“Edinburgh isn’t so much a city, more a way of life … I doubt I’ll ever tire of exploring Edinburgh, on foot or in print.”

Ian Rankin
Best-selling author and alumnus
For more than 400 years the University of Edinburgh has been changing the world. Our staff and students have explored space, won Nobel Prizes and revolutionised surgery. They’ve published era-defining books, run the country, made life-saving breakthroughs and laid the foundations to solve the mysteries of the universe.

Our distinguished alumni include NASA astronaut Piers Sellers, former M15 Director-General Dame Stella Rimington, Olympians Sir Chris Hoy and Dame Katherine Grainger and historical greats such as philosopher David Hume, suffragist Chrystal Macmillan, who founded the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, and physicist and mathematician James Clerk Maxwell.

International collaboration
An internationally renowned centre for academic excellence, we forge world-class collaborations with partners such as the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Stanford University, the University of Melbourne, Peking University, the University of Delhi and the University of Kwazulu-Natal. As a member of the League of European Research Universities and the Coimbra Group, we link up with leading institutions across Europe.

Linking research and commerce
We were one of the first UK universities to develop commercial links with industry, government and the professions. Edinburgh Innovations promotes and commercialises our research excellence and can assist you in taking the first step to market, through collaborative research, licensing technology or consultancy.

Enhancing your career
We are committed to embedding employability in your University experience and have an impressive track record for graduate employment. From volunteering schemes to our sector-leading careers service, we provide you with opportunities to develop your skills, knowledge and experience, giving you an edge in the competitive job market.

TOP 50
We’re consistently ranked one of the top 50 universities in the world. We’re 20th in the 2020 QS World University Rankings.

4TH
We’re ranked fourth in the UK for research power, based on the 2014 Research Excellence Framework.*

83%
The majority of our research – 83 per cent – is considered world leading or internationally excellent.*

TOP 100
We are ranked in the top 10 in the UK and in the top 100 in the world for the employability of our graduates.†

£403m
In 2017/18 we won £403 million in competitive research grants.

19
There are 19 Nobel Prize winners who are alumni of the University or have been members of academic staff here.

22ND
We’re ranked 22nd in the world’s most international universities.‡ Since 2010, we have taught students from more than 160 countries.

* Times Higher Education, Overall Ranking of Institutions
† Times Higher Education, Global Employability University Ranking 2018
‡ Times Higher Education: The World’s Most International Universities 2019

Influencing the world since 1583
Taught programmes

The School of Social & Political Science offers a range of taught postgraduate study opportunities including professional training, online learning, and masters programmes designed to take your career to the next level, or prepare you for academic research.

Most of our programmes are offered either as a full master of science (MSc) or as a postgraduate certificate (PgCert). However, we also offer a master of social work (MSW).

We have an intellectually vibrant community at postgraduate level and attract a diverse body of students from across the world. Providing a meeting place for cultures and perspectives is a valuable part of the taught postgraduate experience that we offer.

Many of our taught postgraduate programmes have a very interdisciplinary nature, with subject areas from across the School and the University coming together to provide a postgraduate learning experience that is unique and unrivalled.

Our taught postgraduate programmes are grouped into themes that reflect our expertise across key areas, as well as the demand for highly qualified graduates in these areas:

• Global Health Policy (pages 4-5)
• International Development (pages 6-8)
• Politics & International Relations (pages 8-12)
• Science, Technology & Innovation Studies (page 13)
• Social Anthropology (pages 14-15)
• Social & Political Science (page 15)
• Social & Public Policy (page 17)
• Social Work (page 19)
• Sociology (pages 20-21)

Global Health Policy

Global Health Policy programmes

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/384

Global Health Policy

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description

Over the course of the last decade, global health has received dramatically increased attention, both as an emergent academic discipline and in terms of heightened policy salience. Global health concerns have become a central component of foreign and security policy and of development and human rights agendas, and have reshaped debates regarding the social impacts of global economic and environmental change.

