



MA IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

COURSE DIRECTOR	AUTUMN SEMESTER	SPRING SEMESTER
 Dr. Owen Worth E-mail: owen.worth@ul.ie Tel: +353 61 232635	Graduate Seminar in International Relations (9 ECTS)	Graduate Seminar in International Co-operation and Conflict (9 ECTS)
	Graduate Research Methods (12 ECTS)	Research Methods (progressing dissertation) (3 ECTS)
	One elective module (9 ECTS)	Two elective modules (9 ECTS each)

The **MA in International Studies** is a one year, full-time programme which uses the disciplinary insights provided by international relations theories to investigate and explain contemporary international issues such as terrorism, nuclear proliferation, global inequality and child soldiers. Core modules are supplemented by a wide range of departmental electives, allowing students develop expertise in areas of their own interests.

CAREERS

The programme equips students with substantive knowledge about a variety of international political phenomena, competence in the use of social scientific research methods, as well as analytical and transferable skills. Some graduates continue studying towards a Ph.D. or towards professional qualifications in fields such as law and commerce. Others may go on to pursue careers in journalism, public administration, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, think tanks, interest groups and business.

“The MA provided me with the in depth knowledge that I needed to embark on a career with the United Nations. The modules completed through my MA were both relevant and interesting and provided a solid base to establish myself as an international civil servant”

*Aoife Leahy 2004
Associate Conference Affairs Officer, Division of
Conference Services, UNON, Ni Kenya*

“I had an excellent time studying for the MA at UL. It was a challenging, but enjoyable year, and it proved very useful to me throughout my career. I would definitely recommend it to anyone with an interest in international affairs”

*Tom Nolan 2005
Lobbyist, Westminster*

ELECTIVES

- Graduate Seminar in Development
- 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 Peacebuilding
- International Political Economy
- External Relations of the European Union
- Ireland and Globalisation
- Russian and Post Soviet Politics
- Mainstreaming Social Inclusion
- Political Economy in Ireland
- Foreign Aid and Development
- International Security
- Development Practice and Programme Management
- Global Justice
- 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 must complete an individual research project in the form of a written dissertation for submission at the end of August

FIELD TRIP

An international field trip for the programme will be organized in Spring Semester and all MA students are encouraged to participate.



“A great course, excellently delivered by a team of high quality lecturers & tutors.”

*Keith Kiely 2010
PhD student, Queens University Belfast*

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 (NQF 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	€5,250	€10,708

For information on UL Fees go to: www3.ul.ie/finance/docs/

“The lecturers in the programme demand high standards from their students: to achieve an A truly means you have performed A-grade work. These high standards inspire & motivate students to think about problems in a complex & analytical manner, and helps to prepare them for the rigors of doctoral & post-doctoral study”

*Michael Toomey 2010
PhD Research & Teaching Associate Rutgers University, NJ, US*

Graduate Seminar in International Relations

This module introduces students to a range of theories and issues associated with international relations. Specifically, it outlines several of the major theories that may be used to analyze and understand international relations, including realism, liberalism, constructivism, and feminism, theories linking domestic politics with international affairs, and theories that purport to explain why certain armed forces are more successful in war than others. In addition, this module critically assesses several contemporary political issues, such as human rights, ethnic conflict, terrorism, and humanitarian intervention.

Graduate Seminar in International Co-operation and Conflict

This module develops students’ understanding of the theories and methods used in the empirical study of International Relations. Substantively, the module focuses largely on questions of international cooperation and conflict. The module presents the main theoretical approaches to the study of interstate conflict, describes the role, functions, and decision-making structures of international organizations (with a particular focus on the EU and UN), and discusses a range of related topical issues, such as the role of trust for establishing cooperation, the democratic peace thesis, military interventions, and international terrorism.

Research Methods

This module is designed to familiarise students with alternative 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 will be 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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