



MA/GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

COURSE DIRECTOR



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AUTUMN SEMESTER

Graduate Seminar in Development (9 ECTS)

Graduate Research Methods (12 ECTS)

One elective module (9 ECTS)

SPRING SEMESTER

Graduate Seminar in Peacebuilding
(9 ECTS)Graduate Research Methods (progressing
dissertation)

Two elective modules (9 ECTS each)

The **Peace and Development Studies** programme at the University of Limerick can be pursued either as an **MA degree**, consisting of 90 ECTS and including the writing of a dissertation, or towards a **Graduate Diploma** consisting of 60 ECTS. In both programmes, students investigate debates about the origins and nature of conflict and explore a range of approaches to conflict resolution. Contemporary cases of conflict and responses to these are examined, as are the connections between peacebuilding and development. Students further examine theories of economic and political development and explore contemporary strategies and practices of development. Students benefit from the close affiliation of the Department to the Centre for Peace and Development Studies.

CAREERS

The course prepares students from diverse backgrounds for a career in or further research on international affairs, conflict management and resolution, peace operations, humanitarian assistance, development aid and related areas.

ELECTIVES

- Graduate Seminar in International Relations
- Graduate Seminar in Institutions and Policies of the European Union
- Graduate Seminar in Contemporary Political Theory
- Multilevel Governance: Concepts and Practice
- Conflict Analysis
- Graduate Seminar in Comparative Politics
- Graduate Seminar in European Governance
- Graduate Seminar in International Co-operation and Conflict
- Conflict, Security and Development
- International Political Economy
- External Relations of the European Union
- Ireland and Globalisation
- Russian and Post Soviet Politics
- Mainstreaming Social Inclusion
- Political Economy in Ireland
- Terrorism and Violent Political Extremism
- Foreign Aid and Development
- International Security
- Development Practice and Programme Management
- Global Justice
- Feminist Perspectives on Conflict and Development Issues
- Representative Democracy in Europe

(Electives offered are subject to timetabling constraints and faculty availability)

DISSERTATION

Following the two taught semesters in Autumn and Spring, during the summer students complete an individual research project in the form of a written dissertation (30 ECTS) for submission at the end of August.

FIELD TRIP

A field trip for the programme will be organised in Spring Semester and all MA students are encouraged to participate.

“The MA is an excellent course because students benefit from taught modules on politics, peace and conflict and development and can pursue an area of research that is of interest in a supportive environment. The course is well recognised and is relevant for employment in a range of development positions.”

Anne-Marie Callan 2007

Chargé d’Affaires, Embassy of Ireland, Sierra Leone

“The background the MA programme has given me is invaluable to my ability to work where I am today.”

Ruth Feeney

Programme Support Officer, Crisis Prevention and Recovery Unit, UNDP, South Sudan

“I found the MA was varied and stimulating and it used many practical examples and discussions to complement the theoretical elements. A highlight was the field trip to Belfast which helped explore peacebuilding realities on the ground.”

Helen Basini 2007

Project Coordinator - Responding to HIV/AIDS in Africa: Connecting Public Administration, Policy and Communities, UL



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The requirements below are the minimum entry requirements set by the University. Each taught postgraduate programme has particular entry requirements, therefore applicants should consult the individual programme entries for further details.

Applicants for a Master's programme must normally have a first or second class Level 8 honours degree (NFQ or other internationally recognised equivalent) in a relevant or appropriate subject, or equivalent prior learning that is recognised by the University as meeting this requirement. Applicants must also satisfy the English Language Requirements of the University. The University reserves the right to shortlist and interview applicants as deemed necessary. See more at:

www.ul.ie/graduateschool/entry-requirements#sthash.D61KciCM.dpuf

HOW TO APPLY

Go to: www.ul.ie/graduateschool/prospective-students for more information.

FEES

MA FEES A/Y 2014/15

	EU	Non-EU
Full-time	€4,588	€10,708
Part-time	€2,800	€6,200

For information on UL Fees go to:

<http://www3.ul.ie/finance/docs/FeeScheduleAY1516.pdf>

“The course proved defining for me in terms of career prospects and employability and remains highly relevant to me in a professional capacity as I refer to the practical aspects of the course on a consistent basis in my current position.”

*Emma Murphy
General Manager, Amawele*

Graduate Seminar in Development

This module will introduce students to the various meanings and goals of development. It will discuss development as a process of historical change, addressing questions such as why industrialisation happened first in the West and why mass poverty and major inequalities exist in the world today. The module will further examine development as a set of practices in the contemporary world, addressing questions related to foreign aid, entrepreneurship, gender and minority groups, and agriculture and food security. The idea of economic growth as intrinsic to development will also be analysed in light of thinking about post-development and the challenge of climate change.

Graduate Seminar in Peacebuilding

Since the end of the Cold War, the building of peace after violent conflict has become a key priority for the international community. This module will introduce students to central components of the peacebuilding agenda, including economic recovery, democratisation, security, statebuilding and transitional justice. It will further examine what contemporary peacebuilding policies have been criticised for, with reference to local practices as well as international interventions. As insecurity today derives not only from violence but also from risks related to climate change, students will also analyse links between the peacebuilding and sustainable development agendas.

Research Methods

This module is designed to familiarise students with a variety of approaches to the conduct of research in social sciences. By providing a series of introductory lectures on alternative research methodologies and approaches, the main aim of this course is to give students a comprehensive understanding of key issues surrounding the logic of explanation and research design, in order to facilitate and support more advanced study in their own area of research specialism and dissertation study. A key element of this module is problem-based learning and case work. Students will be encouraged to pursue their own disciplinary strengths to create their own case studies that will be used to identify and develop more general disciplinary research methods and strategies.

CONTACT US

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