



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

The
Department
Of
Politics.



Graduate
School.

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“The Department was a thoroughly professional and friendly place in which to study and develop my ideas with some of the highest calibre academics in the field of political studies, not only within the UK but internationally and underpinned by a fantastically helpful academic support structure.”

**Dr Justin Bentham
Senior Economic Development Officer,
Tameside MBC and PhD Graduate**

Welcome

Welcome to the Department of Politics, one of the UK's most vibrant and successful centres for the study of politics. We have a strong track record of internationally renowned research and teaching and are proud to be externally ranked as the number one politics department in the UK for research. Just as important, the Department has always strived to offer a friendly, cosmopolitan and supportive environment for all our students.

We believe that one of the most important characteristics of a first class department is the strength of its graduate community. We take great pride in our graduate community and work hard to ensure that our high quality learning environment offers all our students an intellectually stimulating and rewarding experience.

The University of Sheffield

The University of Sheffield is one of the country's leading Universities, and in recent years has been ranked highly by The Sunday Times and the Virgin Alternative Guide to British Universities (the Virgin Guide is written by students). The University is committed to excellence in teaching and was one of the most highly ranked Universities in the government's Teaching Quality Assessment. It is also one of the leading research Universities, so you can be sure that the lecturers teaching or supervising you at Sheffield are at the forefront of the research and knowledge that is the basis of your studies.



The Department of Politics

The Department of Politics

The Department was founded in 1965. We have a long and distinguished history of postgraduate teaching and a reputation for international research excellence. With 25 permanent academic staff and a Graduate School of 140 students, the Department has grown into one of the leading centres for teaching and research in politics within the United Kingdom.

We pride ourselves on the high quality of our teaching and research. In the quality audits conducted by the UK government, we have consistently scored very highly. The Department's status as a world class centre for the study of politics was confirmed in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, where we were ranked as the number one politics research department in the UK, with 75% of research graded as "world leading" and "internationally excellent". For our teaching, we were awarded a maximum score of 24 for outstanding quality by the Quality Assurance Agency and rated as the leading politics department amongst comparable elite Russell Group Universities in the 2008 National Student Survey.

The Graduate School

The Graduate School in Politics was established in autumn 2008 as the intellectual and organisational home for our community of graduate students.

We recognise that our postgraduates have diverse goals – from securing better professional qualification to training for an academic career – and this diversity is reflected in the Graduate School's range of activities. For those seeking a career in academia or research, our training has been recognised by the UK Economic and Social Research Council and the number of ESRC quota awards for the 2008-10 period reflects the high regard in which our training is held. Our Department has a very well-established reputation for an inclusive research ethos and for its research excellence, which finds expression in research-led teaching at Masters level.

Ours is a cosmopolitan community, reflecting a significant proportion of international students from different parts of the world, notably Asia, Latin America, North America and continental Europe.

Programmes

There are a number of options that you can pursue as a graduate student. Full and part-time study is available.

- Taught Masters programmes (one year full-time, two years part-time). These courses are designed to allow students to achieve an advanced level of study. These degrees will help you pursue career pathways in a wide range of public and private sector organisations.
- Research Masters (duration as above). This programme is specifically designed for graduates who wish to pursue a Doctoral degree.
- MPhil: All PhD students are registered on an MPhil in the first instance and would normally expect to upgrade to PhD after one year. Alternatively, you may also choose to study for an MPhil in its own right.
- PhD Programmes: Students who already have an MA are considered for a PhD programme which normally lasts for three to four years (longer in part-time mode).

On the following pages, you will find details of our current MA programmes and opportunities for postgraduate research. On pages 13 and 15 of this brochure you will find details of funding, entry requirements and the applications process.



Professor Robert O. Keohane, Princeton University, launching the Department's Graduate School, Autumn 2008.

Masters Degree Programmes

We currently offer 11 Masters programmes, including joint degrees with the Departments of Law and Philosophy, as well as a dedicated research methods Masters that provides training to enable you to undertake a research degree.