Finding answers to the key questions confronting global health policy and practice is vital. Through this programme you will explore the issues that shape population health and build the knowledge and skills necessary to address them.

From the impact of globalisation and the recent development of influential global health partnerships to the complex relationships between health objectives and the trade policies of leading states, you’ll learn to understand, critically appraise and apply key concepts and theories within policy studies, international political economy and public health science.

Situated within the Global Health Policy Unit, this programme offers innovative research-led teaching that draws on academic expertise from disciplines including public health, political science, social policy, economics, medicine, epidemiology, geography and anthropology. Our location within the School of Social & Political Science gives students access to an academically challenging but friendly and supportive environment and diverse postgraduate courses offered in one of Europe’s leading centres of social science research.

This programme is affiliated with the University’s Global Health Academy: www.ed.ac.uk/global-health

Programme structure

You will complete two compulsory courses and a number of option courses. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available. Following the taught courses, you will work towards an independently researched dissertation and may be able to undertake a placement.

Career opportunities

This highly regarded qualification will improve your chances of securing rewarding roles. Recent graduates have taken up employment and research positions with NGOs, health agencies, government departments and international organisations. We have structured the programme to enable you to undertake a placement during your dissertation, ensuring you graduate with valuable experience and contacts. The transferable skills you gain in areas such as communication and research will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your eventual career.

A number of our students, particularly from social science backgrounds, use this programme to prepare for applications to medical school or a PhD programme. Our programmes are also recognised for training purposes by the UK Faculty of Public Health, and a number of practising doctors undertake study with us.

Entry requirements

A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ internationalgraduate-entry).

English language requirements

See page 40.

Fees and funding

For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director

Dr Sudeepa Abyeyesinghe

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www.ed.ac.uk/pg/780

Global Health Policy

Programme description

From the impact of globalisation and the development of global health partnerships, to the complex relationships between health objectives and the trade policies of major states, this programme is designed to develop your capacity to understand and critically appraise key population health issues and to apply concepts and theories within policy studies, international political economy and public health science. Adopting a global focus, the programme guides you through the social, economic and political processes which shape health and its determinants. Drawing ideas from a range of disciplines, it encourages you to develop a critical awareness of the roles played by the state, the commercial sector, civil society and international organisations in shaping health and health policy.

You will have access to staff at the front-line of global health research and practice, based in the Global Health Policy Unit. Moreover, you will benefit from the varying backgrounds and experiences of your peers via online forums and classrooms, as well as the full learning resources of the University. Our programme is designed to maximise interaction, allows you to tailor your course choices and dissertation topic to your personal interests, and can be undertaken around your work or family commitments.

Programme structure

The programme’s flexible structure allows you to balance your studies with your other commitments. For example, you can either condense courses into two semesters, or spread a lighter workload across three semesters. Courses are taught entirely online, using a combination of video lectures, guided readings, group and solo writing tasks, live seminars, discussion boards and other activities.

The breadth of expertise across the Global Health Policy Unit and the wider University is reflected in the broad scope of option courses available on the programme. You will take one compulsory course, choose from a predefined list of core-option courses, and select freely from a pool of other option courses. All students are required to undertake the final year dissertation course.

Career opportunities

Our students come from a diverse range of professional, personal, disciplinary and geographical backgrounds. Many use our programme as an investment to develop their careers or to move into a more policy-focused role, though the programme also has an academic orientation and is therefore good preparation for further research at PhD level. On graduating, you will have the skills you need to help these organisations respond to a range of key global issues, from the emergence of new pandemics and antibiotic resistance, to the role of private actors in strengthening health care systems, to the challenge of regulating multinational corporations as part of efforts to combat non-communicable diseases.

Entry requirements

A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ internationalgraduate-entry).

English language requirements

See page 40.

