

POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Based in the very centre of London, we are proud of our diverse student body, non-hierarchical scholarly culture, and our commitment to challenging, innovative research. We are committed to enhancing our student's learning experience through both classroom teaching and broader intellectual activities.

The University of Westminster has an international reputation for innovative research in politics and international relations and in particular in the study of democracy. Our research is concentrated in six key areas; contemporary democratic theory and governance; critical international theory; identity and political community; post-colonial politics; development and emerging powers; resilience and sustainability; security violence and international relations.

Our research-active staff bring their knowledge and expertise into the classroom, enabling our students to engage with contemporary debates and issues. In addition to research-led teaching, we regularly invite external speakers to take part in our well-established series of seminars, public lectures and conferences.



“The Department of Politics and International Relations is a place where students and staff come together to help you understand the many opportunities you have for succeeding in academia and beyond.”

Antonella Patteri,
MPhil/PhD researcher



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE MA

Length of course: one year full-time or two years part-time, starting in September or January
Location: Central London (see map p200)
Fees and funding: see course web page and westminster.ac.uk/fees
Entry requirements: see page p192

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: westminster.ac.uk/energy-and-environmental-change-ma

The Energy and Environmental Change MA is an interdisciplinary degree that combines international relations, law, business and sustainability studies. As such it provides a comprehensive examination of energy security, energy markets and climate change from global, regional and local perspectives.

The degree will equip you with knowledge of key intellectual frameworks and critical issues.

The course offers a holistic approach to the dynamics governing energy-transition to a low-carbon economy nexus. You are required to complete five interconnected core modules and may select one option module.

Course Content

The course combines multi-disciplinary expertise from across the University.

Core modules

- Dissertation (12,000 words)
- Environmental Policy, Assessment and Climate Change
- Global Politics of Energy and Environmental Change
- International Energy and Climate Change Law
- Regional Dimensions of Energy Security
- Strategy and Policy: Energy and Sustainability

Option modules

- Corporate Social Responsibility Issues in Business and Law
- Foreign Direct Investment Arbitration
- Global Financial Markets
- International Economics
- Planning for Urban Risk and Resilience
- Policy, Governance and Democracy: International Perspectives

Associated careers

Recent graduates from the University of Westminster who during their studies successfully completed modules that focus on energy and resources secured energy-related jobs in top international energy companies and consulting companies based in London.



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DEMOCRATIC POLITICS MA

Length of course: one year full-time or two years part-time, starting in September or January
Location: Central London (see map p200)
Fees and funding: see course web page and westminster.ac.uk/fees
Entry requirements: see page p192

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: westminster.ac.uk/international-relations-and-democratic-politics-ma

The International Relations and Democratic Politics MA provides an advanced critical and comprehensive understanding of the forces shaping state, inter-state relations and global politics.

Drawing on key theoretical interpretations of democratic politics, the course probes into various tenets of democratic thinking (ranging from pluralism and civil society to egalitarianism and human rights), and explores the interplay between theory and practice in old and new democracies and in processes of global governance.

Is democracy a concept limited to a world of territorially-bounded national communities? Can democracy still limit power in a global world? How does democratic policy making operate in the face of complexity?

By raising and examining such questions, the course explores the changing and contested understandings of democracy in contemporary thought as well as its application to the international sphere in our increasingly complex world.

Core modules

- Democratic Politics: Key Debates and Issues
- Dissertation and Research Methods
- The Politics of Global Complexity

Option modules

You must choose four option modules from the following list (one of your options may be an approved free choice module hosted by another Masters course):

- Controversies in United States Foreign Policies and Processes
- Development Theories, Policies and Practices
- Global Change: Toward a New Non-Western Order?
- Globalisation, Democratiation and Post-Authoritarian Transition
- Governance of the European Union
- Islam and Politics in the Middle East
- Policy, Governance and Democracy: International Perspectives
- The European Union as an International Actor
- The State, Politics and Violence
- Global Politics of Energy
- Regional Dimensions of Energy Security



Associated careers

This course will provide you with numerous key skills and knowledge that will prepare you for your future career in a variety of different fields.

Our graduates hold posts within various international and national government departments and organisations. Many have also gone on to study for Doctorates at Westminster and at other universities around the world.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND SECURITY MA

Length of course: one year full-time or two years part-time, starting in September or January
Location: Central London (see map p200)
Fees and funding: see course web page and westminster.ac.uk/fees
Entry requirements: see page p192

For full and most up-to-date information, see course web page: westminster.ac.uk/international-relations-and-security-ma

The question of security now dominates contemporary international politics. Issues such as the 'War on Terror', pre-emptive self-defence and humanitarian intervention constitute seminal international concerns that have implications for all states and all peoples.

Course content

This course provides you with a detailed understanding of the nature of the contemporary security agenda, its origins, theoretical foundations and future trajectory. You will examine the theories of international security and those key security issues that have dominated security discourse in the post-Cold War era. You will also develop your analytical skills in order to facilitate understanding of the seminal contemporary security issues in a broader theoretical and historical framework.

Core modules

- Contemporary Controversies in International Security: Intervention Terrorism and Self-Defence
- Dissertation and Research Methods
- Theories of International Security

Option modules

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- Controversies in United States Foreign Policies and Processes
- Democratic Politics: Key Debates and Issues
- Development Theories, Policies and Practices
- Global Change: Toward a New Non-Western Order?
- Global Politics of Energy and Environmental Change
- Globalisation, Democratisation and Post-Authoritarian Transition
- Governance of the European Union
- Islam and Politics in the Middle East
- Policy, Governance and Democracy: International Perspectives
- Postcolonial International Relations: Theories and Concepts
- Regional Dimensions of Energy Security
- The European Union as an International Actor
- The Politics of Global Complexity: Rethinking Governance, Power and Agency
- The State, Politics and Violence



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This course offers you an innovative, disciplined and intellectually challenging framework for studying issues and perspectives within international relations.

You will consider various aspects of international order and politics, including the dynamics of international social and political power relationships and conflicts, and state building. These topics are studied comparatively in relation to governmental, political and social processes, and in the contexts of various historical continuities, discontinuities and contrasts.

Core modules

- Beyond International Relations
- Dissertation and Research Methods
- International Relations: Theoretical Perspectives

Option modules

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- Democratic Politics: Key Debates and Issues
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