MA Programmes

MA Politics

This course is designed with the maximum flexibility so that you can choose your own pathway to an MA in Politics. This flexibility is ideal for students with a broad range of interests in politics or for those who want to construct a curriculum around a particular area of interest.

MA in International Studies

This course addresses key debates in the discipline of international relations and reflects on issues of critical importance in today's world. It offers in-depth knowledge of contemporary IR theory and a practical knowledge of regional problems and challenges to global stability.

MA in Global Security

Following 9/11, global security has undoubtedly become one of the most prominent fields of research in political science. This course will examine from theoretical and empirical perspectives the 'new' threat of global terrorism and contestation over military intervention in various regions. It will seek to identify what are the new global security challenges and the impact on patterns in international relations.

MA in International Political Economy

A key issue in international politics is globalisation. This course examines the nature and direction of global change, focusing on political and economic aspects, including thematic issues concerning hegemony, development, governance and co-operation.

MA in Globalisation and Development

Globalisation constitutes the most important challenge presently confronting nation-states. This programme explores issues including financial instability and contagion, poverty and famine, war and insecurity, the rise of new powers like China and India, climate change and environmental degradation, human trafficking and immigration.

MA in Governance and Public Policy

Most public policy-making is no longer simply a national endeavour. Globalisation and other international developments increasingly influence the process of policy-making. This course explores the tension between domestic and international actors in the context of a multi-level policy process and the practical challenges for policy-makers in an increasingly complex policy arena.

MA in European Governance and Politics

This programme explores key debates about new patterns of governance in the EU, and with the EU's impact on current and future member states (Europeanisation). It combines core elements in the study of the EU with an innovative focus on Europe beyond the borders of the EU, as well as choice from a broader range of options.

MA in Global Politics and Law [jointly taught with The Department of Law]

This programme investigates an exciting interdisciplinary area between law and politics, centring on the theme of internationalism - denoting a focus on common intellectual themes around issues such as human rights and implications of international law, justice and democracy.

MA in European Law, Governance and Politics [jointly taught with The Department of Law]

The growth of new forms of governance in the EU has blurred the traditionally distinct boundaries between law and politics. This programme offers core elements in the study of European law, governance and politics to provide a distinctive interdisciplinary programme for overseas and home-based students coming from law, politics and other cognate disciplines.

MA in Political Theory [jointly taught with The Department of Philosophy]

This programme explores contemporary political philosophy, through issues such as rights, global justice, war, democracy, as well as key figures in the history of political ideas, including Plato, Rousseau, Kant, Hegel, Marx and Rawls.

MA in Research Methods in Politics/International Relations

This course is a preparatory degree for MPhil/PhD research. [see page 9 for details]

MA Module Options

We offer a wide variety not just in the MA programmes, but also in the structure of the programmes, to ensure that you are able to find a course best suited to your needs. To gain an MA degree requires 180 credits, with the normal pathway being four taught modules each worth 30 credits plus a dissertation worth 60 credits. All taught modules are based on seminars, and assessment is normally continuous through essays and other written work. Below you will find further details on the modules that are offered by the Department. Further information is available on the Politics Department website* on the additional modules that are available for those programmes that are taught jointly with the Departments of Law and Philosophy.

Politics MA Module Descriptions

Advanced Political Analysis: deals with theory in politics and international relations. It examines the nature of explanation and understanding in the social sciences.

Contemporary Global Security: seeks to identify what are the new global security challenges in the post-9/11 age and the resultant impact on patterns in international relations.

Democratization: explores three core issues - democratization and global governance, citizenship and state transformation.

Development Politics: explores meanings of development and evaluates ideas about development in terms of their politics.

Ethnic Conflict Regulation in Asia: conflicts based around 'ethnic' identities and issues of immigration have become increasingly salient. This module examines different state strategies to manage diversity. The countries of India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka & Afghanistan are given particular attention.

Europe in the World: explains how the EU makes and implements its foreign policy; and considers the significance of the EU's role in world politics.

Europeanisation: explores the main conceptual debates surrounding Europeanisation and how these relate to changes that result within domestic politics.

Global Governance: analyses the theory and practice of contemporary 'global governance.'

