transferred to thesis registration and required to submit a graduate research thesis in the normal way.

11. Internships in recent years have been secured in: European Economic Social Committee, Guatemala Housing Alliance, Future Sense Foundation, RED FM, IBON International, ICP Rwanda, ICP Rwanda, Amnesty International Ireland, CSO Ireland, Unilever EU, Pavee Point Traveller and Roma centre, ICP Rwanda, Ireland Palestine Solidarity Campaign, Safran India Private Limited, Sinn Fein, Empower a Child, Transparency International Dublin, FLAC, Self Help Africa, Institute of Public Administration, Italian Chamber of Commerce, Matheson (formerly Matheson Ormsby Prentice), Fine Gael, Embassy of Chile, Embassy of Italy, Embassy of the USA, Friends of the Earth, Brussels, Foreign Ministry of Italy, Embassy of Peru, US Justice Department, US State Department, offices of TDs and Senators, Fianna Fáil, Offices of US Senators/Representatives, Amnesty International, Libraries without Borders, Concern International, World Trade Centre Ireland, Hume Brophy, Border Angels, Plan International, UN Mine Action Service, Enterprise Ireland, DCU Brexit Institute, Dochas.

For module assignments, the final summative essay deadline is **Monday, 21 August, 2023**.

Dr Samuel Brazys ([Samuel.brazys@ucd.ie](mailto:Samuel.brazys@ucd.ie)) is the academic point of contact for Internships.

## Guidelines on Theses

With the exception of those on the Internship, all MA, MSc and MEconSc students are required to complete an independent research project, that is a 'thesis' or 'dissertation'). The thesis is a core feature of the degree programme. As a result, no student registered to the thesis module can be awarded a master's degree without achieving a passing grade for the thesis.

The topic of the thesis is first proposed by the student, and then discussed and approved by the supervisor assigned by the school.

In the end, the student is fully responsible for the topic, structure and content of the thesis that s/he submits. In the event that a student submits a thesis that lacks sufficient academic merit to earn a passing grade, s/he will be invited to resubmit. The student is responsible for any consequent examination and continuation fees. Cases of plagiarism are handled differently; see policy in this handbook.

### Thesis Proposal

The first required step is to submit a clear and focused proposal. You will receive an email in December requesting you to fill out an online Google form. In this form, you will need to specify the following:

- Name/student number
- Masters programme
- Proposed thesis title/topic
- Three keywords
- Three suggested supervisors

The deadline for submitting this form is **4pm on Friday 20th January 2023**. We encourage students to complete this as soon as they are able to and not to leave it to the last minute.

**Everybody** must complete the form, regardless of whether you have registered for the internship or thesis. The only exceptions to this are students that are in the **first year** of their **Part-Time** programme, or those on the **MSc European Governance**.

Full-time Graduate Diploma students who are applying for transfer to a Masters programme should also complete this form.

At the end of January/beginning of February, we will allocate you a primary and secondary supervisor. Your primary supervisor will subsequently be in touch to arrange an initial meeting. Note that some of you will need to seek ethical approval and/or exemption from SPIRe's ethics committee based on the proposed research project. Information will be sent out about this at a later date.

If you have any questions, please contact your programme coordinator before submitting the proposal.

## Thesis Supervision

The school will allocate supervisors on the basis of the thesis proposals. Your allocated thesis supervisor might not themselves be an expert in your chosen topic but will aid you in methodological questions and other key aspects of conducting and presenting your research.

The student is then responsible for arranging for feedback from the supervisor during the preparation and writing of the thesis, culminating in a final meeting usually no later than the end of July. Please discuss with your supervisor when they will be available to provide feedback over the summer as many of us are unavailable for parts of the summer due to annual leave and/or fieldwork. You may submit one full draft of the thesis for feedback from the supervisor during the agreed period of supervision.

Please also keep in mind that supervisors usually need any materials they are to comment on at least three working days in advance of any meeting. For longer pieces of work, more time might be necessary, so please discuss with your supervisor as to what best works for both of you.

Finally, as experience has shown that last minute feedback is often more stressful than helpful, no further feedback will be given in the last two weeks before submission. Any technical questions about the thesis or submissions process should be directed to the school office.

## Thesis Submission

The deadline for thesis submission this academic year is **4:00 pm on Friday, 18 August 2023**. A signed "Declaration of Authorship" (see Appendix here) should accompany this. The Declaration of Authorship cover sheet can be found [here](#). All theses should be submitted on Brightspace, with a copy also emailed to your Primary Supervisor.

