DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (POLSiS)
Postgraduate programmes
CONTENTS

Introduction to the Department of Political Science and International Studies (POLSIS) 3
Taught Masters programmes/Diplomas 4
Diplomacy MA/PGDip 4
Global Cooperation and Security MSc 5
International Political Economy MA/PGDip 6
International Relations MA/PGDip 7
International Security and Terrorism MA/PGDip 8
Political Psychology of International Relations MSc 9
Politics MA/PGDip 10
Social and Political Theory MA/PGDip 11
Optional modules 12
Alumni and Careers support 13
Enhancing your student experience 14
Research degrees 16
Applying and fees 17
Birmingham: a great place to live and learn 18
Introduction to the Department of Political Science and International Studies (POLSIS)

POLSIS is one of the largest departments of Political Science and International Studies in the UK. The Department is committed to research excellence, quality learning and teaching provision, and the continuing professional development of its staff and students. You may opt for a general multidisciplinary approach or choose from a range of more specialised programmes with a more specific career orientation.

Welcome from the Head of POLSIS and the Director of Postgraduate Studies

"Welcome to the Department of Political Science and International Studies. We have an excellent reputation based on the quality of the teaching and research of our academic staff and the performance of our students. If you choose to study with us you will be joining a dynamic and vibrant academic community where you will be challenged and stimulated through whichever postgraduate programme you undertake. This brochure is designed to give you a taste of what we have to offer and we do encourage you to contact us directly or visit us in person, to learn more about our department."

Dr Richard North
Head of Department

The Department of Political Science and International Studies offer a broad range of MA programmes, all delivered by internationally-recognised staff. We offer a range of unique degrees including International Relations, International Political Economy and Politics.

Our staff are engaged in leading research in a variety of fields, the results of which they weave into the modules they teach on, meaning that our students are consistently at the forefront of academic thought and debate in their chosen area of specialism. To learn more about the academic interests of our staff and their publications, visit www.birmingham.ac.uk/polis

Many of our lecturers also have practical experience in the international sector and have worked or studied in many countries. The Department often works in collaboration with organisations in the business sector, politicians, diplomats, military personnel and other experts from within a broad range of fields.

The Department of Political Science and International Studies is within the School of Government and Society. We are committed to creating a caring, accessible and inclusive environment in which everyone feels they belong, fit, and may thrive. We welcome, value, and embrace diversity in our staff and student body, such as differences in nationality, cultural backgrounds, race, ethnicity, disability, age, class, religion or belief, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

Student Enhancement Activities
Beyond the formal teaching the department offer a series of student enhancement activities including, study visits, film screenings and research seminars. To ensure the Department remains at the forefront of intellectual and academic debate, we run a Research Seminar Series where our academics, or guest speakers from other universities or organisations, deliver research seminars to share their thoughts and expertise and facilitate debates.
Diplomacy MA/PGDip

The MA Diplomacy is designed to give students a thorough grounding in the principles and practice of diplomacy. It traces the origins of diplomatic institutions, international law and organisation and brings these right up to date by exploring the social, political and technological challenges faced by contemporary diplomats. It is designed for students who are either familiar with the study of international relations or politics at undergraduate level or who are enthusiastic to focus on this area of study at the postgraduate level.

Topics and issues examined include:

- What is diplomacy?
- How has the role of diplomats changed over time?
- What techniques of negotiation, bargaining and coercion are available to diplomats and when are they most effective at getting results?
- What impact has technology had on the speed and nature of diplomatic work?
- How significant are human rights and social justice in diplomacy?
- What are the most important challenges for international diplomacy and how can they be overcome?
- Is international order under threat and how can it be reformed to make it more sustainable?

**Core Modules**

- Diplomacy and Statecraft (20 credits)
- Diplomatic History (20 credits)
- Dissertation (60 credits)

**Optional Modules**

Students can design the rest of the programme around their own interests by selecting four modules from a wide range of options – see page 12.