Global Politics of the Environment and Climate Change: explores the historical development of environmental politics; national policies and responses; environmental protest and organisation; policy instruments and approaches, the international politics of climate change, and the 2006 Stern Review on Climate Change.

Globalization and Governance in Latin America: examines the impact of various global challenges, including local responses to the crisis of neoliberalism, the drugs economy, and Latin America's role in South-South cooperation.

Governance and Public Policy: analyses continuities and changes to the traditional model of the state, evaluating whether there have been different degrees of change in different countries and areas of policy.

Human Rights: concentrates on a series of complex issues in human rights debate: genocide and torture, poverty, cultural rights and women and human rights.

Political Economy of Globalisation: explores what is 'globalisation' and how it bears upon broader issues of development, poverty and inequality in the wider world.



*www.shef.ac.uk/politics/prospectivepg/masters/index.html



Firth Court – The University of Sheffield

Political Theory and the Rights of War and Peace: studies seminal texts and moments in the history of political thought concerning war and peace.

Politics of International Law: explores the relationships between international law and politics by considering a range of issues including: ethics; politics and governance; justice; democracy; law; and crime.

Research Methods in Politics and International Relations: addresses the role of qualitative and quantitative methods in politics and international relations research. See page 9 for more details.

The Contested Foundations of Liberal Thought: explores debates surrounding the foundations of liberal political philosophy in conditions of pluralism.

The Governance and Politics of the European Union: explores the EU as a system of governance, its institutions, policies and decision-making. It examines key thematic issues, such as democratic accountability, constitutional evolution and enlargement.

The Politics of Global Migration: examines responses at various political levels to international migration and analyses emerging patterns of regional and global governance.

Theories and Issues in International Political Economy: explores key bodies of theory and issues in the field of IPE. Emphasis is also accorded to themes and issues around the concepts of globalization and global governance.

Theory and Practice of International Relations: offers an advanced level appreciation of the theory and practice of International Relations, exploring the predominant theoretical perspectives in, as well as the practice of, IR.

United States Hegemony: provides an analysis of US foreign and economic policy against the backdrop of a rapidly changing global order and debates the question of US hegemonic decline.

Wars, New Wars and the Liberal State: analyses the changing nature of war and conflict, from classic inter-state conventional war illustrated by the total wars of the twentieth century, through the Cold War era, to the low-intensity but deadly 'new' wars fought by ethnic, religious and terrorist groups in the contemporary world.

“What I particularly like about the MA programme is that both the academic and administrative staff are extraordinarily friendly, helpful and open-minded. You will spend an amazing year in a place where the highest academic standards are combined with a warm atmosphere. Not only will you be taught by some of the most inspiring teachers that you might have ever come across, but you will also make friends with fascinating students from all sorts of countries, continents, and cultures.”
Michael Neu
MA graduate and current PhD student



Pathway to MPhil/PhD Research

The MA in Research Methods in Politics and International Relations is designed to prepare you for further studies leading to MPhil/PhD (often referred to as a “1+3” programme).

The Programme is built around three complementary strands:

- generic social science methods training
- politics/international relations methods training
- specialist training pathway in one area of politics/international relations

These strands introduce a broad range of theoretical and methodological approaches that equip you to undertake research in Politics.

This MA is offered by the Politics Department in partnership with other Social Science Departments. This degree involves seminars, computer laboratories, group work and a dissertation.

You can choose a pathway within the MA which focuses on your particular area of research interest: International Political Economy, Political Economy, the European Union, Governance and Public Policy, Comparative Politics, Political Behaviour, Political Theory, and International Relations.

“The course really helps to bridge the gap between undergraduate and doctoral studies, equipping you with the skills to make the transition. You really begin to feel that you are part of the wider research community.”

**Felicity Matthews
PhD Graduate 2008-9**



Postgraduate Research (MPhil/PhD)

We offer the opportunity to join a world-class research environment working with researchers at the forefront of the discipline.

Degrees Available

The Department offers supervision leading to the research degrees of MPhil and PhD. The normal full-time registration period for the MPhil is two years and for the PhD three years (the registration periods are doubled for part-time studies).