Failure to submit by this deadline may result in the automatic exclusion of the thesis from the examining process. Extensions may only be granted by the Graduate Studies Director, based on a written request from the supervisor. Late submissions will be subject to a grade penalty. For further details on the UCD Policy, see: <http://www.ucd.ie/governance/resources/policypage-latesubmissionofcoursework/>

Applications for extenuating circumstances (i.e. anything longer than a 10-day extension) should also be directed initially to the supervisor and Graduate Studies Director. Following discussion with your supervisor, an online application can be made by the student through [SISWeb](#).

## Length

The length of the thesis shall be 10,000-12,000 words in TOTAL length (including literature, footnotes, referencing, bibliography, tables etc.). Before submitting a thesis that departs from this rule by more than 500 words in either direction, students must receive formal authorisation from their supervisor.

## Referencing

You must make sure that your referencing and bibliography reflect the highest academic standards. Thesis with poor referencing and bibliography will lose marks unnecessarily. Please see the information on the UCD Library website at: <http://libguides.ucd.ie/academicintegrity/referencingandcitation>

The School has a preference for the Harvard referencing system (author, date, page), though supervisors may advise otherwise in individual cases. Whichever system you use, it must be fully adhered to and consistently implemented with appropriate typography.

For full details on the Harvard system: <https://libguides.ucd.ie/academicintegrity/harvardstyle>

Details on other referencing systems are at:

<http://libguides.ucd.ie/academicintegrity/referencingandcitation>

You might want to consider using referencing software such as, e.g. Endnote (available via UCD IT) to ensure that your referencing is complete and consistent. For further information see here:

<https://libguides.ucd.ie/endnote>

## Layout

Theses should be presented in double spacing, except for indented quotations, references and footnotes, where single spacing should be used. Only one standard typeface may be used throughout the thesis. Italics may be used for book titles, foreign terms and other cases that are appropriate in conjunction with the standard face used in the text. Italics are not recommended as a standard typeface. Text that is entirely in upper case is not acceptable. Symbols or special characters not found on computer keyboards should be drawn with a mechanical guide or stencil.

Margins should be 40mm at the binding edge and other margins should be not less than 20mm. Page numbers are placed without punctuation at the bottom centre of the page within the margin. Preliminary pages are numbered in consecutive lower-case roman numerals. The Title page number does not appear but the page is counted (as page 'i'). Pages appearing before the Table of Contents are numbered and counted but are not listed on the Table of Contents. The first page of the Introduction or first chapter of your thesis is numbered page 1; the rest of the Text and reference materials are numbered consecutively in Arabic numerals.

## Preliminaries

The thesis preliminaries consist of the Title Page, Dedication (optional), Acknowledgements (optional), Table of Contents, List of Tables (optional), List of Figures (optional), Lists of Symbols, Abbreviations, Nomenclature (if these appear in the thesis); Glossary (optional) and Summary. These preliminaries



should be numbered in consecutive lower-case roman numerals. If there is more than one volume in the thesis, each volume shall carry its own pagination.

#### *Title Page (required)*

- (a) The full title of the thesis (including a subtitle, if any) which should describe the thesis contents concisely and accurately. The Title Page should not be numbered.
- (b) The full name of the author, followed (if desired) by any prior qualifications
- (c) The name of the school and university: School of Politics and International Relations, University College Dublin
- (d) The following phrase: "This thesis is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of \_\_\_\_\_." (Degree name should be fully spelled out -- e.g. Master of Arts in Politics, Master of Science in International Relations, etc.)
- (e) The month and year of submission

#### *Dedication and Acknowledgements*

Most theses include a brief statement of appreciation or recognition of special assistance, and some include a dedication, but both are optional. Neither is listed in the Table of Contents. If a dedication is included it should be centred on the page and no heading is necessary on the page on which it appears. The Dedication is not listed in the Table of Contents. The Heading ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, in capital letters, is centred without punctuation at the top of the page.

#### *Table of Contents (required)*

The Table of Contents page should follow the Title page unless a Dedication and/or

Acknowledgements page has been included. The Page is headed TABLE OF CONTENTS (without punctuation) and all material following the Table of Contents is listed in it. The titles of parts, sections, chapters and their principal subdivisions should be listed in the Table of Contents and must be worded exactly as they appear in the body of the thesis.

#### *List of Tables*

This is optional and if included follows the Table of Contents. The title LIST OF TABLES appears centred at the top of the page without punctuation. The List of Tables should use exactly the same numbers and captions as appear above the tables in the text or in the Appendices.

