University of Birmingham

International Relations with German BA

This is a diverse programme allowing you to combine the study of German with International Relations. International Relations covers such topics as politics, economics and the diplomatic history of the 20th century. Combined with the opportunity to study at a European university, the International Relations with German course offers a unique opportunity to learn in a truly international and interdisciplinary way.

Students applying for this degree at Birmingham will join the Department of Political Science and International Studies (POLSIS), a department that scores high in the National Student Survey (NSS) and is consistently viewed as one of the best departments in the country.

Our students particularly enjoy the opportunities to hear from influential guest speakers about their lives in politics. Recent speakers have included Alistair Darling, David Miliband and John Bercow. Learn more about your student experience.

If you want to take advantage of a unique opportunity to be supported with a work placement opportunity as part of your final year, this course includes the opportunity to undertake a '**Professional Development (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/professional-development.aspx)**' module as part of your optional module choices.

Course details: **Details (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-german.aspx?OpenSection=CourseDetailsTab)** | **Why study this course (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-german.aspx?OpenSection=WhyStudyThisCourse)** | **Modules (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-german.aspx?OpenSection=Modules)** | **Fees and funding (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-german.aspx?OpenSection=FeesAndFunding)** | **Entry requirements (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-german.aspx?OpenSection=EntryRequirements)** | **How to apply (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-german.aspx?OpenSection=HowToApply)** .

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)

Course fact file

UCAS code: L2R2

Duration: 4 years

Places Available: 215 across the department

Applications in 2013: 1060

Typical Offer: ABB (**More detailed entry requirements and the international qualifications accepted can be found in the course details (?OpenSection=EntryRequirements)**)

Start date: September

Related courses

International Relations with French BA (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-french.aspx)

International Relations with Year Abroad BA (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-year-abroad.aspx)

International Relations BA (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations.aspx)

International Relations with Spanish BA (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-spanish.aspx)

Contact

Admissions Tutor

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t: +44 (0)121 414 7745
e: **p.kerr@bham.ac.uk (mailto:p.kerr@bham.ac.uk)**

School of Government and Society (/schools/government-society/index.aspx)

Department of Political Science and International Studies (POLSIS) (/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/index.aspx)

Department of Modern Languages: German Studies (/schools/lcahm/departments/german/index.aspx)

Details

Course details: **Details (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-german.aspx?OpenSection=CourseDetailsTab)** | **Why study this course (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-german.aspx?OpenSection=WhyStudyThisCourse)** | **Modules (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-german.aspx?OpenSection=Modules)** | **Fees and funding (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-german.aspx?OpenSection=FeesAndFunding)** | **Entry requirements (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-german.aspx?OpenSection=EntryRequirements)** | **How to apply (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/international-relations-german.aspx?OpenSection=HowToApply)** .

In a world of growing interdependence, the need for a wider understanding of international affairs becomes more crucial every day. Our International Relations with a Language courses allow you to combine study of a modern language with international relations, which is itself interdisciplinary and covers such topics as politics, economics and the diplomatic history of the 20th century.

The third year is spent studying at a European university. You spend about half your time in language studies and half taking courses either in the history and politics of the country or in international relations. When you return to Birmingham for your fourth year you'll study advanced courses in your language and in international affairs.

If you want to take advantage of a unique opportunity to be supported with a work placement opportunity as part of your final year, this course includes the opportunity to undertake a '**Professional Development (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/professional-development.aspx)** ' module as part of your optional module choices.

Why study this course

Students applying for this degree will join the Department of Political Science and International Studies (POLSIS), a department that consistently scores high in the National Student Survey (NSS), consistently viewed as one of the best departments in the country.

The Department also has an excellent record in the Guardian League Table for Politics. We are consistently viewed as one of the best departments in the country since the Guardian started publishing their League Tables in 2000.

The Department has a balance of expertise that covers all areas of the discipline and has long-established strengths in the fields of political theory, European politics, international relations theory, security studies, diplomatic studies, political sociology, political economy, Pacific Asian politics, environmental politics and British politics.

Modules

Modules in the first year

This year consists of introductory modules in international Relations and your chosen language.

Compulsory core modules

- 40 credits - German Language Beginners I & II
- 20 credits - **Understanding Politics (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-one/understanding-politics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Research Skills and literacy: Philosophy and Method in Social Sciences (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-one/research-skills-literacy-philosophy-method-social-sciences.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Introduction to Political Economy (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-one/introduction-political-economy.aspx)**
- 10 credits - **End of Empire: Problems of International History (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-one/end-empire.aspx)**
- 10 credits - **Introduction to Problems of World History in the Twentieth Century (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-one/introduction-problems-world-history-twentieth-century.aspx)**

Modules in the second year

The second year is designed to permit specialisation in areas of particular interest while deepening your language skills.

