

School of Social Sciences
and Philosophy
Department of
Political Science

MSc in International Politics

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Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

www.tcd.ie/Political_Science

Department of Political Science

Trinity College Dublin is recognised internationally as Ireland's leading university and as one of the top universities in the world. Trinity was founded in 1592, and today the university is a lively and cosmopolitan community of students from around the globe. Its bustling 47-acre campus is the ideal environment for studying, learning, relaxing and living.

Political science has been an important part of the curriculum since 1855 and Trinity College has developed an international reputation for its research work on the European Union, comparative politics, comparative public opinion, international relations as well as democracy and development. It is a vibrant, outward-looking department that combines intensive research activity with the strongest commitment to high-quality undergraduate and postgraduate teaching.

MSc in International Politics

This programme aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills to tackle some of the most pressing challenges in international politics. We offer a comprehensive empirical approach to understanding prominent problems in world politics, especially where domestic and international politics cannot be understood in isolation from each other, and support students in developing the skills to explore and assess potential solutions.

Our one-year full-time (two-year part-time) postgraduate programme provides graduates with a range of analytical and research skills which have proven to be highly desirable to prospective employers in both the public and private sector.

Trinity graduates are exceptionally well regarded worldwide. The course typically attracts a diverse international student body from across Europe, North America, and Asia. Our students learn in close contact with lecturers and professors who are at the forefront of research in their subject areas.

Course Structure and Assessment

All course modules are taught around a weekly seminar and assessed mainly on the basis of assignments, with some exams. The course is structured around the following components:

- In the first semester, students take a number of core modules such as International Politics, International Conflict as well as a Research Design.
- In the second semester, students are free to choose from a wide range of optional modules depending on their own interests. Options in previous years have included: Government and Politics of the EU; Psychology and International Relations; European Union Policy Making, Chinese Politics, Varieties of Authoritarianism and Russian Politics under Putin. Students also take a core module in Quantitative Methods and have the opportunity to take further methods training if they wish.
- The course concludes with students writing a 11,000 word dissertation under the supervision of a member of staff.

Modules at a Glance

- Research Design
- International Politics
- International Conflict
- Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods
- Your choice of optional modules (offerings vary from year to year)

"I profited immensely from the course's strong emphasis on academic training in research design as well as quantitative and qualitative methods, its international outlook, and my inspiring professors, experts in their fields, who brought their cutting-edge research and passion for international relations to the course. Not only did they inspire us and created a great learning environment in class but were always happy to help us with our research and any questions we had."

Christian Rummel,
Class of 2022

"The politics masters program at Trinity is one of a kind. The curriculum is thoughtfully designed. It progresses logically —first, with classes that have a familiar feel to undergraduate work, and eventually, to the fundamentals of social sciences research design and finally to producing original research independently. Trinity's campus location in Dublin could not be better."

Conor McKinnon,
Class of 2021

"The coursework provided a foundation in the rigorous scientific research process, as the modules in research design and methods sharpened my skills in constructing and examining quantitative and qualitative studies. I also valued the programme's mini-modules on diverse topics ranging from European policy-making to international development."

Schuyler Miller,
Class of 2019

Career Opportunities

Political science is an extremely flexible and practical subject, involving skills highly sought after by a wide range of employers dealing with national, European, or global issues. In addition to PhD studies and academic careers, our graduates have progressed to successful careers in business, government, public service, law, media, international aid, and international governmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) around the globe. The following are just a few examples of the diverse organisations where MSc graduates work:



facebook

Google



The Institute of International and European Affairs



Deutsche Welle



Standard Life Investments



Admission Requirements

Candidates should normally have achieved an upper second class honours degree or higher from an established university. GPAs of at least 3.3 out of 4, or equivalent, will be expected from international applicants. A background in a social science will be an advantage but not a necessity.

Applicants must, in addition to the College requirements, provide academic transcripts, two letters of recommendation, a motivation letter, and one piece of written work (for example, an undergraduate dissertation or essay).

All applicants whose first language is not English or who have not been educated through the medium of English will need to present evidence of English language competency: <https://www.tcd.ie/courses/postgraduate/how-to-apply/international-students/>.

How to Apply

If you are interested in applying for this programme please apply online at: https://www.tcd.ie/Political_Science/programmes/postgraduate/msc-international-politics/.

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Philosophy**

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