



# CAREERS FOR POLITICS GRADUATES

## POLITICS AT UCC

Politics is an exciting, diverse and dynamic subject that draws on the expertise of academics in history, government and philosophy. Politics graduates are highly informed, adaptable and independently-minded. It's the ideal subject for those interested in international affairs, human rights, Irish politics and conflict and cooperation in human societies. A degree in politics gives students a flexible qualification for the 21st century. They gain many analytical and practical skills, including the ability to conduct research, oral and written communication and IT, all of which are invaluable in today's employment market.



**UCC**  
University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Department of  
**Government  
& Politics**

# WHAT CAN POLITICS GRADUATES OFFER EMPLOYERS?

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Politics students develop a broad set of skills that strengthen their development as resourceful and reflective citizens. Politics graduates have excellent analytical and critical thinking skills. We emphasise effective communication skills throughout the programme. This means a focus on clear and insightful writing but also on effective oral communication, from making presentations to contributing to classroom discussions.

- A broad grounding in history, philosophy and political science.
- An in-depth understanding of how political institutions, processes and movements function.
- Analytical and critical thinking skills to analyse today's world.



- An ability to develop and structure an argument.

- Strong research skills.

- Excellent writing skills.

- Exceptional oral presentation skills which are developed and used throughout the degree.

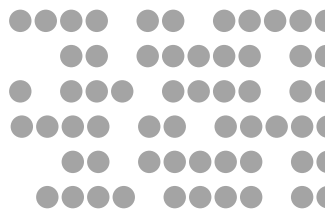
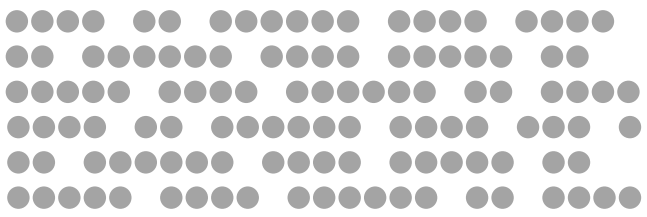
- A deep understanding of how local, national, European and international levels of decision making work.



# GRADUATE OUTCOMES FOR POLITICS

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Each year, UCC Career Services produces a Graduate Outcomes Report based on an annual survey of graduates 6 months after graduation. In the past 5 years approximately 40% of our graduates elected to continue in further education or training. Others have been employed in the private, public and community sectors. For more information please see the below link.



## GRADUATE STUDIES

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Should students wish to continue their studies, the following taught Masters' programmes are open to them: MSc International Public Policy & Diplomacy, MSc Government & Politics, MA International Relations, MA Strategic Studies, MA Philosophy, MA Health and Society. These one-year full time programmes are designed to equip students to specialise in their areas of interest. In addition, students can undertake research Masters or a three year PhD involving in-depth research under the supervision of academic staff.



# AREAS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR POLITICS GRADUATES

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The career prospects for Politics graduates are wide and exciting. Current graduates work as:

Diplomats.

01

Political Advisors.

02

Campaign coordinators for charities, interest groups and political parties.

03

Policy analysts.

04

Civil Servants in local and national government.

05





Journalists (print, broadcast and social media).

06

Recruitment consultants.

07

Public Relations and Event Managers.

08

Officials in international organisations such as the UN.

09

Researchers and policy officers with lobby-groups and think tanks.

10

Business analysts.

11

Teachers (primary and secondary) & University Lecturers.

12

Politicians.

13

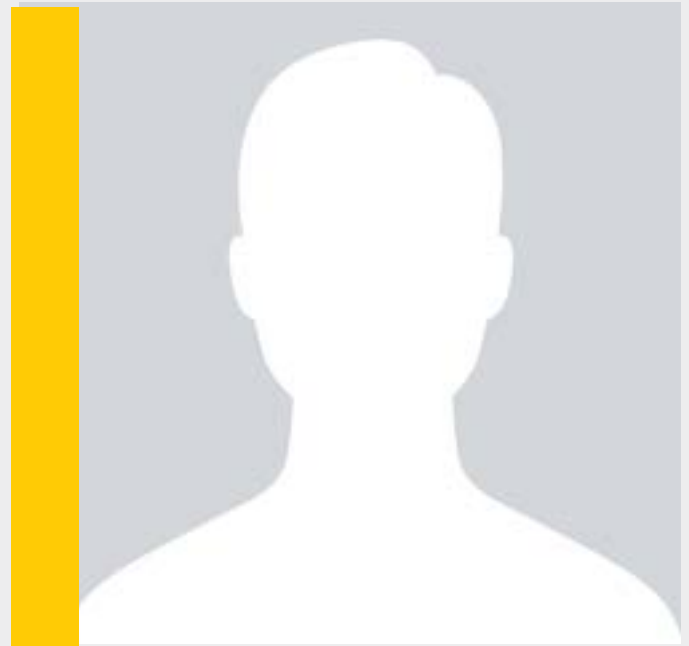


## Graduate Profile 1

### **ORLA MURPHY**

Adviser to the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN

The BA (Hons) in Politics deepened my holistic understanding of the field, and prepared me for the next steps in my career. Philosophy proved to be a good foundation for studying jurisprudence when I went on to study law, and learning about political systems prepared me for advocacy positions with Irish-based NGOs. Studying US politics proved invaluable for my policy role with UNAIDS in Washington D.C. The international relations modules piqued my interest in the UN, where I now work as an Adviser to the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN.