Fees and funding

For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director

Dr Eleanor Brooks

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International Development programmes
www.ed.ac.uk/pg/622

African Studies

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This MSc offers you an innovative route to gain understanding and skills to address the complex, interrelated problems facing the world today. It is a multi-level online programme that offers distinct qualifications following completion of each of the three stages. Each stage is a postgraduate certificate in its own right that takes a multidisciplinary approach to global challenges from its own distinct perspective.

PgCert Global Development Challenges, delivered by the School of Social & Political Science, considers the increasing economic, social and political inequalities that are shaping Africa in the 21st century. It is the longest running programme offered by the Centre of African Studies, one of the world’s leading centres of Africa-focused knowledge and research, and is designed to give a forward-thinking and evidence-based perspective on contemporary issues. Grounded in the disciplines of anthropology, politics and history, with a suite of exciting new option courses, including Peace and Conflict, Economic Change, and Transitional Justice – the MSc will develop your diverse research and career goals. It also provides research training necessary for a strong foundation in area-specific knowledge for students who wish to progress to PhD study. The programme is suitable for anyone looking to strengthen their Africa-specific research skills or broaden their knowledge base, whether they are well-acquainted with African issues or looking to develop a new, more nuanced understanding of this dynamic global region.

Programme structure
You will take two compulsory courses and four options, including courses on African politics, public health, transitional justice, gender and development, mineral extraction and Africa’s postcolonial history. A variety of teaching and extracurricular events will enhance your learning. After the taught courses, you will work towards your independently researched dissertation. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available.

Career opportunities
Past students have continued on to doctoral programmes in the UK and overseas, and to careers related to, or in, Africa with non-governmental organisations, international organisations, governments, universities and the private sector. In addition, you will develop a range of highly transferable skills, such as communication and project management, and research skills, which can be applied to roles in any field. Recent graduates are now working in development policy and practice for organisations such as Community Aids Response and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in The Hague.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/internationalgraduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
Dr George Karekwivanane
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International Development

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/923

Global Challenges

MSc 3 yrs PT

Programme description
This MSc offers you an innovative route to gain understanding and skills to address the complex, interrelated problems facing the world today. It is a multi-level online programme that offers distinct qualifications following successful completion of each of the three stages. Each stage is a postgraduate certificate in its own right that takes a multidisciplinary approach to global challenges from its own distinct perspective.

PgCert Global Development Challenges, delivered by the School of Social & Political Science, considers the increasing economic, social and political inequalities that are shaping Africa in the 21st century. It is the longest running programme offered by the Centre of African Studies, one of the world’s leading centres of Africa-focused knowledge and research, and is designed to give a forward-thinking and evidence-based perspective on contemporary issues. Grounded in the disciplines of anthropology, politics and history, with a suite of exciting new option courses, including Peace and Conflict, Economic Change, and Transitional Justice – the MSc will develop your diverse research and career goals. It also provides research training necessary for a strong foundation in area-specific knowledge for students who wish to progress to PhD study. The programme is suitable for anyone looking to strengthen their Africa-specific research skills or broaden their knowledge base, whether they are well-acquainted with African issues or looking to develop a new, more nuanced understanding of this dynamic global region.

Programme structure
You will take two compulsory courses and four options, including courses on African politics, public health, transitional justice, gender and development, mineral extraction and Africa’s postcolonial history. A variety of teaching and extracurricular events will enhance your learning. After the taught courses, you will work towards your independently researched dissertation. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available.

Career opportunities
Past students have continued on to doctoral programmes in the UK and overseas, and to careers related to, or in, Africa with non-governmental organisations, international organisations, governments, universities and the private sector. In addition, you will develop a range of highly transferable skills, such as communication and project management, and research skills, which can be applied to roles in any field. Recent graduates are now working in development policy and practice for organisations such as Community Aids Response and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in The Hague.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/internationalgraduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
Dr Sam Spiegel
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See also...
You may also be interested in PgCert Global Development Challenges, offered by the School of Social & Political Science, PgCert Global Environment Challenges, offered by the School of Geosciences, PgCert Global Health Challenges, offered by the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine.

