


RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

Excellence and impact are at the core of our politics and international relations research portfolio. We conduct high-quality, original studies that inform policy in the UK and internationally, on aspects of the discipline ranging from public policy and global governance to electoral politics and political theory.

Our academics include leading scholars in the study of governance and democratic innovations, and researchers addressing the normative implications of contemporary issues such as migration, citizenship, natural resources and drone warfare. The high calibre of our research is recognised in a range of qualitative and quantitative empirical methods.

We have research expertise across a range of areas:

- public policy and administration
- comparative politics
- public opinion and electoral behaviour
- democratic innovations
- migration and citizenship
- political theory and philosophy
- international relations
- security studies
- global governance
- research methods

 **Find out more:**
www.southampton.ac.uk/pg-pol

UK enquiries:
enquiry@southampton.ac.uk
+44 (0)23 8059 9699

International and EU enquiries:
international@southampton.ac.uk
+44 (0)23 8059 9699



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We are **5th in the UK** for research output*



Our researchers have won awards for their work on democratic innovations and understanding of British government



77% of our research is rated as world leading or internationally excellent*



Our research informs policy-makers in the UK and countries around the world



* Latest Research Excellence Framework, 2014

UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton

SHAPING THE POLITICAL AGENDA

POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
POSTGRADUATE COURSES 2020

FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE
RUSSELL GROUP

CHOOSE SOUTHAMPTON



Top 100
global university*



Top 20
UK university**



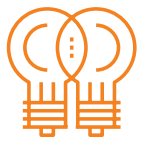
Top 10
in the UK for research intensity***