## Graduate Profile 2

### **SABA LOFTUS**

EU Grants Manager APC

My degree in Politics exposed me to different perspectives, diverse data and analytical skills. My previous roles include Director of Special Projects for the EAT Foundation (Norway) which used policy to transform our global food system. I also worked for non-profits and youth groups on issues of sustainable development and poverty eradication. My degree equipped me with the research, critical analysis, and writing skills that allowed me to take on roles that included working in the Amazon rainforest on an intergovernmental conservation project to working for the UN serving as a liaison for civil society.



Graduate Profile 3

## **JOE RICHARDSON**

Graduate, Income Support  
Adviser, Jersey



Studying Politics at UCC has been the best decision that I've made. The tripartite nature of this course, encompassing the fields of government, philosophy, and history, has endowed me with a wealth of knowledge, unmatched by other programmes. Lectures were always stimulating and challenging – I highly recommend this course for anyone pursuing an Arts degree.

**WHERE CAN I  
FIND OUT MORE?**

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**MORE INFORMATION  
ON POLITICS AT UCC**





**WHERE CAN I  
FIND OUT MORE?**

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**UCC GOVERNMENT  
AND POLITICS**



**UCC GOVERNMENT  
AND POLITICS  
POSTGRADUATE STUDY**



**MSC INTERNATIONAL  
PUBLIC POLICY  
AND DIPLOMACY  
INFORMATION**



**POSTGRADUATE  
IN  
INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS**



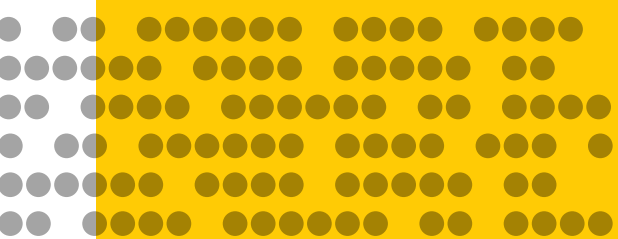
**MA IN  
STRATEGIC  
STUDIES**



**POSTGRADUATE IN  
PHILOSOPHY**



**POSTGRADUATE IN  
HEALTH AND SOCIETY**



# 12 WAYS TO PUT YOUR POLITICS DEGREE TO WORK

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01

Participate fully in every aspect of your degree. Regularly attend and participate in class.

02

Engage with the lecturing staff on the programme who are committed to the success of their students.

**MORE  
INFO** →

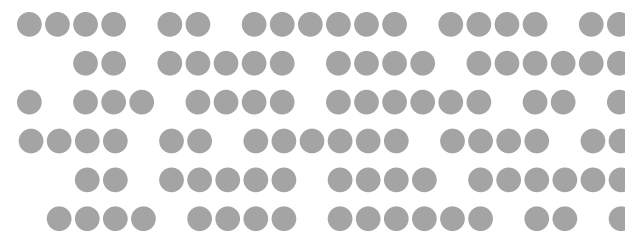
03

Join clubs and societies in UCC and your local community and volunteer to take an active role in committees.

04

Participate in the many seminars, forums and conferences taking place in UCC.





**05**

Gain practical experience during the summers through political, community and volunteering activities which will help to develop your skillset.

**06**

Avail of university-wide modules and skills training that will equip you with professional skills, such as business planning, IT and language skills.

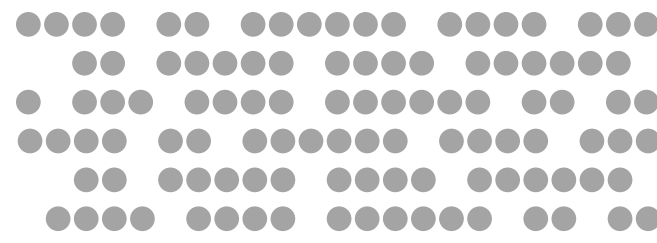
**07**

Join relevant professional and industry networks in Ireland and abroad.

**08**

Create an up-to-date CV and professional social media profile and presence.





**09**

Avail of professional, confidential and impartial careers advice at UCC Career Services by booking a consultation online.

**10**

Attend employer events on campus and use them to build relationships with potential employers.

**11**

Conduct undergraduate research that speaks to the challenges of faced by contemporary organizations.

**12**

Develop your degree with a postgraduate qualification.

**MORE  
INFO**



# DID YOU KNOW?

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Politics graduates make substantial contributions to the world in which we live through their research, policy development, advocacy and public service.



# CONTACT US



**UCC Career Services,  
3 Brighton Villas,  
Western Road, UCC**



**021 4902500  
021 4903202**



**Email Careers**



**Email Graduate  
Recruitment**



**Book an  
appointment  
to meet a  
careers advisor**



**Work  
Placement**





## **UCC Works Award Programme**



**Connect with  
your job**

## **UCC Careers**



## **MyStudentJob**



## **Employability Events**

**Careers Fairs, Roadshows,  
Employer Presentations**



## **Volunteering Opportunities**

