



University College Dublin  
Ireland's Global University

## MSc Human Rights (One Year Full Time)

The MSc in Human Rights is a one-year intensive course that prepares you for a career in human rights research, policy or advocacy in international organisations, governmental and non-governmental bodies, or academia. Studying human rights means exploring the rights that all people have as human beings, how these rights are reflected in national legislation and international law, how people mobilise collectively on behalf of these rights and how governments respond to these claims and obligations.

The course is delivered by academics in UCD School of Politics and International Relations, UCD School of Law, and UCD School of Social Justice, reflecting the inherently multidisciplinary nature of human rights practice encompassing political philosophy, empirical political science (comparative politics and international relations) and legal studies. You will explore the theory, politics and law of human rights and examine the mechanisms and limitations of national and international action to protect human rights. You will either complete a research dissertation or undertake a monitored internship.

### Founding member of the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation

UCD is a founding member of the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation and has well-established links with human rights NGOs, national human rights agencies and international organisations. UCD Human Rights Network organises regular seminars with prominent guest speakers.

## Why study at UCD?



### Tradition

Established 1854, with 160 years of teaching & research excellence



### Global profile

UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide



### Global community

Over 6,000 international students from over 120 countries study at UCD



### Global careers

Degrees with high employability; dedicated careers support; 1 year stay-back visa



### Safety

Modern parkland campus with 24 hour security, minutes from Dublin city centre

## Course Content and Structure

90 credits  
taught masters

60 credits  
taught modules

30 credits  
dissertation

### Core modules include:

- International Human Rights
- Theory of Human Rights
- Law of the European Convention on Human Rights
- Politics of Human Rights

### Optional modules include:

- Law, Liberty and the State
- Politics of Development
- Africa: Crisis and Opportunity?
- Ethnicity and Conflict
- Human and Economic Development
- The Good Society
- Poverty, Development and Global Justice
- Politics and Change in the Middle East and North Africa





## Career Opportunities

Graduates work with international private-sector employers, government agencies and NGOs in roles such as: human rights specialist, field officer, human rights consultant, child protection adviser, public information officer and journalist.



Recent graduates of MSc in Human Rights now work in:

- Front Line Defenders
- United Nations
- Amnesty International
- Médecins sans Frontières
- PLAN Ireland
- Irish Aid
- Oxfam



## Graduate Profile

### Daniela Bachmann, Graduate

Understanding people and how they interact has always been of interest to me. I wasn't entirely sure about the kind of job I wanted to work in for the rest of my life, but studying Sociology, Politics and Social Justice at UCD opened up a whole new world. I went on to study for a masters degree in Human Rights at UCD, again with a focus on development. I tutored undergraduate students in Development and Globalisation during my masters studies, and many of them were surprised at how development affects their daily lives. I'm hoping to work with NGOs such as Amnesty International or Frontline Defenders in the future. My studies in UCD have prepared me well for what's to come, and I am looking forward to taking the next step.

## Apply Now

This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at [www.ucd.ie/international/apply](http://www.ucd.ie/international/apply)

## Entry Requirements

- This programme is intended for applicants with a degree in a relevant subject such as political science, international relations, social science, sociology, history, geography, economics, global studies, public policy, development studies, EU studies, law. An upper second class honours, or international equivalent is required.
- Your application will be considered on its individual merits and relevant professional experience will also be taken into account.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

## International Fees and Scholarships

Tuition fee information is available on [www.ucd.ie/fees](http://www.ucd.ie/fees). Please note that UCD offers a number of graduate scholarships for full-time, self-funding international students, holding an offer of a place on a UCD masters programme. Please see [www.ucd.ie/international/scholarships](http://www.ucd.ie/international/scholarships) for further information.

## Related Masters Programmes of Interest

- MSc Equality Studies
- MA Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict
- Master in Public Policy

## Contact Us

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