### *List of Figures*

This is optional and follows the List of Tables. The title LIST OF FIGURES appears centred at the top of the page without punctuation. The List of Figures should use exactly the same numbers and captions as appear below the figures in the text or in the Appendices.

### *Lists of Symbols, Abbreviations, Nomenclature; Glossary*

If needed in your thesis, these lists appear after the Lists of Tables and Figures in the Preliminaries. Examples of such lists can be found in textbooks.

### *Summary (required)*

A summary of the thesis should be included and is typically of approximately 300 words. The title SUMMARY appears centred at the top of the page without punctuation. The summary should give a statement of the thesis problem, a brief exposition of the research, and a condensed summary of the findings. Mathematical formulas, diagrams etc. are not recommended for the summary. The Summary page should be numbered in lower case roman numerals.

## **The Text**

The first chapter of the thesis may be the Introduction. Alternatively, an Introduction may precede the first chapter. Whichever option you choose, the first page of the introduction should be numbered as page 1 of the thesis. The introduction describes the thesis problem and usually outlines the structure of the thesis: i.e. how the problem will be addressed and where the problem will be addressed.

The Body of the Thesis is the substance of the dissertation, the detailed written statement of your research. The internal organisation of this material into chapters, sections and subsections is up to you and your supervisor.

The Summary and Conclusions are usually treated as the last major division of the Text. If all of the Notes have been deferred to the end of the thesis, their placement here constitutes the last major division of the Text.

## **Reference Material**

The reference material consists of Bibliography or List of References and Appendices.

### *Bibliography or List of References*

Any thesis that makes use of other works, either in direct quotation or by reference, must contain a bibliography listing these sources. Pertinent works that have been consulted but not specifically cited should be listed under the subheading General References. Do not list those works under the general Bibliography.

### *Appendices*

This section, if needed, is usually added to contain supplementary illustrative material, original data, and quotations too long for inclusion in the Text or not immediately essential to an understanding of the subject. This section of the thesis is separated from the preceding material by a cover sheet with the heading APPENDICES, in capital letters (or APPENDIX if there is only one), centred and without punctuation. This sheet is neither counted nor numbered. The Appendices may be divided into Appendix A, Appendix B etc., depending on the kinds and amounts of material used. The letter and title for each Appendix should be shown at the top of the first page of the individual Appendix. Each Appendix with its title should be listed separately in the Table of Contents as a first order subdivision under the heading APPENDICES. Tables and figures in the Appendices must be numbered and captioned and listed in the List of Tables and Figures in the Preliminaries.

The overall thesis coordinator and point of contact is Dr Yoo Sun Jung (yoosun.jung@ucd.ie)

## **Additional resources**

Please note that UCD offers excellent supports with regard to

- Referencing & Citation  
<https://libguides.ucd.ie/academicintegrity/referencingandcitation>

- Using referencing software  
<https://libguides.ucd.ie/endnote>
- Writing a literature review  
<https://libguides.ucd.ie/litreview>
- Thesis writing  
<https://libguides.ucd.ie/academicintegrity/writingdissertationtheses>
- Writing support  
<https://www.ucd.ie/writingcentre/>

You can find many further helpful guides through the UCD library:

<https://www.ucd.ie/library/students/>

## Conferral

Graduation, or conferral from UCD, generally takes place at the end of November/ beginning of December for Masters and Graduate Diploma students.

This is managed by the [Conferring Unit](#). You can find out more by looking on their website. All students eligible to confer will be emailed directly by the conferring unit.

## Key dates for academic year 2022/23

<b>Autumn Trimester (Monday, 12 September 2022 – Sunday, 22 January 2023 inclusive)</b>		
Teaching Term	Monday, 12 September – Friday, 2 December	12 Weeks
Exams	Saturday, 10 December – Thursday, 22 December	2 weeks
<b>Spring Trimester (Monday, 23 January – Sunday, 21 May 2023 inclusive)</b>		
Teaching Term – part 1	Monday, 23 January – Friday, 10 March	7 Weeks
Thesis Proposal Submission	Friday, 20 January, 4:00 pm	
Fieldwork / Study Period	Monday, 13 March – Sunday, 26 March	2 Weeks
Teaching Term – part 2	Monday, 27 March – Friday, 28 April	5 Weeks
Final Day for Internship Confirmation	Friday 28th April	
Revision	Saturday, 29 April – Friday, 5 May	1 Week
Exams	Saturday, 6 May – Friday, 19 May	2 Weeks
Thesis Submission	Friday, 18 August, 4pm	
Internship Summative Essay Submission	Monday, 21 August, 4pm	

