Political Sociology (Russia and Eastern Europe) MA /

This MA provides students with the opportunity to study key concepts and approaches in political sociology and theoretical debates about the relationship between state and society, and identity and power. Graduates acquire a mix of in-depth area knowledge of Russia and Eastern Europe, research skills and theoretical understanding.

Degree summary

The programme centres on sociology but is interdisciplinary in nature, combining topics and methods from political science, anthropology, history, cultural studies and economics to analyse the relationships among individuals, groups, institutions, governments and their environments. Students choose two core modules in political sociology and social science methods and can then select thematic or area-based options as well as options to study Russian or another East European language.

// The UCL School of Slavonic & East European Studies (SSEES) is a world-leading specialist institution, and the largest national centre in the UK, for the study of central, Eastern and south-east Europe and Russia.

// This MA allows you to study the social and cultural issues in the region in unparalleled breadth and depth and to develop analytical and research capacities, language skills and practical insights.

// Our nationally unequalled specialist library and central London location provide an ideal environment for research, while our close contacts with employers, policy-makers and alumni afford excellent opportunities for networking and career development.

The programme is delivered through a combination of lectures, seminars, laboratory sessions, workshops, presentations, self-study and specialist language classes. Students are assessed by a variety of methods, including unseen examinations, long essays, coursework and a dissertation.

Degree structure

Mode: Full-time: 1 year; Part-time: 2 years
Location: London, Bloomsbury
Students undertake modules to the value of 180 credits. The programme consists of one core module (15 credits), one of a choice of four modules in social science methodology (15 credits), optional modules (90 credits) and a research dissertation (60 credits).

CORE MODULES
- Students take a 15 credits core module in Political Sociology and a 15 credit course from a list of options in social science methodology.
  - Political Sociology
  - Methodology
  - Qualitative Methods
  - Understanding and Analysing Data
  - Comparative Analysis in Social and Political Research
  - Introduction to Discourse Analysis

OPTIONAL MODULES
- Causes, Consequences and Control: Corruption and Governance
- Cities in Eastern Europe
- Ethno-Political Conflict in Central and Eastern Europe
- Gender and Sexuality in Modern Russian Culture
- Informal Practices in Post-Communist Societies
- Migration in the EU
- Nations, Identity and Power
- Politics of Southeast Europe
- Sexuality and Society in Russia and Eastern Europe
- Sociology of Religion

DISSERTATION/REPORT
- All MA students undertake an independent research project which culminates in a dissertation of 10,000-12,000 words.
Your career

With their specialist knowledge and language skills, SSEES Master’s graduates can be found in business, finance, the media, international agencies, charities, diplomacy, international security organisations, the law, and academia.

Some graduates advise the Russian, Polish, American, and other governments, and the European Commission.

Recent career destinations* include:

- Editorial Intern, Financial Times
- Major Gifts Co-ordinator Fundraiser, British Film Institute (BFI)
- Marketing Analyst, Business Services International
- Programme Co-ordinator, Open Society Foundation
- Television News Reporter, ETV (Eesti Televisioon) (Estonian Television)

Employability

The MA opens up a range of opportunities and previous graduates from this programme have gone on to work in think tanks, political parties; national, European and international private and public sector organisations; and in the media and NGOs as political analysts. Other graduates have progressed to further academic study. Networking is facilitated by two major collaborations led by SSEES: CEELBAS and the International Master’s (IMESS). Scholarships, internship opportunities and excellent links with other universities in the region provide further benefits.

* Careers data is taken from the ‘Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education’ survey undertaken by HESA looking at the destinations of UK and EU students in the 2013-2015 graduating cohorts six months after graduation.
Entry requirements

Normally an upper second-class Bachelor's degree in a relevant discipline from a UK university or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard. Applicants with a good lower second-class Bachelor's degree (pass of 55% or better) or equivalent may also be considered on their individual merits.

English language proficiency level

If your education has not been conducted in the English language, you will be expected to demonstrate evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency.

The level of English language proficiency for this programme is: Good.

Information about the evidence required, acceptable qualifications and test providers is provided at: www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/english-requirements

Your application

Students are advised to apply as early as possible due to competition for places. Those applying for scholarship funding (particularly overseas applicants) should take note of application deadlines.

When we assess your application we would like to learn:

// why you want to study Political Sociology at graduate level
// why you want to study Political Sociology at UCL
// what particularly attracts you to this programme
// how your personal, academic and professional background meets the demands of a challenging and truly international academic environment
// where you would like to go professionally with your degree

Together with essential academic requirements, the personal statement is your opportunity to illustrate whether your reasons for applying to this programme match what the programme will deliver.

Application fee: There is an application processing fee for this programme of £75 for online applications and £100 for paper applications. More details about the application fee can be found at www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught/application.

FEES AND FUNDING 2018/19 ENTRY

// UK: £11,310 (FT), £TBC (PT)
// EU: £11,310 (FT), £TBC (PT)
// Overseas: £21,160 (FT), £TBC (PT)

The tuition fees shown are for the year indicated above. Fees for subsequent years may increase or otherwise vary. Further information on fee status, fee increases and the fee schedule can be viewed on the UCL Current Students website.

Full details of funding opportunities can be found on the UCL Scholarships website: www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applicants: 27 July 2018

Details on how to apply are available on the website at: www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/apply

CONTACT

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EU referendum

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to www.ucl.ac.uk/eu-referendum

PDF Updated: November 18, 2017

This information is for guidance only. It should not be construed as advice nor relied upon and does not form part of any contract. For more information on UCL’s degree programmes please see the UCL Graduate Prospectus at www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate