

Policy into Practice (with Integrated Placement) MA/PGDip

This programme has been designed primarily for international students who are government officers or who have work experience in social policy areas. This programme starts from an examination of UK social policy, with opportunities to examine the experiences of, and challenges facing other countries, as well as study UK social policy in depth. It includes a work-based placement within one or more public, private or third sector organisations in the West Midlands area.

Over 4,500 students from 150 countries worldwide choose to study here at Birmingham, and we now boast one of the largest and most vibrant international student communities in the UK. Take a look at the [collaboration map \(/schools/social-policy/international/collaboration-map.aspx\)](/schools/social-policy/international/collaboration-map.aspx) in our [international section \(/schools/social-policy/international/index.aspx\)](/schools/social-policy/international/index.aspx) and find out what it is like to be an international student living and studying in Birmingham, as well as the global reach of the School.

You can also [find out why our students love living and studying in Birmingham. \(/undergraduate/birmingham/mybham/index.aspx\)](/undergraduate/birmingham/mybham/index.aspx)

[Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham was awarded The Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2013-14 \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx)

Course fact file

Type of Course: Taught

Study Options: Full time

Duration: MA (21 months) PG Dip (9 months)

Start date: September/October

Related courses

[Policy into Practice MA/PGDip/PGCert \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/social-policy/policy-practice.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/taught/social-policy/policy-practice.aspx)

Contact

Pat Wright
Department Administrator
Tel: +44 (0)121 414 5708
Email: p.m.wright@bham.ac.uk (<mailto:p.m.wright@bham.ac.uk>)

[School of Social Policy \(/schools/social-policy/index.aspx\)](/schools/social-policy/index.aspx)

[Institute of Applied Social Studies \(IASS\) \(/schools/social-policy/departments/applied-social-studies/index.aspx\)](/schools/social-policy/departments/applied-social-studies/index.aspx)

Details

This programme is part of a suite of programmes designed primarily for international students who are government officers or policy officers, researchers or practitioners in non-governmental organisations who have work experience in social policy areas. The study of Policy into Practice concerns the development and nature of government interventions aimed at ensuring the welfare needs of their populations are met, and the ways those interventions are put into effect. Starting from an examination of UK social policy, the programme widens out to examine the experience and challenges facing other countries. Some programmes include the opportunity to have a work-based placement within one or more public, private or third sector organisation in the West Midlands area.

The programme introduces students to the study of Social Policy and Practice and considers current and future political, economic and demographic contexts of policy making around the world.

Specialist option in health policy

Students can now study a PGDiploma in Policy into Practice with Integrated Placement (Health) which has a particular focus on health policies and interventions. It covers UK health policy, as well as the experiences of, and challenges facing, other countries in relation to health policy and population health and wellbeing. The programme has been designed for national and local government officers, as well as officers of non-governmental organisations who are involved in health policy-making or delivering health services in countries other than the UK. It also includes an **8 week work based placement in a non-clinical health setting**.

Course brochures

Policy into Practice (Integrated Placement)

- [MA Policy into Practice \(with Integrated Placement\) \(PDF\) \(/Documents/college-social-sciences/social-policy/course-brochures/2014/MA-Policy-into-Practice-\(with-Integrated-Placement\)-oct2014.pdf\)](/Documents/college-social-sciences/social-policy/course-brochures/2014/MA-Policy-into-Practice-(with-Integrated-Placement)-oct2014.pdf)
- [Postgraduate Diploma Policy into Practice \(with Integrated Placement\) \(PDF\) \(/Documents/college-social-sciences/social-policy/course-brochures/2014/PG-Dip-policy-into-practice-\(with-integrated-placement\)-Oct2014.pdf\)](/Documents/college-social-sciences/social-policy/course-brochures/2014/PG-Dip-policy-into-practice-(with-integrated-placement)-Oct2014.pdf)
- [PGDip Policy into Practice with Integrated Placement \(Health\) \(PDF\) \(/Documents/college-social-sciences/social-policy/course-brochures/2014/pg-diploma-policy-into-practice-integrated-placement-health.pdf\)](/Documents/college-social-sciences/social-policy/course-brochures/2014/pg-diploma-policy-into-practice-integrated-placement-health.pdf)
- [Putting Policy into Practice \(PDF\) \(/Documents/college-social-sciences/social-policy/course-brochures/2014/Putting-policy-into-practice-Oct2014.pdf\)](/Documents/college-social-sciences/social-policy/course-brochures/2014/Putting-policy-into-practice-Oct2014.pdf)

See also [MA Policy into Practice \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/social-policy/policy-practice.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/taught/social-policy/policy-practice.aspx)

Why study this course

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The Institute of Applied Social Studies, part of the School of Social Policy, is an internationally leading centre for research in social policy and social work and is based in the recently refurbished Muirhead Tower.

Modules

MA Programme

The programmes introduce students to the study of Social Policy and Practice and consider current and future political, economic and demographic contexts of policy-making around the world. The MA programme consists of **five core modules**:

- Sectors and Services in British Social Policy
- International Social Policy
- Introduction to Applied Social Research
- Dissertation
- 20 week work-based placement

and **three optional modules** from:

- Researching Social Policy
- Policy Futures: Global and Local Perspectives
- Politics of British Social Policy
- Migration, Superdiversity, Policy and Practice
- Globalisation, International Migration and Citizenship
- Third Sector in Social Policy
- Special Project in Social Policy

Plus other modules offered in the College of Social Sciences

Postgraduate Diploma

The PG Diploma programme consists of **three core modules**:

- Sectors and Services in British Social Policy
- International Social Policy
- 8 week work-based Placement

and **two optional modules** from the list above.