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/prospectus-request

International Development

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/681

Programme description
This programme engages critically with international development thinking and practice, and more broadly with processes of social, political and economic transformation across the global South. It is designed to suit the needs of both recent graduates of various disciplines, and professionals with two or more years’ experience who want to shift career gears and broaden their academic qualifications, or take a year out to reflect critically on their work. Although most students will move on after one year, those who have related jobs, some may use the programme as a pathway into PhD in International Development (see page 28). We realise the importance of offering practical experiences to complement our critical and historical approaches in the classroom. An integral part of the programme – and one of our advantages compared to other masters programmes in international development – is placement-based dissertations. These consist of eight weeks of on-location research with a host organisation, generally in a low- or middle-income country, but also sometimes in the UK. Our extensive network of partners includes NGOs, charities, social enterprise, think tanks and government bodies. Alternatively, you can explore an academic issue or theme in greater depth by choosing to complete a research dissertation based on fieldwork and/or print and library sources.

Programme structure
You will take your MSc over two semesters (September to April). There are three compulsory courses, on the historical evolution and paradigm shifts in politics and theories of development, the lived experience of development process for practitioners and recipients, and the contemporary issues and institutions of relevance to development policy and practice. The remaining three courses may be chosen from a list of options offered across the University, drawing on the expertise of faculty members within political and social science and beyond, including those in geography, geosciences, and other areas belonging to the Global Development Academy: www.ed.ac.uk/global-development

From May to August you will complete either a placement-based dissertation or a standard research dissertation.

Career opportunities
This programme provides multidisciplinary training and perspectives on development theory, policy and practice that is intended to equip you for careers in government, international development agencies, consultancy and private business. Recent graduates are now working in teaching and research, public policy and civil service for employers including the United Nations, the British Council, UK Trade & Investment, the Government of New Brunswick and the Milanese Chamber of Commerce. The opportunity to apply your academic training to real-world problems and acquire hands-on work experience through the placement and project will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your career objective.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/internationalgraduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
Dr Aaron Kappeler
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The University of Edinburgh
Social & Political Science Postgraduate Opportunities 2020

Taught masters programmes

www.sps.ed.ac.uk

The University of Edinburgh
Social & Political Science Postgraduate Opportunities 2020

International Development

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/681

Programme description
This programme engages critically with international development thinking and practice, and more broadly with processes of social, political and economic transformation across the global South. It is designed to suit the needs of both recent graduates of various disciplines, and professionals with two or more years’ experience who want to shift career gears and broaden their academic qualifications, or take a year out to reflect critically on their work. Although most students will move on after one year, those who have related jobs, some may use the programme as a pathway into PhD in International Development (see page 28). We realise the importance of offering practical experiences to complement our critical and historical approaches in the classroom. An integral part of the programme – and one of our advantages compared to other masters programmes in international development – is placement-based dissertations. These consist of eight weeks of on-location research with a host organisation, generally in a low- or middle-income country, but also sometimes in the UK. Our extensive network of partners includes NGOs, charities, social enterprise, think tanks and government bodies. Alternatively, you can explore an academic issue or theme in greater depth by choosing to complete a research dissertation based on fieldwork and/or print and library sources.

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From May to August you will complete either a placement-based dissertation or a standard research dissertation.