LEARN MORE

Admissions Tutor: Dr Kevork Oskanian
Telephone: +44 (0)121 414 8228
Email: polsisma.admissions@contacts.bham.ac.uk
Website: www.birmingham.ac.uk/polis
Global Cooperation and Security MSc

We live in an age where there is an urgent need for cooperative responses to address major global security challenges, as well as to transform intractable inter-state and intrastate conflicts. This programme responds to that need by providing students with an advanced interdisciplinary training in the theory and practice of global cooperation and conflict resolution. We offer research-led teaching at the intersection of International Relations, Political Psychology and Security Studies, combined with a 5-day training programme in ‘Trust, Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation’.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Modules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fear, Cooperation and Trust in World Politics (20 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Cooperation in Practice (20 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust, Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation (20 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation (60 credits)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional Modules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students can design the rest of the programme around their own interests by selecting an additional 60 credits from the list of optional modules – see page 12.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Topics and issues examined include:
- The Security Dilemma
- Face-to-face diplomacy
- Peace building, alliances and institutions
- Emotions in crises and conflicts
- The psychology of radicalization, terrorism, and political violence
- Identities of religion, gender, and nationalism
- Game theory: the Prisoner’s Dilemma
- The risks of nuclear war during the Cold War
- US-Iran nuclear relations
- The possibilities for avoiding a new Cold War with China?

LEARN MORE

Admissions Tutor: Dr Tereza Capelos
Email: t.capelos@bham.ac.uk
Website: www.birmingham.ac.uk/iccs
International Political Economy MA/PGDip

The MA in International Political Economy is for students who are interested in the problems, challenges and opportunities presented by global capitalism, and for those wanting to gain an advanced knowledge of the theories and practice of international political economy from a range of different disciplinary and empirical perspectives.

Key issues and questions examined include:
- The theoretical foundations of International Political Economy (IPE)
- The history of global capitalism
- Changes to the global political and economic order
- A range of issues central to the study of contemporary IPE, including international economic organisations and regimes
- Development
- Poverty and inequality
- Gender
- Environmental sustainability

Core Modules

Globalisation and Governance (20 credits)
International Political Economy (20 credits)
Dissertation (60 credits)

Optional Modules

Students can design the rest of the programme around their own interests by selecting four modules from a wide range of options – see page 12.

LEARN MORE

Admissions Tutor: Dr Kevork Oskanian
Telephone: +44 (0)121 414 8228
Email: polisma.admissions@contacts.bham.ac.uk
Website: www.birmingham.ac.uk/polis
International Relations MA/PGDip

We live in an age where there is an urgent need for cooperative responses to address major global challenges, as well as to transform intractable interstate and intrastate conflicts. This programme responds to that need by providing students with advanced training in the theory and practice of global cooperation and conflict resolution. We offer research-led teaching at the intersection of International Relations, Political Psychology and Security Studies.

### Core Modules
- International Relations Theory (20 credits)
- Dilemmas in International Relations (20 credits)
- Dissertation (60 credits)

### Optional Modules
Students can design the rest of the programme around their own interests by selecting four modules from a wide range of options – see page 12.

Topics and issues examined include:
- Which actors have power and how is power exercised?
- Why are there wars?
- What is ‘security’ and how can security be achieved at national, regional and international levels?
- When and how is international cooperation possible?
- Is there a relationship between democracy and peace?
- Are human rights universal?
- Is it possible to realise global justice?
- What are the legal and political conditions for humanitarian intervention and can intervention be justified on ethical grounds?

**LEARN MORE**

**Admissions Tutor:** Dr Kevork Oskanian  
**Telephone:** +44 (0)121 414 8228  
**Email:** polisma.admissions@contacts.bham.ac.uk  
**Website:** www.birmingham.ac.uk/polis
International Security and Terrorism
MA/PGDip

The MA in International Security and Terrorism explores issues of political violence, terrorism, conflict, the use of force and the nature and management of security threats including security cooperation in the absence of an overarching world government. It promotes the study of those problems through theoretical, empirical and ethical inquiry, drawing on the expertise of a team of internationally renowned research-active Security Studies specialists. It is designed for students who are either familiar with the study of International Relations, Criminology, Sociology, Psychology, Language-based Area Studies, History, Religious Studies and Law, and issues of war, security and terrorism at undergraduate level, or who are enthusiastic to focus on this area of study at the postgraduate level.