Our network of over **220,000 alumni** spans more than **180 countries**

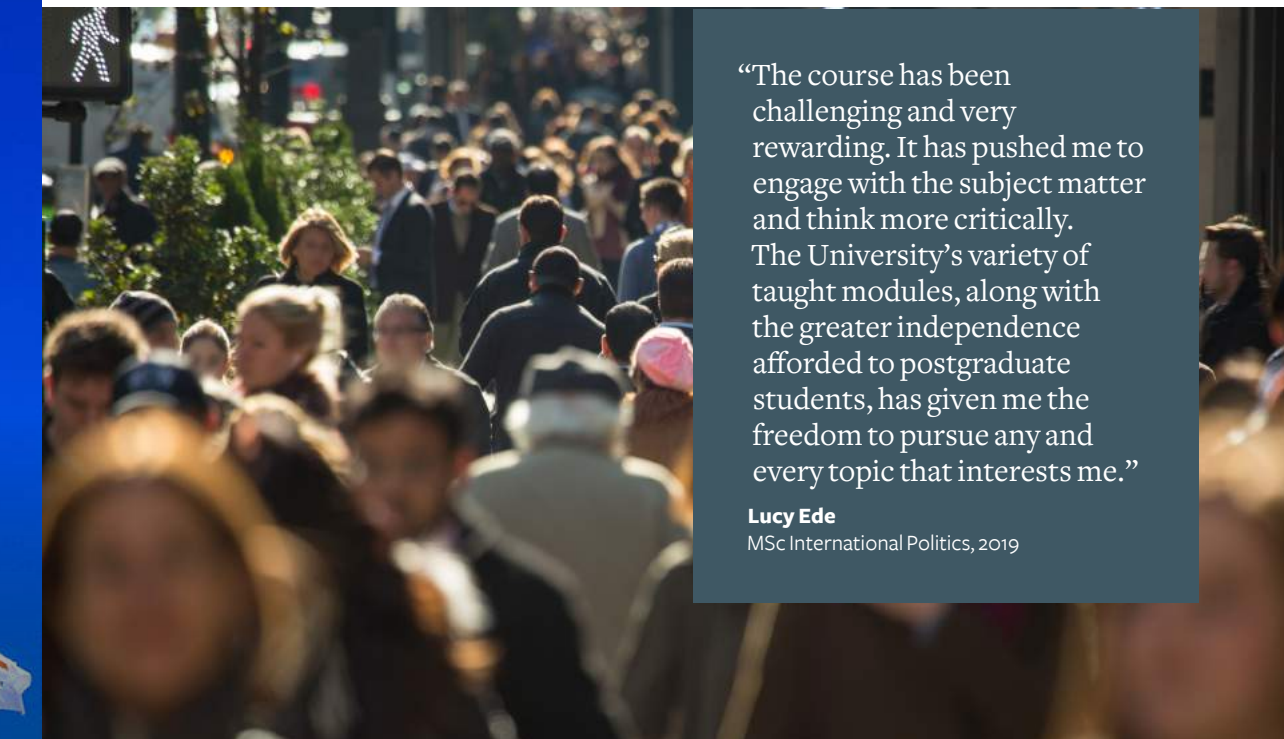
Over **96%**

of our research has been assessed as world leading and internationally excellent in the latest Research Excellence Framework***



Innovative learning and teaching through problem-based activities and workshops

*QS World University Rankings, 2020 **Complete University Guide, 2020 ***REF, 2014



“The course has been challenging and very rewarding. It has pushed me to engage with the subject matter and think more critically. The University’s variety of taught modules, along with the greater independence afforded to postgraduate students, has given me the freedom to pursue any and every topic that interests me.”

Lucy Ede
MSc International Politics, 2019

TAUGHT PROGRAMMES

Key facts

Unless otherwise stated

Entry requirements:

a UK bachelors degree with upper second-class honours or higher. See international equivalent qualifications www.southampton.ac.uk/pg/entry

English language: band G, Overall 7.0 with minimum of 6.5 in each component. For more information, visit www.southampton.ac.uk/pg/el

Assessment: coursework and/or examination

Duration: one year (full time)

Start date: end of September

Applying: University online application form with transcripts and two references

Closing date: 31 July, but early applications are encouraged, especially for international students needing to obtain a visa

Funding: www.southampton.ac.uk/pg/pol
Funding may also be available from the South Coast Doctoral Training Partnership: www.southcoastdtp.ac.uk

Note: optional modules run according to staff availability and student uptake



Find out more:

www.southampton.ac.uk/pg-pol

Or to have specific questions answered:

T: +44 (0)23 8059 4393

E: enquiry@southampton.ac.uk

We offer taught and research programmes at postgraduate level. Whatever path you choose, you'll learn from expert academics who conduct research within our four specialist research groups – Political Analysis, Political Theory, Public Policy and International Relations – and within the Centre for Citizenship, Globalization and Governance. The quality of our academics' work is reflected in our rankings; we are in the top five in the UK for research output (latest Research Excellence Framework, 2014).

MSc International Politics

Programme Director:
Steve Chisnall

This programme is designed to develop your understanding of issues such as globalisation, international relations and global governance. It explores theoretical perspectives in international relations, challenges in global politics, and how we might usefully analyse contemporary developments in terms of the changing balance of global power and the challenges of global coordination.

Programme structure

Core modules:
International Relations Theories; Philosophy of Social Science Research; Research Design and Practice

Optional modules:
four from a wide range in Politics and International Relations; one from Social Sciences

Plus dissertation

MSc International Politics (Research)

Programme Director:
Steve Chisnall

Recognised by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), this programme provides an opportunity to investigate current debates about the changing nature of global politics while receiving rigorous and extensive training in social science research methods. Successful ESRC-funded students will be eligible for a further three years' funding for PhD research.

Programme structure

Core modules:
One World, Many Theories; Understanding International Relations Theories; Philosophy of Social Science Research; Research Design and Practice

Optional modules:
two from a wide range in Politics and International Relations and Social Sciences

Plus dissertation



MSc International Security and Risk

Programme Director:
Steve Chisnall

Combining security studies, cyber security and risk analysis, this programme reflects a global political environment that demands new thinking. This multidisciplinary approach incorporates both the skills and the dimensions of understanding that are necessary for navigating the radically changed political landscape of the 21st century. Historical, social scientific, technological, and military factors are placed on an equal footing in order to grapple with contemporary problems and challenges. Using advanced research on risk analysis and decision making, you will be able to apply your skills and knowledge to address global security issues and the complex situations policymakers address every day.

Programme structure

Core modules:
Contemporary Security Challenges; Security Theory; Foundations of Cyber Security; Principles of Risk Management

Optional modules:
four from a wide range including Politics and International Relations, Criminology, Cyber Security and Decision Making.