- 1. October Bank Holiday: Monday, 31 October 2022**
- 2. Campus closure commences at 5.30pm Friday, 23 December 2022 until 9am Wednesday, 4 January 2023**
- 3. St Brigid's Day: Monday, 6 February 2023**
- 4. St. Patrick's Day: Friday, 17 March 2023**
- 5. Good Friday, 7 April 2023; Easter Sunday, 9 April 2023; Easter Monday, 10 April 2023**
- 6. May Bank Holiday: Monday, 1 May 2023**
- 7. June Bank Holiday: Monday, 5 June 2023; August Bank Holiday: Monday, 7 August 2023**

## Leave of Absence and Withdrawal

A Leave of Absence is an extended period of time away from a programme of study, at the request of the student, and approved by the relevant Governing Board.

A Leave of Absence enables you to take an approved and specified period of time away from your programme. Please see [here](#) for additional information and instructions on the [Leave of Absence](#) process.

If you wish to [Withdraw](#) from the programme, please complete the online form via your SISWEB account.

The date you submit your withdrawal application will impact the amount of fees you owe. Please see [here](#) for detailed information.

In both instances, it is important that you speak with either your programme coordinator or the postgraduate administrator **before** you submit an LOA or withdrawal request.

## Appendix – Sample Declaration of Authorship Form

	<p>UCD School of Politics and International Relations</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Assessment Project: Declaration of Authorship</h3> <h3 style="margin: 0;">(Thesis Cover Sheet)</h3>
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**A completed copy of this form must accompany every project submitted for assessment.**

<p><b>Module Code</b> for which project is submitted:</p> <p><b>POL</b> _____</p>
<p><b>Supervisor:</b></p>
<p><b>Title of Project:</b></p>

<p>I have read and understood the <b>Guidelines for the Preparation of Assessment Projects</b> issued by the UCD School of Politics and International Relations, and I hereby confirm that the work submitted for assessment in this project is my own original work in accordance with those guidelines.</p>
<p><b>Signature:</b></p>
<p><b>Name in Block Capitals:</b></p>
<p><b>Student Number:</b></p>
<p><b>Date:</b></p>



## Guidelines for the Preparation of Assessment Projects

Students writing essays and projects are required to familiarise themselves with standard academic practice in the preparation and presentation of their work. Please take careful note of the following points:

- All the sources on which you draw must be duly acknowledged in the text or in footnotes, and the full source cited in the bibliography. Direct quotes must be contained in quotation marks and duly referenced. If you paraphrase someone else's argument, you must indicate the source you have used, including page references. For guidance on how to reference correctly, please see the School's pamphlet **Guidelines for Essay Writing**.
- The bibliography should cite all the works you have consulted, and none that you have not personally used.
- All work you present as your own must be the result of your own efforts only.
- It is not permissible to submit an essay or project reproducing wholly or in part the essay or project of another student. Nor may any student pass on their own writings for such a use by others.
- Please note that all students, when submitting an assessment project for examination purposes, will be required to sign a formal declaration that the work they are submitting is their own unaided and original work.

Students must note that failure to take account of these standards in their writing constitutes **plagiarism**. Failure to cite sources properly, and recourse to copying sections of text without proper referencing, counts as plagiarism just as much as use of another person's essay or project work. This is a serious breach of academic standards. Furthermore, the College regards plagiarism as **cheating**, and as such, a wholly unacceptable breach of discipline, as indicated in Section 6 of the Student Code for University College Dublin, which is given in full in the Student Information Handbook. Plagiarism is defined as:

“Plagiarism, that is the copying of another person's writings or works or ideas in any thesis, essay, project, laboratory report, oral, poster or slide presentation or other exercise, which forms part of the assessment requirement for a module or programme of study without due acknowledgement either wholly or in part of the original source of the material through appropriate citation. For further details on Plagiarism, please see UCD's Plagiarism Policy.”

**Plagiarism will be penalised heavily and may result in no marks at all being given for a project or essay, exclusion from your examination, or exclusion from your course.**

Please note also that the School retains the right to refer suspected cases of plagiarism to the University's **Disciplinary Committee**.

**If in doubt about any of these guidelines, please consult UCD's plagiarism policy:**

[https://www.ucd.ie/secca/t4media/plagiarism\\_studentguide.pdf](https://www.ucd.ie/secca/t4media/plagiarism_studentguide.pdf)