Key issues and questions examined include:
- What are the causes of insecurity in the world?
- Are wars ever just?
- What is the role of terrorism and political violence in the contemporary world?
- What explains the number and intensity of terrorist attacks?
- What policies would reduce the threat of terrorism?

Core Modules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Security Studies (20 credits)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terrorism and Political Violence (20 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation (60 credits)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Optional Modules

Students can design the rest of the programme around their own interests by selecting four modules from a wide range of options – see page 12.

LEARN MORE

Admissions Tutor: Dr Kevork Oskanian
Telephone: +44 (0)121 414 8228
Email: polsisma.admissions@contacts.bham.ac.uk
Website: www.birmingham.ac.uk/polis
Political Psychology of International Relations MSc

Political decision-making and action at the international level are shaped by complex psychological mechanisms that are often under explored or overlooked by mainstream approaches to International Relations. This programme focuses on the individual, group, and mass-level psychological dynamics and processes that determine political outcomes. Our students gain an in-depth understanding of the psychological underpinnings of International Relations and the empirical tools to engage with timely issues and puzzles in international politics.

Topics and issues examined include:
- Emotions in crises and conflicts
- The psychology of radicalization, terrorism, and political violence
- Identities of religion, gender, and nationalism
- Trust and empathy in International Relations
- Interpersonal dynamics in face-to-face diplomacy

This MSc degree is linked to the Institute for Conflict, Cooperation and Security (ICCS), a world leading interdisciplinary research centre, in partnership with the Department of Political Science and International Studies. Our MSc students can also become members of the four ICCS Research Working Groups: Trust; Political Settlements; International Political Psychology; Unmanned and Remote-Piloted Systems.

Core Modules

- Fear, Cooperation and Trust in World Politics (20 credits)
- Political Psychology of Conflict and Cooperation (20 credits)
- Fundamentals in Quantitative Research Methods (20 credits)
- Foundations in Qualitative Research (20 credits)
- Dissertation (60 credits)

Optional Modules

Students can design the rest of the programme around their own interests by selecting an additional 40 credits from the list of optional modules – see page 12.

Admissions Tutor: Dr Tereza Capelos
Email: t.capelos@bham.ac.uk
Website: www.birmingham.ac.uk/iccs
Politics MA/PGDip

The MA in Politics examines central questions of political science related to power, the state and the sources of political change. The programme offers students insights into the causes and consequences of a variety of different political phenomena across the globe. It is designed for students who are either familiar with the study of political science and issues at undergraduate level or who are enthusiastic to focus on this area of study at the postgraduate level.

Key issues and questions examined include:
- Where does power lie and how is it exercised?
- What is the role of the state and what is its relationship to society?
- Why are democracies not ubiquitous and why do we see a mixture of democratic and non-democratic regimes across the globe?
- Why do democracies vary in their form and content?
- Who wins elections and why?
- What role do electoral systems, social context and campaigning play in determining election outcomes?
- Why does political conflict emerge and how can it be managed?

### Core Modules
- Developments in Contemporary Political Analysis (20 credits)
- Varieties of Politics: The Comparative Politics of Parties, Institutions and Regimes (20 credits)
- Dissertation (60 credits)

### Optional Modules
Students can design the rest of the programme around their own interests by selecting four modules from a wide range of options – see page 12.

The flexibility of this programme is ideal for those with a broad range of interests in politics or for those who want to construct a curriculum around a particular area of interest.

**LEARN MORE**

**Admissions Tutor:** Dr Kevork Oskanian  
**Telephone:** +44 (0)121 414 8228  
**Email:** polisma.admissions@contacts.bham.ac.uk  
**Website:** www.birmingham.ac.uk/polsis
Social and Political Theory MA/PGDip

The MA in Social and Political Theory explores problems crucial to society and politics domestically and in the global sphere. It promotes the study of those problems through theoretical, ethical and practical inquiry, drawing on the expertise of a diverse team of research-active social and political theorists. It is designed for students who are either familiar with the study of social and political ideas and issues at undergraduate level or who are enthusiastic to focus on this area of study at the postgraduate level.