In addition to the above we also offer two other routes to a postgraduate research degree. The PhD with Integrated Studies in Politics/International Relations is a four year programme involving a research training programme. This programme incorporates the MA in Research Methods in Politics and International Relations. We also offer the possibility of part-time study based away from Sheffield under the Remote Location Scheme.



Graduation Day

Studying for a PhD

We welcome research proposals across the broad range of political science and international relations. The Department has particular strength in the following fields:

- International political economy
- Comparative political economy
- International relations
- Political development and/or democratisation (including in Latin America, Africa, the Caribbean and South Asia)
- European politics including the European Union
- British politics
- Governance and public policy
- Political behaviour
- Political theory

We have no dominant or preferred approach and can offer supervision using a range of approaches: quantitative, qualitative, critical theory and gender.

We encourage applications in those areas of strength identified above and where we have particular expertise. For further details on staff research specialisms, see page 14.

All students are assigned two supervisors, who will be experienced members of staff. We are always willing to discuss research proposals with applicants and to give guidance on their scope and focus.

A crucial element in the Department's postgraduate research strategy is to involve all students in flexible and tailored training. Training is not only important for gaining and developing the necessary skills to conduct doctoral research and become an accomplished social scientist. It is also a means through which interaction is developed between the postgraduate community and academic staff. We encourage our PhD students to give conference papers and to build up professional links through relevant networks.

Research Culture

All research students are assigned to one or more of the Department's five Research Training Groups. These act as a research forum, holding regular sessions with either external or internal speakers. You can also participate in the activities of the Department's three cross-cutting research centres.

Research Training Groups

The five Research Training Groups are:

- Political Theory
- Comparative Politics
- Governance and Public Policy
- Political Economy
- International Relations

Research students are also invited to attend departmental seminars (given by outside speakers) and staff workshops (given by departmental staff).



Nick Clegg M.P. former part-time lecturer in the Department

“I was attracted to the Department by PERC, the inter-disciplinary programme, and the overall reputation for excellence. My expectations were more than fulfilled. The Department combines the excellent quality of its staff with a very friendly atmosphere.”

**Dr Alexandre Queiroz Guimares
Lecturer, Pontificia Universidade
Católica and PhD Graduate**

Research Centres

We welcome the active involvement of research students in the activities of the Department's three research centres. These centres will enable you to engage with some of the leading academics and practitioners in the field. The centres are:

The **Political Economy Research Centre (PERC)** has a well-established reputation for research focusing on policy problems raised by the current transformation of the world economy. PERC has organised major conferences over recent years on such topics as 'Multi-level Governance'; 'Labour, the State and Social Movements'; 'Globalisation and Development'; 'Resources and Security'; 'Rethinking Social Democracy'; and 'Reconstructing IPE'.

The **Centre for Political Theory and Ideologies (CPTI)** was established in 2003 to focus and deepen the longstanding interest of Sheffield-based theorists in political ideologies. It works collaboratively with other groupings. It has organised conferences on 'Ideologies and the Human Sciences', 'Utopianism and Ideology', and 'Lineages of Empire'.

The **Centre for International Policy Research (CIPOL)** was established in 2005. It seeks to conduct research at the boundaries between Politics and International Studies. CIPOL was established to work in particular on those issues that lie along the domestic-foreign frontier, such as security, migration, governance, political identities and regional integration. It hosts seminars on topics such as these.

Further details of the Centres' current activities can be found at: <http://www.shef.ac.uk/politics/research/centres>

Research Resources

We provide a wide range of support for postgraduate research students. These include:

- A dedicated Postgraduate Suite in the Politics Department building for research students. It consists of three rooms with study facilities and a common room with lockers, fridge, microwave etc.
- The new North Campus Graduate Research Centre. It houses 80 research students plus a further 12 'hot-desk' places. The facilities include a meetings room, interview rooms and a canteen.
- Networked computer suites with printing facilities as well as wi-fi hotspots in the Politics Building.
- A Department fund to contribute to the travel and subsistence costs of fieldwork.
- A modest annual allowance for students not receiving a funding award to help with research expenses and the purchase of books.
- Financial assistance from the University's Learned Societies Fund for attendance at conferences.