Compulsory core modules

- 20 credits - **International Political Economy (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/international-political-economy.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Diplomatic History Post 1945 (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/diplomatic-history-post-1945.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **International Relations Theory (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/international-relations-theory.aspx)**
- 20 credits - German Language Advanced 2A & 2B

Optional modules

Choose 40 credits from the following modules: Where modules are linked, both elements must be chosen.

- 20 credits - **Analysing Political Worlds (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/analysing-political-worlds.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Data Analysis and Research Design (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/data-analysis-research-design.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Comparative European Politics (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/comparative-european-politics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Europeanization (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/europeanization.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Institutions, Politics and Policies of the European Union (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/institutions-politics-policies-european-union.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **British Politics (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/british-politics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Modern Political Thought (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/modern-political-thought.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **The International Politics of East Asia (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/international-politics-east-asia.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Introduction to American Politics (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/introduction-american-politics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **International Security (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/international-security.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Politics and Policy (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/politics-policy.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Public Choice Theory (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/public-choice-theory.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **International Politics and Security in Russia and Eurasia (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/international-politics-security-russia-eurasia.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **The Cultural Politics of Russia and Eastern Europe (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/cultural-politics-russia-eastern-europe.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Contemporary Russian and East European Politics (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-two/contemporary-russian-east-european-politics.aspx)**

Modules in the final year

When you return to Birmingham for your fourth year you study advanced courses in your language and in international affairs.

If you want to take advantage of a unique opportunity to be supported with a work placement opportunity as part of your final year, this course includes the opportunity to undertake a '**Professional Development (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/professional-development.aspx)** ' module as part of your optional module choices.

Compulsory core modules

- 40 credits - **Dissertation (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/dissertation-polsis.aspx)**
- 20 credits - German Language IV (A & B) (for non-LCAHM students)

Optional modules

Choose 60 credits from the following, or 40 credits from the following and 20 credits of modules outside the main discipline with permission from the Undergraduate Director:

- 20 credits - **Advanced Contemporary Russian and East European Politics (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/advanced-contemporary-russian-east-european-politics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Advanced Cultural Politics of Russia and Eastern Europe (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/advanced-cultural-politics-russia-eastern-europe.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Advanced International Politics and Security in Russia and Eurasia (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/advanced-international-politics-security-russia-eurasia.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Advanced Modern Asia (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/advanced-modern-asia.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Contemporary International Political Economy (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/contemporary-international-political-economy.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Contemporary US Foreign and Security Policy (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/contemporary-us-foreign-security-policy.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Controversies in Contemporary Democracies (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/controversies-contemporary-democracies.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Critical Approaches to Security (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/critical-approaches-security.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Democracy and Democratisation in Contemporary Europe (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/democracy-democratisation-contemporary-europe.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **The Diplomacy of the Arab-Israeli Conflict (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/diplomacy-arab-israeli-conflict.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **European Security (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/european-security.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Europe in a Globalised World (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/europe-globalised-world.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Gender in World Politics (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/gender-world-politics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Global Capitalism and Migration (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/global-capitalism-migration.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Global Governance (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/global-governance.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Issues in American Domestic Politics (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/issues-american-domestic-politics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Left Parties and Protest Movements (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/left-parties-protest-movements.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **The Political Economy of Energy and Energy Security (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/political-economy-energy-security.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Professional Development Module (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/professional-development.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **Topics in British Politics (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/topics-british-politics.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **The Russian Economy: From Plan to Market (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/russian-economy-plan-market.aspx)**
- 20 credits - **War Torn States and Post-Conflict Reconstruction in the South (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/war-torn-states-post-conflict-reconstruction-south.aspx)**

Fees and funding

Standard fees (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/fees/fees.aspx) apply.
Learn more about **fees and funding (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/fees/index.aspx)** .

Home/EU students

Fee Band	Full-time	Part-time
Undergraduate (*registered during or after 2012-13 AY*)	£9,000	£4,500
Undergraduate (*registered before 2012-13 AY*)	£3,465	£1,725

Overseas students entering in 2015-16

Fee Band (Undergraduate)	Full-time
Band D (Classroom)	£13,195
Birmingham Foundation Academy	£13,500

Scholarships

At Birmingham we ensure that fears about finance do not constrain prospective students from considering university and that excellence is rewarded.

The University offers a range of additional financial support for students studying at Birmingham in the form of bursaries, grants and scholarships.