Key issues and questions examined include:
- What is power and who has it?
- How can we bring about radical social and political change?
- Is terrorism ever morally permissible or excusable?
- Under what circumstances are armed resistance and revolution permissible?
- What is justice and what does it ask of us?
- What’s wrong with inequality and what should we do about it?
- What is tyranny? Why should we oppose it?
- What are the sources of tyranny in present day politics and society?

Core Modules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Radical Social Theory: Modernism to Postmodernism</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problems in Contemporary Political Theory</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Optional Modules

Students can design the rest of the programme around their own interests by selecting four modules from a wide range of options – see page 12.

LEARN MORE

Admissions Tutor: Dr Kevork Oskanian
Telephone: +44 (0)121 414 8228
Email: polsisma.admissions@contacts.bham.ac.uk
Website: www.birmingham.ac.uk/polis
In POLSIS, we are proud of the extensive range of modules that are available to our students; allowing students to tailor their course and study topics that are of interest.

All modules are 20 credits and are available as options on postgraduate taught POLSIS programmes where the module is not compulsory:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optional modules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arguing Against Tyranny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender and Global Governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Conflict Peacebuilding and the International Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Pacific Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Cooperation in Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problems in Contemporary Political Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authoritarianism and Development [IDD]*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Environmental Governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radical Social Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democracy and Development [IDD]*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globalisation and Governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rising Powers and Global Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developments in Contemporary Political Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governing British Capitalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dilemmas in International Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Political Economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex, Death Gender and (in)security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diplomacy and Statecraft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Relations Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrorism and Political Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diplomatic History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Psychology of Conflict and Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Foreign and Defence Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic Conflict and its Management: Theories and Cases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics and the State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varieties of Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fear, Cooperation and Trust in World Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics of Arab-Israeli Conflict</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Module hosted by the International Development Department (IDD)

Please note that these options are subject to change as we are constantly developing new and exciting modules.
Alumni and Careers support

After completing a master’s degree in POLSIS, our students are equipped to pursue a wide range of different careers. Recent graduates have pursued careers in the civil service and the diplomatic and foreign services; taken up roles as political advisors and government research officers; have gone on to work for international human rights groups, NGOs, and other international organisations.

Our Alumni Community
Your University of Birmingham experience begins before your first lecture and your learning continues beyond your graduation. Through bespoke events, professional development opportunities and more, the Alumni Team is here to help increase your knowledge and expand your networks. Our mutually supportive community of graduates can offer advice for those thinking of following in their footsteps, share and exchange industry knowledge and provide introductions to help to further your future career. www.birmingham.ac.uk/alumni

NICHOLAS TRIGG
MA INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Nicholas Trigg from Switzerland is a graduate of our MA International Relations programme and here, he reflects on his experiences of moving to a foreign country and studying at Birmingham in POLSIS. Nicholas also completed his undergraduate studies in POLSIS.

‘I chose to study on the MA International Relations course because it interested me, with its mix of theoretical aspects linked to practical case studies, which I knew a little about. I also chose to continue studying at Birmingham as I had an extremely positive relationship with my dissertation tutor and I wanted to continue our working relationship.

‘There is everything you could possibly want at Birmingham. There is a nice green campus, and a quick pace of life; it’s also great that the university is just ten minutes away from the city centre. Most importantly though, the teaching staff and facilities are excellent; the staff are always available to advise and help the students.

‘The University also has a lot to offer when it comes to activities like sport for example. I fancied doing something different so I learnt how to play volleyball and by doing so created another circle of friends outside my course friends and flatmates.

‘Reaching my objectives at Birmingham has not been difficult due to the helpful departmental staff that are always willing to help. Writing my dissertation has probably been one of the highlights of my experience in POLSIS, as it gave me the opportunity to focus on what I was really interested in.

‘My first piece of advice to anyone considering studying in Birmingham would be an academic one and to think about what you really want to study. You really want to make sure that you enjoy what you are doing on your course, especially if you are considering further study.’
Enhancing your Student Experience

In the Department of Political Science and International Studies we offer much more than a degree. You will have the opportunity to take part in a range of events and extra-curricular activities, all designed to enhance your experience whilst studying with us.

