



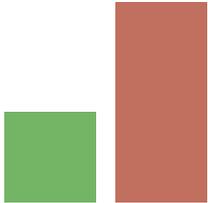
College of Arts, Celtic Studies  
and Social Sciences

# POLITICS



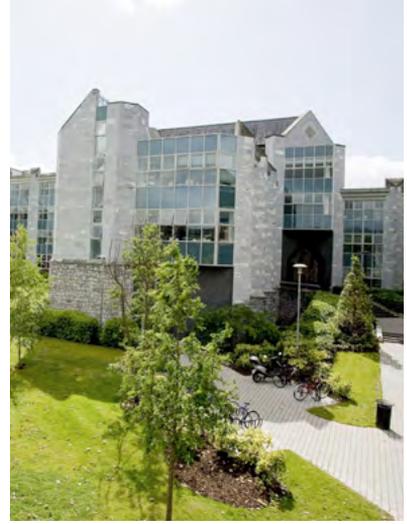
# UCC

University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh



CK101

# BA Politics



## Introduction

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.

## Why Study Politics

Students in Years 2 and 3 of the degree, have considerable flexibility to build their degree around their personal interests in politics. There is a large selection of modules offered each year. The dissertation in Year 3 allows students to pursue their individual research interests and work directly with a dedicated supervisor. 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.

## Study Abroad

If politics is studied on the BA International degree then a student can spend a year abroad. Recent students have spent a year in Belgium, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Mexico and the USA.





## Key Facts

- Politics is available in all three years of the BA degree, and you may study it as a single, major, joint or minor honours subject.
- You can contribute to national policy analysis by making submissions to policy reviews, publish your work in the student online journal *Government and Politics Review*, and attend and speak at a wide range of conferences.
- Students have amazing opportunities during their degree, such as the Washington Ireland Programme in Washington DC, the Kosovo International Summer Academy and the Fleishman Hillard EU Internship Programme in Brussels.
- The BA Politics programme at UCC is taught jointly by staff from the Department of Government and Politics, the School of History and the Department of Philosophy. Our staff are drawn from a broad range of specialist backgrounds creating a diverse and innovative learning environment for students.

## Skills and Careers

We aim to help our students develop a broad set of skills that will enhance their development as resourceful and reflective citizens. Politics graduates have excellent analytical and critical thinking skills and 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.

Our graduates have gone on to become:

- political advisers
- journalists
- officials in international organisations
- teachers
- business analysts
- campaign coordinators for charities, interest groups and political parties

- policy analysts
- administrators
- recruitment consultants

And of course, a small number have become politicians!

Politics and Society is now a Leaving Certificate subject and this has opened up significant teaching opportunities for our graduates.

## Further Study

- MSc in Government and Politics
- Professional Master of Education (PME)
- PhD
- MSc International Public Policy and Diplomacy
- MA in International Relations
- MA in Health and Society



**Pictured above:** Orla Murphy with Ban Ki-moon, South Korean politician and diplomat, and former Secretary-General of the United Nations from January 2007 to December 2016.

**“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.”**

**Joe Richardson**

Graduate, Income Support Adviser, Jersey

**“The BA (Hons) in Politics allowed me to study under three Schools: Government; History; and Philosophy. This 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 Irish and EU political systems prepared me for advocacy positions with Irish-based NGOs. Practical learning – such as presenting a proposal to the Oireachtas Committee on Electoral Reform in my first year provided me with the confidence to do similar presentations in the future.**

**Studying US politics proved invaluable for my policy role with UNAIDS in Washington D.C. This was bolstered by the international relations which modules piqued my interest in the United Nations, where I now work as an Adviser to the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN, and previously served as the Irish Youth Delegate to the UN. I left with not only a degree, but with lifelong friends, ambition, hope, and a sense of curiosity that had been nurtured by the lecturers who continue to engage and inspire me. I would encourage everyone with an interest in current affairs to study Politics at UCC.”**

**Orla Murphy**

Adviser at Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations



### **Course page online**

[www.ucc.ie/en/ck101/politics](http://www.ucc.ie/en/ck101/politics)  
[www.ucc.ie/en/ck108/](http://www.ucc.ie/en/ck108/)

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