



PART-TIME MA IN PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES 2015-2017

COURSE DIRECTOR	AUTUMN SEMESTER	SPRING SEMESTER	SUMMER
 Professor Tom Lodge E-mail: Tom.lodge@ul.ie Tel: +353 61 213085	Year 1 Graduate Seminar in Development (9 ECTS) Conflict Analysis (9 ECTS)	Year 1 Graduate Seminar in Peacebuilding (9 ECTS) Foreign Aid and Development (9 ECTS)	
	Year 2 Graduate Research Methods (12 ECTS)	Year 2 Research Methods (progressing dissertation) (3 ECTS) Development Practice and Programme Management (9 ECTS)	Year 2 Dissertation (30 ECTS)

The **Part-time MA in Peace and Development Studies** is a two year, part-time programme in which students investigate debates about the origins and nature of conflict and explore a range of approaches to conflict resolution. Students examine contemporary cases of conflict and responses to these, and gain insights into the connections between peacebuilding and development. Students further examine theories of economic, political, and social 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.

The Part-time MA requires attendance at the University of Limerick on Mondays and Tuesdays, 9.00am - 5.00pm for 8 days each semester. In 2015-16 and 2016-17 the dates are:

AUTUMN SEMESTER 2015	SPRING SEMESTER 2016	AUTUMN SEMESTER 2016	SPRING SEMESTER 2017
7th & 8th September	25th & 26th January	5th & 6th September	23rd & 24th January
5th & 6th October	22nd & 23rd February	3rd & 4th October	13th & 14th February
2nd & 3rd November	14th & 15th March	7th & 8th November	6th & 7th March
23rd & 24th November	18th & 19th April	21st & 22nd November	3rd & 4th April

The information above is provisional and may be subject to change.

DISSERTATION

At the end of Spring Semester in Year 2 students will complete their individual research project in the summer months. The dissertation (30 ECTS) will be submitted at the end of August.

FIELD TRIP

A field trip is organised annually in Spring semester and part-time MA students are encouraged to participate either in Year 1 or in Year 2.

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.

Conflict Analysis

This module will undertake a comprehensive review of the literature on armed conflict in the international and domestic arenas. Much of this literature is from the field of political science but this module will also draw upon insights from other disciplines. Students will analyse leading and critical theories of armed conflict, their variables, their causal claims, and, of central importance, their ability to explain contemporary and historical cases of conflict and predict possible future conflicts. This survey of the literature on this topic will utilize scholarship employing both qualitative and quantitative methodologies. This module is designed primarily for postgraduate students who seek to understand (and, through their own scholarship, contribute to) the literature on armed conflict.

“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 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.

Foreign Aid and Development

By the end of this module, students will be familiar with current debates concerning the intentions, impact and modalities of foreign aid programmes, whether administered through public agencies or non-government organisations. An additional objective of the module will be to introduce students to the criteria through which aid programmes are evaluated.

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.

Development Practice and Programme Management

This module is designed to furnish participants with an understanding of approaches to development in practice and the demands and challenges facing practitioners. It will establish the political context in which development practice is located; identify the key actors, national and international; and examine processes of development policy-making, implementation and programme management in context.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

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.

PART-TIME MA FEES A/Y 2014/15

	EU	Non-EU
Part-time	€2,800	€6,200

Please note that all programme fees are subject to annual review

For information on UL Fees go to: www.ul.ie/finance/fees.php

“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

“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

“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

CONTACT US

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