High-profile speaker visits
POLSIS regularly attracts high-level speakers to talk directly to students, including government ministers, leading politicians and high profile scholars.

As well as attending talks by high-profile speakers, you will also have the opportunity to be involved in the organisation of the events. Students from the Politics Society (POLSOC), organise regular events throughout each term; involvement in these activities can help broaden your career horizons and develop the key skills that employers are looking for.

Extra-curricular study events
POLSIS also provides a series of extra-curricular study events. This includes an annual Graduate lecture, with past speakers including Gisela Stuart MP and former US Congressmen George Nethercutt and David Skaggs. The Department has also run in previous years a trip to the London Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and a Graduate seminar series with invited speakers focusing on topics such as the global right to protest.

These events are an excellent opportunity to supplement learning gained through formal study, with additional activities designed to provide students with insights into more concrete developments in the world of politics and international relations.
Study Tour of Brussels
Every year, students studying on Postgraduate programmes within the department of POLSIS have the opportunity to take part in a week long study trip to Brussels. This trip immerses students in the politics of one of the centres of European and global politics and includes trips to some of the most significant international institutions to learn first-hand about how they operate. As part of the trip, students have the opportunity to discuss policy-making, institutional questions and to learn about working life in global institutions. The tour also includes a day trip to Bruges. Students selected for the tour receive support towards costs from the Department of Political Science and International Studies.

Advanced Intensive Study Module at the University of Delhi, India
This opportunity is open to postgraduate students studying with the School of Government and Society (including students studying in the following departments within the School – POLSIS, the International Development department and the Institute of Local Government Studies).

Students have the opportunity to study in Delhi, India, alongside students from Delhi University and the University of Melbourne in a truly global learning environment. Students can apply to take the intensive module ‘Security and Development in South Asia’ during Term 2 and experience what the British Council has called, ‘teaching at the cutting edge of international teaching collaboration’. The module, worth 20 credits, is taught over the course of a week by scholars from Delhi, Birmingham and Melbourne and focuses on exploring some of the most central security and development challenges faced by states and peoples in South Asia today. Participants are selected competitively and receive a bursary which covers travel, visas and accommodation. The trip also offers students the opportunity to visit Agra and the Taj Mahal.

Student Enhancement Fund
Students can apply for up to £300 from the Student Enhancement Fund to support individual or group professional development activities. This can include support towards conference attendance, international trips, professional training courses or internships. Recent awards have helped support students to participate in a Model UN Conference, a research methods festival, internships at the UN Headquarters in New York and US Congress and professional development trips to the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European University Institute in Florence.

INTERNATIONAL MODEL NATO CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON DC
This opportunity is open to postgraduate students studying with the School of Government and Society (including students studying in the following departments within the School – POLSIS, the International Development department and the Institute of Local Government Studies).

Students are eligible to apply to be part of a delegation to the annual International Model NATO Conference, held in Washington DC in the Spring Term. This experience provides students with a unique opportunity to participate in a role play exercise of decision-making at NATO, working with delegates from universities and institutions across the globe under the expert guidance of NATO specialist and University of Birmingham, Professor Mark Webber. In previous years, students have represented France, Turkey and the US and have also visited the US State Department as part of the trip. Students who are selected for this Conference will be provided with bursaries that cover the cost of Conference registration, accommodation and subsistence.

For further information about the opportunities available to postgraduate students in the Department of Political Science and International Studies, please visit www.birmingham.ac.uk/polsis
POLSIS offer the following research degrees:

**MPhil programme:**
Minimum two years, in order to complete a significant piece of original research.

**PhD programme:**
Minimum three years, to complete a major piece of original research.

**Distance Learning PhD:**
Political Science and International Studies PhD by distance learning.

The Department currently has around 50 PhD students focusing on a range of topics. Our PhD students are integrated into the Department, engaging in teaching and attending the regular PhD colloquium. They are fully involved in both the research and social life of POLSIS. PhD students have a desk in a shared office space. POLSIS supports PhD student participation at conferences and research training courses are available at the University.