Graduate School's Intellectual Community

The Graduate School provides the focus for students to actively participate in a world-leading intellectual community. This includes:

- Masterclasses, which are targeted at MA students but open to all in the Graduate School.
- Research Training Groups, which are targeted at research and '1 + 3' students.
- Activities organised by our Research Centres (open to all).
- 'Teach-ins', which address topics of major contemporary interest, such as the US presidential elections (open to all).

We also offer support for student-led activities, such as those of the Politics Society or of research-led groups organised by our students.



The Information Commons

Funding

A major concern for prospective students is how you will fund your studies. The Department has an excellent track-record for securing funding for students undertaking postgraduate research, including for the preparatory year of Masters-level training. We set out the main schemes below, although there may be other funding schemes available depending on your individual circumstances. Please note that the details of these schemes tend to vary from one year to another, so it is important to consult the Department website for precise information on deadlines. We will be happy to discuss with you the most suitable funding schemes once we have received your application.

External awards

- **Economic and Social Research Council quota/ competition and CASE studentships** – The Department is fully recognised for full-time studentships (1+3, i.e. Masters in Research Methods followed by PhD, +3, and CASE awards, which are joint with external co-funders). Quota awards are held. You must apply by January of your year of entry.
- **Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Awards** are normally available for research on political philosophy or history of political ideas.
- **White Rose Studentships** - these are available as part of the consortium between Sheffield, Leeds and York universities. The studentships are collaborative and entail supervisors from two of the universities.
- **Overseas Students funding awards** – this scheme is currently being revised. Please check with our website for latest information.

Internal Awards

- **University Research Scholarships** – An open competition is held between departmentally-nominated candidates for a pool of awards administered by the Faculty of Social Sciences.
- **University Endowed Scholarships** – These awards vary in number from year to year. The awards arise from endowments made to the University, and are allocated via an open competition.
- **University Fee Waivers** – The fee waiver scheme supports new MA Research Methods and MPhil/PhD research students. Awards can be offered to both Home/EU and Overseas applicants. However, no contribution is made to maintenance costs.
- **University Project Studentships** – These opportunities arise from funded research projects linked to a specific topic. Projects build upon unique interdisciplinary activities, as well as those that have a regional, national or international dimension.

Teaching opportunities - Research students also have the opportunity to conduct paid undergraduate class teaching. As well as providing a useful source of additional income, such teaching is also regarded as assisting with the development of key skills for a future career in academia.

For further up-to-date details on all the funding options for postgraduate opportunities please visit our website: <http://www.shef.ac.uk/politics/prospectivepg>

“I enjoyed studying and living in Sheffield a lot, especially the good contact with the tutors. The staff at the Department of Politics were always very friendly and helpful when there were any problems. Since my return to Germany, I think of Sheffield very often. At the moment, I work as a freelance journalist. My degree was very helpful in getting the job.”

Oliver Kiessler
Politics MA Graduate

The Academic Staff

Dr Katharine Adeney

Specialist subjects: nationalism, ethnic conflict, federalism, democratisation, South Asia.

Professor Ian Bache

Specialist subjects: governance, EU regional policy, UK education policy, multi-level governance.

Dr Garrett Brown

Specialist subjects: Cosmopolitanism, Global Ethics, Universal Human Rights and International Relations Theory.

Professor Simon Bulmer

Specialist subjects: EU governance, EU-member state relations, political economy of the EU and new institutionalism.

Dr Sean Carey

Specialist subjects: public attitudes towards European integration, economic theories of voting.

Professor Matthew Flinders

Specialist subjects: public sector reform, governance, legislative studies.

Professor Andrew Geddes

Specialist subjects: British, European and EU politics, immigration and asylum.

Professor Jean Grugel

Specialist subjects: democratisation, development, global governance, transnational activism.

Dr Graham Harrison

Specialist subjects: democratisation, African politics, development studies, the World Bank.

Professor Colin Hay

Specialist subjects: Political disaffection, globalisation, social democracy, political economy and political analysis.

