

Work Placement Programme



MSc Government and Politics University College Cork

Programme Overview

The MSc in Government and Politics is a one-year full-time interdisciplinary Masters Degree. The focus of the programme is on contemporary governance, and it provides graduates with the expertise and work experience required for successful careers in public policy environments. The degree seeks to give students an intensive course in all aspects of both government and politics through the following:

Course Content

- ▶ EU Democracy, Citizenship, Memory and Identity
- ▶ Political Science Research Methods
- ▶ Politics and Gender
- ▶ EU Political System & Policies
- ▶ Comparative Political Institutions
- ▶ Core Themes in Political Philosophy

The MSc Government & Politics has a strong vocational element, including:

- ▶ Policy-oriented brief and report writing
- ▶ Tailored career development
- ▶ Work placement option

Work Placement Module

Headline Information:

- Start date: April.
- Duration: 3–5 months.
- Payment: Ideally, we seek paid placements for all our students.
- Retention: Graduates are available for employment after placement.

What is Work Placement?

Work placement is a three-way partnership between students, employers and the University. The work experience on offer should give students the opportunity to gain practical experience relevant to their course and allow them to put into practice the theories and methodologies studied at University. It gives you, the Employer, the chance to develop a valuable source of skilled graduates for your business.

What is the Placement Process?

- ▶ Employer provides a job description to Placement Manager, which is advertised to students.
- ▶ Students' CVs will be sent to Employer for their consideration and review.
- ▶ Employer will shortlist candidates for interview.
- ▶ The University will facilitate every aspect of interview process for the Employer.

What is required of me as a placement employer?

- ▶ Identify a clearly defined role with a dedicated mentor to support the student for the duration of the placement.
- ▶ The mentor will act as a contact point for the University and the Employer and will meet with the Academic Mentor mid-way through the placement.
- ▶ Complete and submit placement paperwork as required.

How is placement assessed?

- ▶ Students must complete an academic work-based dissertation which examines an area relating to their work on placement.
- ▶ The report is in addition to the day-to-day operational tasks as set out in their job description.