Our distance learning MPhil and PhD degrees in Political Science and International Studies offer the opportunity to pursue original research under the guidance of an academic supervisor in a more convenient manner for those unable to live and work on campus on a regular basis. We are able to supervise a wide range of topics, in line with the research interests of staff.

**Research groups**
The Department has a number of research groups. Each group meets regularly to discuss work and texts; hold workshops or seminars; share relevant information and provide an intellectually exciting environment for study and discussion. You are welcome to join more than one group.

**Asian Research Politics Group** explores issues related to the political economy of the Asia Pacific region; issues of citizenship and democracy in Southeast Asia; Asian security; regionalism and inter-regionalism; and the role of civil society actors in Asia.

**European Politics** deals with European integration, European political economy and contemporary European politics.

**International Relations Theory** deals with all matters of IR theory and current issues of international politics.

**Political Economy** focuses on comparative and international political economy, and positive and normative political economy.

**Social and Political Theory** deals with modern political thought, Continental thought and contemporary critiques of liberalism. The group holds seminars and conferences on themes in political theory and the history of ideas.

**Gender and Feminist Theory** covers a wide variety of topics including intersectionality, the politics of the sex industry and female representation.

**Middle East Research Group** focuses on the politics and contemporary history of this dynamic region.

**Parties, Voters and Election Research Group** focuses on political parties, campaigning and populism.

**British Politics** studies the institution, politics and policies of the United Kingdom.
How to apply
The online application form is available from www.apply.bham.ac.uk. The application form must be supported by two letters of reference, and non-native English overseas students should also submit a statement of English language competence (TOEFL 580/237; IELTS 6.5). A good honours degree (UK 2.1, GPA 3.00) is required for admission to the taught Masters programmes. For details of the application for research degrees, please contact the Graduate School’s secretary.

The taught Masters programmes begin in the autumn of the year and applicants should submit their application forms no later than the end of July. Applications for research degrees are welcome at all times, but the Department prefers students to commence studies at the start of either October or January.

Fees
The University charges an annual tuition fee. The fee covers the costs of your tuition, examination, graduation and includes membership of the Guild of Students. Fees are payable prior to the start of your programme, although it is possible for you to pay in instalments.

Please visit our website and course pages for the most up-to-date fees.

Annual fees do not include living expenses or accommodation fees. You are also responsible for buying your own books and equipment. We estimate that for a period of 12 months you will need between £7,500 and £10,000.

Please visit www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees/postgraduate

For up-to-date fees information, please visit www.birmingham.ac.uk/polis or contact the Department directly.

Sources of finance
There are various sources of finance available for postgraduate students including loans, awards, scholarships and studentships, sponsorship, allowances, learning funds and paid work. These include:

- Career Development loan: www.direct.gov.uk/cdl
- Professional Studies Loan
- Scholarships and studentships: www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees
- Research councils: www.ukri.org
- Disabled Students’ Allowance: www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/support/disability.aspx
- Access to Learning Fund: www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/support/moneyadvice/alf.aspx

Please visit www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate for further information.

Applying and fees

Sources of finance
There are various sources of finance available for postgraduate students including loans, awards, scholarships and studentships, sponsorship, allowances, learning funds and paid work. These include:

- Career Development loan: www.direct.gov.uk/cdl
- Professional Studies Loan
- Scholarships and studentships: www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees
- Research councils: www.ukri.org
- Disabled Students’ Allowance: www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/support/disability.aspx
- Access to Learning Fund: www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/support/moneyadvice/alf.aspx

Please visit www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate for further information.

LEARN MORE

For further information about our postgraduate programmes in POLSIS, please contact:

Dr Kevork Oskanian
Tel: +44 (0)121 414 8228

You can also email admissions contacts in the department here: polisma.admissions@contacts.bham.ac.uk

For further information on Postgraduate Research please contact:

Ms Tricia Thomas
Tel: +44 (0)121 414 3497
Email: p.a.thomas.1@bham.ac.uk

For further information on our programmes, you can also visit our website www.birmingham.ac.uk/polis
Birmingham: a great place to live and learn

The University campus offers a peaceful and tranquil haven, yet is right on the doorstep of the bustling city. So whether you’re looking for some quiet downtime to study or fancy a big night out, you’re never far from where you want to be.