Learn more about our **scholarships and awards. (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/fees/funding/index.aspx)**

Entry requirements

Number of A levels required: 3

Typical offer: ABB

Required subjects and grades: A Level grade B in German

General Studies: not accepted

Additional information:

Other qualifications are considered – learn more about **entry requirements (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/requirements)**

International students:

International Baccalaureate Diploma: 34 points including an appropriate language at HL grade 5

Standard English language requirements apply
Learn more about **international entry requirements (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/requirements/international)**

Depending on your chosen course of study, you may also be interested in the Birmingham Foundation Academy, a specially structured programme for international students whose qualifications are not accepted for direct entry to UK universities. Further details can be found on the **foundation academy web pages (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/foundation-academy/Pathways/index.aspx)** .

How to apply

Apply through UCAS at **www.ucas.com (http://www.ucas.com/)** using code: **L2R2**.
Learn more about **applying (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/courses/apply)** .

University of Birmingham's UCAS code number is **B32**.

UCAS

The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) is a UK organisation responsible for managing applications to university and college.

UK, EU and international students applying for most undergraduate degree courses in the UK will need to apply through UCAS.

You submit an application via the **UCAS website (http://www.ucas.co.uk/)** with a list of up to five courses. All choices are confidential during the application process so universities and colleges considering an application cannot see your other choices. Applications must be completed by mid-January of the year that you wish to start university.

You can monitor the progress of your application using the **UCAS Apply (http://www.ucas.com/students/apply)** system.

Adobe Flash Player or QuickTime is required for video playback. Get the latest Flash Player Get the latest version of QuickTime

Key Information Set (KIS)

Key Information Sets (KIS) are comparable sets of information about full- or part-time undergraduate courses and are designed to meet the information needs of prospective students.

All KIS information has been published on the Unistats website and can also be accessed via the small advert, or 'widget', below. On the **Unistats website (http://unistats.direct.gov.uk)** you are able to compare all the KIS data for each course with data for other courses.

The development of Key Information Sets (KIS) formed part of HEFCE's work to enhance the information that is available about higher education. They give you access to reliable and comparable information in order to help you make informed decisions about what and where to study.

The KIS contains information which prospective students have identified as useful, such as student satisfaction, graduate outcomes, learning and teaching activities, assessment methods, tuition fees and student finance, accommodation and professional accreditation.

Related links

International Relations with a Language flyer (/Documents/college-social-sciences/government-society/polsis/degrees/ba-international-relations-language.pdf)

POLSIS Undergraduate brochure (PDF 2MB) (/Documents/college-social-sciences/government-society/polsis/degrees/undergraduate-brochure.pdf)

Learning and teaching

How will I be taught?

As a Birmingham student you are part of an academic elite and will learn from world-leading experts. From the outset you will be encouraged to become an independent and self-motivated learner. We want you to be challenged and will encourage you to think for yourself.

Teaching and learning in the Department of Political Science and International Studies (POLSIS) is based around three principles: student-centred, responding to individual needs, developing transferable skills and encouraging preparation for future careers; research-led, ensuring students are taught by experts in their field and prioritising 'learning by doing' to foster critical thinking and active enquiry; committed to social justice, concerned with issues of equality, inclusion, responsibility and reflexive awareness, and committed to an ideal of democratic decision-making – consulting all students about their learning experience.

Your learning will take place in a range of different settings, from scheduled teaching in lectures and small group tutorials, to self-study and peer group learning (for example preparing and delivering presentations with your classmates).

To begin with you may find this way of working challenging, but rest assured that we'll enable you to make this transition. You will have access to a comprehensive support system that will assist and encourage you, including personal tutors and welfare tutors who can help with both academic and welfare issues, and a **formal transition review (https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/student/transitionreview/index.aspx)** during your first year to check on your progress and offer you help for any particular areas where you need support.

Our Academic Skills Centre also offers you support with your learning. The centre is a place where you can develop your mathematical, academic writing and general academic skills. It is the centre's aim to help you to become a more effective and independent learner through the use of a range of high-quality and appropriate learning support services. These range from drop-in sessions with support with mathematics and statistics based problems provided by experienced mathematicians, to workshops on a range of topics including note talking, reading, writing and presentation skills.

More about **student experience at POLSIS (/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/teaching/enhancing-student-experience/index.aspx)**

Personal Tutor

From the outset, you will be assigned your own Personal Tutor who will get to know you as you progress through your studies, providing academic and welfare advice, encouraging you and offering assistance in any areas you may feel you need extra support to make the most of your potential and your time here at Birmingham.

Contact hours

As well as time with your lecturers and personal tutor, academic and professional services staff (like our dedicated Careers Network team) will be avialable to offer individual and group support throughout your time here at Birmingham.

Learning settings

This degree is taught by our internationally renowned Department of Political Science and International Studies (POLSIS) which is located in Muirhead Tower on own main Edgbaston campus.

Departments from across the School of Government and Society are all based within the recently refurbished Muirhead Tower. Following a £50million refurbishment, Muirhead Tower offers state-of-the-art teaching and research study facilities including free wifi throughout the building and dedicated study areas for postgraduate research students.