Postgraduate Diploma (Health)

The PG Diploma (Health) consists of **four modules** (2 should be social policy modules and 2 should be health services management centre modules), **plus an 8 week non-clinical health-based placement**:

Social Policy modules

- Sectors and Services in British Social Policy
- International Social Policy
- Introduction to Applied Social Research
- Researching Social Policy
- Policy Futures: Global and Local Perspectives
- Politics of British Social Policy since 1940

Health Services Management Centre modules

- Health and Healthcare Policy
- Patient and User Involvement in Healthcare
- Health Care Quality: Measuring and Assuring
- Decision Making and Priority Setting
- Integrated Care Practice and Theory

Fees and funding

Fees for 2015-2016:

Masters (MA)

(Overseas - Full time only)
Year 1: code 6288: £13,195

PG Dip

(Overseas - Full time only)
code 8970: £9,897

Please check with the Department for the latest fees information

Learn more about [fees and funding \(/postgraduate/pgt-fees/index.aspx\)](#).

Scholarships and studentships

Scholarships may be available. International students can often gain funding through overseas research scholarships, Commonwealth scholarships or their home government. More information about [international scholarships \(/International/students/finance/scholarships/index.aspx\)](#).

For further information contact the Student Funding Office at www.studenthelp.bham.ac.uk (<http://www.studenthelp.bham.ac.uk>).

Entry requirements

For entry onto this programme you should normally have an undergraduate degree of at least an upper second or an equivalent professional qualification. Participants with relevant work or employment experience will also be considered.

Learn more about [entry requirements \(/postgraduate/requirements-pgt/index.aspx\)](#)

International students:

[Listen to what some of our international students in the School say about studying at Birmingham \(/schools/social-policy/international/students.aspx\)](#).

We accept a range of qualifications from different countries – our [country pages \(/International/students/country/index.aspx\)](#) show you what qualifications we accept.

English language requirements

English language: IELTS 6.5. Students with lower IELTS scores may apply, but will be advised to register for the pre-session English Course (six or ten weeks). Please contact the Programme Co-ordinator, Dr Kelly Hall, k.j.hall@bham.ac.uk (<mailto:k.j.hall@bham.ac.uk>) for further advice on this.

How to apply

When clicking on the Apply Now button you will be directed to an application specifically designed for the programme you wish to apply for where you will create an account with the University application system and submit your application and supporting documents online. Further information regarding how to apply online can be found on the [How to apply pages \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/apply-pg/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/apply-pg/index.aspx)

[Apply now \(https://pga.bham.ac.uk/lpages/COS130.htm\)](https://pga.bham.ac.uk/lpages/COS130.htm)

Learning and teaching

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All participants will be supported by a personal tutor and will also be able to draw on the support of the Institute's Programme Director, Welfare Tutors and International Student Tutors.

Work-based placements

Work-based placements are sought in discussion with the student and every effort is made to find a placement which will suit the student and provide a valuable learning experience for both the student and the organisation.

Participants will also benefit from access to e-learning resources as well as the University's main library and student services.

Assessment methods

On completion of the taught modules (120 credits) Masters students undertake a 10,000 word dissertation on a subject of their choice. Each student is allocated an experienced specialist supervisor, selected for their experience of both the subject matter and supervision.

Our Dissertation workshops provide an excellent forum for students to share their experiences and to get advice and support.

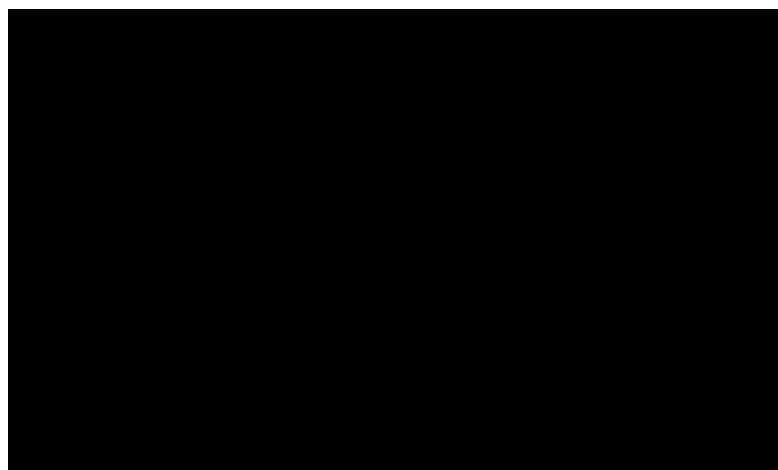
Employability

Our graduates come from the UK and from a wide range of other nations including Chile, China, Cyprus, Japan, Poland, South Korea, Indonesia and Taiwan. Our graduates have gone on to careers in the public and non-governmental sectors as civil servants, policy analysts, practitioners and social researchers. Others have continued with Doctoral level study.

Eun Chul Kim, Republic of Korea, "MA Policy into Practice has provided me with a good chance to study British social policy and to experience the related practice. The modules which I took, satisfied my academic needs and curiosity over a quite broad spectrum of social policy fields. The academic staff made every effort to transfer academic knowledge and also they are highly kind and open-minded. We sometimes discussed over the issue passionately, other times we analysed the policy with cool and neutral attitude. I really enjoyed the time I had at the IASS and would like to recommend it to students who are interested in social policy from both academic and practical perspectives."

Hyochul Ahn, Republic of Korea, "Studying British social policy with other international students and leading academics on this beautiful campus is really fascinating. More than anything, I have realised the significance of social research which can influence policy and people's futures."

Isha Frederick, St Vincent, "The module 'The Politics of Social Policy in Britain: From 1940 to the present day', has really helped me understand the history of the UK and apply it to my studies. I've also found the university library to be a very useful place to study and the breadth and selection of books there is impressive."



Video courtesy of PGS TV (<http://www.postgraduatesearch.com/>)

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