Our campus
Striking architecture and 250 acres of parkland make for the stunning setting of our campus, which also boasts a whole range of amenities. You’ll find bars, shops, travel agents, opticians and major banks, as well as an art gallery, museum and concert hall all on site. Plus there is the added benefit of a full-time security team.

The University is investing £300 million over five years in new facilities for students and researchers. Recently, we have opened a new student hub in our Aston Webb Building, a brand new hall of residence, Chamberlain, in the Vale Village and the Institute of Translational Medicine, to ensure pioneering research is transformed into medicines and treatments for patients.

Green Heart
The Green Heart will be a vast landscaped park at the heart of our historic campus, with a range of spaces for activities ranging from ceremonial occasions to public performances. It will feature and showcase some of our extensive range of cultural collections and be a place for meeting and relaxing all year around.

Sports Centre
Opened in 2017, Sport & Fitness, our new sports facility, features an exceptional range and quality of facilities for everyone from beginner to elite athlete. It is the University’s biggest investment in sport to date and underlines the University’s commitment to sport at all levels. There has never been a more exciting time to get involved with sport at the University.

Library
Opened in 2017, our outstanding new library provides state-of-the-art facilities for our students – incorporating new ways of learning and studying alongside the traditional. All study spaces allow students to work from multiple devices, and flexible training rooms have been incorporated in the design to allow the development of academic skills training and to support all modes of independent self-study. Desks in the light and airy new building are all near windows and benefit from stunning views across campus.
Why study at Birmingham?
Be part of a vibrant community of students and staff making real-world impact by addressing past, current and future challenges in the fields of social work and social policy.

The research-led teaching on our flexible degree courses ensures an inspirational and enquiry-based learning environment in the lecture theatre, seminar room, and on placement. You will graduate as a highly employable, independent global citizen with a broad range of transferable skills.

You will study on one of the most attractive and heritage-rich campuses in the country only a few minutes from the centre of Birmingham; the only UK city featured in the Rough Guide top ten cities in the world to visit.

The learning environment
Our cutting-edge teaching portfolio is built on a foundation of over a hundred years of research and teaching excellence. You will shape your own intellectual development with us through a range of study methods. The learning experience extends way outside of the lecture theatre. Fieldwork, both in the UK and overseas, is an essential element of our degree programmes.

Our city
As England’s second city and home to the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth games, Birmingham is a thriving, vibrant place to live. Multicultural, commercial and contemporary, it also boasts a rich history and heritage.

When you study here, you’ll find it’s not just the perfect base for your work – it’s also the perfect place to begin your career and set down the foundations for a successful future.

Easily accessible from and to the rest of the UK, Birmingham is just two hours from London by train, and Birmingham Airport is around half an hour away from the city centre.

Birmingham highlights
All tastes are catered for in Birmingham. In the city centre alone, more than 200 restaurants serve food from 27 countries. Home to the famous Balti Triangle, this includes over 100 Balti houses, attracting more than 20,000 visitors each week while Chinatown offers tasty cuisine from across Asia.

In your leisure time, you’ll find a huge range of activities to keep you entertained and occupied. Shopping areas include the famous Bullring and Grand Central, Resorts World, the ever growing Jewelry Quarter, and The Mailbox with its designer stores and upmarket restaurants. Birmingham also hosts a range of markets, including the famous German market at Christmas.

If you are looking for some culture, then you’ll find plenty on your doorstep; including the diverse quarters in Digbeth, Cadbury World, concert arenas such as the O2 Academy, Custard Factory, Genting Arena, Symphony Hall and Arena Birmingham. You’ll also find art galleries such as our very own Barber Institute situated on campus, and the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery. With all this and so much more, you’ll always find something to do.
This leaflet was written several months in advance of the start of the academic year. It is intended to provide prospective students with a general picture of the programmes and courses offered by the School. Please note that not all programmes or courses are offered every year. Also, because our research is constantly exploring new areas and directions of study some courses may be discontinued and new ones offered in their place.