Muirhead Tower comprises 12,000sq.m of floor space between two towers. The tower includes a number of sustainable features including solar shading (known in the trade as brise soliel) to control temperatures, as well as low energy fans; timed lighting to reduce energy waste; natural ventilation systems and a heat source taken from the University's combined heat and power generator.

If you can see this message rather than a virtual tour then please click here to install the adobe flash player.
If you are still unable to view the virtual tour then you may need to enable javascript in your browser (click here for instructions).
If you are still experiencing problems then please email Revolution Viewing at support@revolutionviewing.com

The space has been designed to create modern, attractive spaces for teaching and research accommodating 150 academic offices, 230 "hubs" for post graduate research students, teaching rooms for up to 100 people and a 200 seat lecture theatre.

Your lectures and teaching will take place in a variety of versatile lecture theatres and breakout rooms which have moved on a lot since the traditional whiteboard and pen. Our rooms are all equipped with wireless connection and constantly updated technology including all the audio-visual equipment that you would expect from one of the UK's premier insitutions.

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If you are still experiencing problems then please email Revolution Viewing at support@revolutionviewing.com

Small-group tutorials/personal tutorials run alongside our lectures, addressing any individual problems you may have and allowing you to consolidate lecture material, as well as test your understanding through problem-solving exercises.

Self study is an essential part of the programme and requires self motivation and enthusiasm for your subject. It also allows you to pursue your own lines of enquiry and become an independent thinker.

Assessment methods

Studying at degree-level is likely to be very different from your previous experience of learning and teaching. You will be expected to think, discuss and engage critically with the subject and find things out for yourself. We will enable you to make this **transition to a new style of learning (https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/student/transitionreview/index.aspx)**, and the way that you are assessed during your studies will help you develop the essential skills you need to make a success of your time at Birmingham.

You'll be assessed in a variety of ways, and these may be different with each module that you take. You will be assessed through coursework which may take the form of essays, group and individual presentations, laboratory-based work (depending on your chosen degree) and formal exams.

During your first year you will undergo a **formal 'transition' review (https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/student/transitionreview/index.aspx)** to see how you are getting on and if there are particular areas where you need support. This is in addition to the personal tutor who is based in your school or department and can help with any academic issues you encounter.

At the beginning of each module, you'll be given information on how and when you'll be assessed for that particular programme of study. You'll receive feedback on each assessment within four weeks, so that you can learn from and build on what you have done. You'll be given feedback on any exams that you take; if you should fail an exam we will ensure that particularly detailed feedback is made available to enable you to learn for the future.

Employability

Preparation for your career should be one of the first things you think about as you start university. Whether you have a clear idea of where your future aspirations lie or want to consider the broad range of opportunities available once you have a Birmingham degree, our **Careers Network (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/careers/careers-network.aspx)** can help you achieve your goal.

Our unique careers guidance service is tailored to your academic subject area, offering a specialised team (in each of the five academic colleges) who can give you expert advice. Our team source exclusive **work experience opportunities (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/careers/work-experience.aspx)** to help you stand out amongst the competition, with **mentoring (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/generic/internships/mentoring/index.aspx)**, **global internships (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/generic/internships/index.aspx)** and placements available to you. Once you have a career in your sights, one-to-one support with CV's and job applications will help give you the edge. In addition, our employer-endorsed award-winning **Personal Skills Award (PSA) (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/careers/psa.aspx)** recognises your extra-curricular activities, and provides an accredited employability programme designed to improve your career prospects.

We also offer voluntary work which complements your studies by helping you gain practical experiences in occupational settings while contributing back to society. This can bring new skills that will be useful throughout your future and can make a positive impact on your learning whilst at university. Volunteering enables you to develop skills such as communication, interpersonal skills, teamwork, self-confidence and self-discipline all of which can be transferred into your studies.

Your Birmingham degree is evidence of your ability to succeed in a demanding academic environment. Employers target Birmingham students for their drive, diversity, communication and problem-solving skills, their team-working abilities and cultural awareness, and our graduate employment statistics have continued to climb at a rate well above national trends. If you make the most of the wide range of services you will be able to develop your career from the moment you arrive.

If you want to take advantage of a unique opportunity to be supported with a work placement opportunity as part of your final year, this course includes the opportunity to undertake a '**Professional Development (/undergraduate/courses/govsoc/modules/year-three/professional-development.aspx)**' module as part of your optional module choices.

Career opportunities

There is an ever-increasing demand for graduates who have knowledge of a modern language, as well as grounding in international relations. Our students find careers in a wide range of fields.

Additional accreditation **No**

BA (Hons) International Relations with German
Full time
Year abroad

To see more details and compare with other courses

Visit UNISTATS

Official data collected by HEFCE

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