Dr Tony Heron

Specialist subjects: international trade, global production and the textiles industry.

Professor John Hobson

Specialist subjects: global history, IR theory, state theory and IPE, inter-civilisational analysis.

Professor Michael Kenny

Specialist subjects: contemporary political theory, the history of modern political thought and ideologies.

Dr Charles Lees

Specialist subjects: German politics, environmental politics, institutional approaches to politics.

Dr Steve Ludlam

Specialist subjects: the Labour Movement and the politics of Cuba.

Dr Alistair McMillan

Specialist subjects: Elections and representation, voting behaviour, South Asian politics, devolution and UK politics, social choice.

Dr Matt Sleat

Specialist subjects: Liberal political philosophy, history of political thought, privatisation.

Professor Tony Payne

Specialist subjects: Caribbean politics, international political economy and the politics of development.

Dr David Richards

Specialist subjects: British politics, governance, the regulatory state, public policy, Britain and Australia.

Professor Martin Smith

Specialist subjects: British politics, public policy and the changing nature of the state.

Professor Andrew Taylor

Specialist subjects: political reconstruction of post-conflict societies, state failure, British politics.

Dr Rhiannon Vickers

Specialist subjects: the Labour Party's foreign policy, international role of the TU movement.

Professor Andrew Vincent

Specialist subjects: contemporary political philosophy and ideologies, state theory, nationalism.

Professor Georgina Waylen

Specialist subjects: political economy, Latin America and gender and politics.

Professor Brian White

Specialist subjects: European (EU) foreign and security policy, foreign policy analysis, British and US foreign policy.



The City of Sheffield

The Application Process

How to apply for a MA, MPhil/PhD Degrees

1. Please visit <http://www.shef.ac.uk/politics/prospectivepg>
This site gives you full details on all the degrees offered by the Graduate School and the address to request an application form. Alternatively, an electronic application form can be downloaded from this site. Please read the advice on this site carefully! Applications can also be requested by writing to:

Graduate Admissions Division

Student Recruitment and Admissions Office,
9 Northumberland Road, Sheffield S10 2TT,
United Kingdom.

2. Your application will be passed to our graduate admissions tutor. We aim to make a decision on all applications within two weeks, after which the university will inform you of the outcome.
3. We will do our best to keep in contact with you and help you with your application if we have offered you a place.
4. Details of fees can be found on the Departmental website: www.shef.ac.uk/politics

If you have any queries regarding the application process or require further advice, then do please feel free to contact us.

For advice on the MA application process – please contact:
Mrs Sue Kelk on +44 (0)114 222 1642
or email s.kelk@sheffield.ac.uk

For advice on the MPhil/PhD application process – please contact: Mrs Sarah Cooke on +44 (0)114 222 1640
or email s.cooke@sheffield.ac.uk

Entry Requirements

Masters programmes

Selection of candidates is based on academic ability – usually academic performance to date. Normally, we only accept candidates with at least an Upper Second Class Honours degree (or equivalent) plus supportive references from previous tutors. However, in certain circumstances we may consider candidates who do not meet these minimum requirements. Students whose first language is not English must have passed either the TOEFL, a minimum of 600, (with a minimum of 4.5 in written English), TOEFL computer-based minimum of 250, or IELTS a minimum of 6.5, (with a minimum of 6.0 in essay writing).

Postgraduate research

For direct entry into MPhil or PhD, you will normally need to have an approved MA with a substantial research methods training component.

Students whose first language is not English must have passed either the TOEFL paper test with a minimum of 600, (with a minimum of 4.5 in written English), TOEFL computer based minimum of 250, TOEFL IBT minimum of 100, or a minimum of 6.5 in IELTS, (with a minimum of 6.0 in essay writing).

Applicants for postgraduate research should include a research proposal, a research question (or hypotheses), details of the data to be gathered and of the analytical toolkit to be utilised. Do not hesitate to contact either Sarah Cooke or a prospective supervisor to discuss this aspect further.



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Please note: Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this brochure, we continually review our courses and reserve the right to discontinue or amend course programmes.

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