Legal and Political Theory MA /

This MA provides students with key analytical skills to study the ethical dimensions of public policy. The programme, drawing on three areas of excellence at UCL, is a unique mix of politics, law and philosophy, centred on the normative evaluation of public policy at both the domestic and international levels.

Degree summary

The programme explores the moral quality of the decisions citizens and professionals take, and the justice of the legal and political structures within which they operate. Students develop the ability to analyse important modern political theories, and justify their position on issues concerning the relationship between politics, law and society.

UCL Political Science is recognised as a centre of excellence in the field and offers a uniquely stimulating environment for the study of legal and political theory.

Weekly interactive seminars offer students an unrivalled opportunity to meet and engage with some of the leading figures in the field.

The Legal and Political Theory MA benefits from the interdisciplinary research culture of the Department of Political Science, as well as from the participation of UCL Philosophy and UCL Laws.

Teaching for all modules takes the form of seminars where time is dedicated both to introducing knowledge and materials, and allowing students to test their understanding, knowledge and evaluative skills, through discussion, criticism and debate. Assessment is primarily through long essays, coursework and the 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 two core modules (60 credits), optional modules (60 credits) and a research dissertation (60 credits).

Please note that the list of modules given here is indicative. This information is published a long time in advance of enrolment and module content and availability is subject to change.

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<tr>
<th>COMPULSORY MODULES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Meanings of Liberty: Applied Methods in Political Theory (30)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminars in Political Theory, Colloquium in Legal Philosophy and Peer Assisted Learning Sessions (30)</td>
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<th>OPTIONAL MODULES</th>
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<td>Students choose modules worth a total of 45 credits from the list below (the others remain available as options). They also choose one further 15-credit module from a list available at the programme website</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contemporary Political Philosophy I: Authority, Obligation &amp; Democracy (15)</td>
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<td>Contemporary Political Philosophy II: Social Justice and Equality (15)</td>
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<td>Equality, Justice and Difference (15)</td>
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<td>Global Ethics (15)</td>
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<td>Jeremy Bentham and the Utilitarian Tradition I and II (30)</td>
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<td>Jurisprudence and Legal Theory I &amp; II (30)</td>
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<td>Jurisprudence and Legal Theory I (15)</td>
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<td>The Ethics of Poverty (15)</td>
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<td>Public Ethics (15)</td>
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<td>Theoretical Foundations of Human Rights (15)</td>
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<td>The Ethics of Counterterrorism (15)</td>
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<td>Social Justice, Social Mobility, Education and the Family (15)</td>
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<th>DISSERTATION/REPORT</th>
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<td>All MA students undertake an independent research project which culminates in a dissertation of 10,000 words.</td>
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**Your career**

This MA provides an excellent foundation for further research in political theory, or a wide variety of careers in this field.

**Employability**

Students of the Legal and Political Theory MA acquire advanced analytical transferable skills and exposure to cutting-edge legal and philosophical work - problem-solving, logical skills - combined with deep understanding of challenges of the contemporary world. As a result our students have an excellent record of employability in leading professions - law, consultancy, politics, journalism and academic careers.
Entry requirements

As a minimum, an upper second-class Bachelor's degree from a UK university in political theory or a related discipline; or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard. Relevant practical or work experience in a related field may also be taken into account.

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: Advanced.

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 Legal and Political Theory at graduate level
- why you want to study Legal and Political Theory at UCL
- what particularly attracts you to this programme
- if you have NOT formally studied Political Theory before, how does your personal, academic and professional background meet the challenges of this programme
- 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.

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

FEES AND FUNDING 2019/20 ENTRY

// UK: £13,340 (FT), £6,610 (PT)
// EU: £13,340 (FT), £6,610 (PT)
// Overseas: £21,790 (FT), £11,060 (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 Students website.

Past students on the programme have been awarded prestigious scholarships such as AHRC and UCL graduate studentships.

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

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applicants: 26 July 2019

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

CONTACT

Political Science Admissions Administrator

Email: polsci.admissions@ucl.ac.uk

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7679 4982/4950

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/brexit

PDF Updated: March 14, 2019

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