Plus dissertation

Master of Public Administration (MPA) and MPA (Practice)

Programme Director:
Dr John Boswell

The MPA provides you with the knowledge and skills to analyse and manage processes of governance, policymaking, and administration at many levels of government. During this one-year degree you will choose from a variety of modules that allow you to explore the many dimensions of modern policymaking and administration and the mechanics of public policy design and implementation. You can also learn about the strategies that public and non-profit organisations use to respond to major policy problems and dilemmas, and the social effects of policy choices. You will receive training in research design and will undertake individual, original research as part of your dissertation.

If you choose the MPA (Practice), you will study over four semesters and undertake a compulsory placement at a governmental or non-profit organisation.

Programme structure

Core modules:
Comparative Public Administration; Research Design and Practice; Placement in Public Administration (if taking the MPA (Practice) programme)

Optional modules:
four from a wide range in Politics and International Relations and Social Sciences

Plus dissertation

RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

Key facts

Unless otherwise stated

Entry requirements: a UK bachelors degree with upper second-class honours and a Master of Science at Merit* or higher in a relevant subject (*typically between 60% and 69% in the UK) plus satisfactory performance at interview. See international equivalent qualifications www.southampton.ac.uk/pg/entry

English language: band F, IELTS 7.0 overall, with a minimum of 6.0 in all components. For more information, visit www.southampton.ac.uk/pg/el

Duration: three to four years (full time); up to seven years (part time)

Assessment: annual reports, confirmation, thesis and viva voce

Start date: September, though start dates throughout the year also considered

Applying: University online application form with transcripts, two references and research proposal

Closing date: none, but early application advised

Funding: funding may be available from the South Coast Doctoral Training Partnership: www.southcoastdtp.ac.uk
Funding may also be available from the University: www.southampton.ac.uk/pgp/pol

Fees: www.southampton.ac.uk/pg/fees



Find out more:

www.southampton.ac.uk/pg-pol

Or to have specific questions answered:

T: +44 (0)23 8059 1495

E: fss-pgr-apply@southampton.ac.uk



“The supervisors are very approachable, their support is invaluable. I've also really enjoyed the training in research methods.”

Nick Or
PhD Politics and International Relations, fourth year

Politics and International Relations PhD

Programme Director:
Dr John Boswell

We offer PhD programmes in many areas of political science, political theory and international relations in a highly stimulating and supportive environment. Topics range from democratic engagement to local governance, from policy studies to political accountability, from global justice to theories of citizenship, from development to nuclear security, and from world government to globalisation.

You will work with a supervisory team of at least two academic members of staff and consult with other members of staff as needed. We actively encourage our doctoral students to participate in academic conferences and submit articles to scholarly journals.

Our academics' groundbreaking research projects impact on national and international politics and policy processes and the latest Research Excellence Framework (2014) ranked us fifth in the UK for research output.

GLOBAL IMPACT

Politics and international relations research at Southampton is at the forefront of identifying major trends and challenges for contemporary governance, and developing solutions for improving the quality of democracy and government across the world.

For example, research by the Politics and International Relations department has influenced the UK government's approach to the concept of the Big Society, helping to shape the debate on behaviour change and how it relates to public sector reform in the UK and other countries.

Our research is also helping governmental and non-governmental organisations in the UK and around the world understand how they can respond to disenchantment with politics in democracies.

Professor Gerry Stoker led research that is developing guidelines on how organisations can better engage citizens and promote civic political participation.

WE ARE:



developing toolkits to measure access to medicines for policymakers in **Latin America**

at the forefront of research into **election polling** worldwide, informing the practices of survey organisations and the reporting of polls in the media



working with local government to explore ways to use **people's panels and citizen science** to engage with local communities and respond to their service needs

informing dialogue between government and migrant associations in Europe

HOW DO I APPLY?

Before applying for postgraduate taught study, you should:

- check you meet the entry requirements
- if applicable, ensure that you meet any special requirements for international students
- identify how you will fund your postgraduate study
- obtain supporting documentation to include as part of your application

APPLY NOW

Apply to Southampton for postgraduate taught degrees and for more information on PhD opportunities

 **Find out more:**
www.southampton.ac.uk/pg