Career opportunities
This programme provides multidisciplinary training and perspectives on development theory, policy and practice that is intended to equip you for careers in government, international development agencies, consultancy and private business. Recent graduates are now working in teaching and research, public policy and civil service for employers including the United Nations, the British Council, UK Trade & Investment, the Government of New Brunswick and the Milanese Chamber of Commerce. The opportunity to apply your academic training to real-world problems and acquire hands-on work experience through the placement and project will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your career objective.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/internationalgraduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
Dr Aaron Kappeler
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The University of Edinburgh
Social & Political Science Postgraduate Opportunities 2020

Taught masters programmes

www.sps.ed.ac.uk
International Development programmes (continued)

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/945

International Development

MSc 24-36 mths PT
Pg Dip 24 mths PT

Programme description
This is a flexible part time programme that you can study from anywhere in the world. It combines the best and latest online teaching platform with dedicated, personalised support to help you deepen your understanding and engagement with the most pressing challenges confronting people, societies and institutions in low- and middle-income countries and beyond.

The programme delves into debates around poverty and growth, injustice and inequality, social and environmental change, migration and refugees, gender, and power dynamics. This allows you to acquire an outstanding combination of interdisciplinary regional expertise, including politics, history, economics, and sociology, with a critical knowledge of international development theory and practice.

The programme is designed for both recent graduates of various disciplines, and professionals with work experience who are looking to change careers, acquire new academic qualifications, or take some time out to reflect critically on their work.

Programme structure
You will study four core courses: Politics and Theories of International Development; Global Development Challenges; Analysing Development; and Exploring International Development, and two option courses. MSc students also complete a dissertation.

All the courses are delivered through short lecture clips, videos, core texts and podcasts. There are weekly readings and you will engage with the material through asynchronous discussion boards and activities, including blog writing, producing policy briefs, mind maps and academic posters, and writing a group wiki. In addition Q&A sessions take place through live online seminars that are recorded for students who are not able to participate at that time.

Career opportunities
While many graduates of this programme have gone on to further study and academic careers, many have taken up positions in a wide range of international organisations, government institutions, development organisations, educational, commercial organisations including Rolls Royce and Vodafone. The transferable skills you gain in areas such as communication and problem solving will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your eventual career.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ international)(graduate entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director Dr Kate Symons Dr Jean-Benoît Falisse (Sep-Dec)
Email k.symons@ed.ac.uk / j.falisse@ed.ac.uk

Politics & International Relations programmes

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/811

Global Environment, Politics & Society

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This is a truly interdisciplinary programme, combining environmental politics, ethics and environmental sociology.

It provides a social science-based, practice-oriented understanding of global environmental challenges and the sustainability issues such as climate change, sustainable development and biodiversity requires knowledge about the political, moral and societal dimensions of environmental problems and solutions.

This programme will provide you with knowledge and analytical tools to address questions such as:

• Are meaningful environmental agreements possible in a system of sovereign states?
• Is the environment more than an economic resource for human exploitation?
• What drives groups, individuals or institutions to take action on environmental issues?
• What is the effect of such mobilisation?

This programme is affiliated with the University’s Global Environment & Society Academy; www.ed.ac.uk/gbglobal-environment-society

Programme structure
Teaching methods: include seminars, group work, lectures, presentations and guided independent study. You will be assessed through coursework, seminar assessment and presentations. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available. You will also undertake a supervised research dissertation, in which you will complete a project based report with an NGO, government department, political party or business over the spring and summer.

Career opportunities
While many graduates of this programme have gone on to further study and academic careers, many have taken up positions in a wide range of international organisations, government institutions, development organisations, educational, and commercial organisations including NATO and the United Nations, the European Union’s Commission and Parliament, regional and national government institutions, development organisations, educational, research and think tank organisations, banking, media, lobbying, and commercial organisations including Rolls Royce and Vodafone. The transferable skills you gain in areas such as communication and problem solving will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your career.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ international)(graduate entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director Professor Elizabeth Bomberg
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www.ed.ac.uk/pg/103

International & European Politics (including European Practitioner Pathway)

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
Developed in response to the enormous political challenges facing societies in Europe and beyond, this programme offers an advanced understanding of the contemporary world, concentrating on international relations, European studies and comparative and regional studies.

You'll explore in-depth key theories, issues and controversies, and have the opportunity to pursue interdisciplinary studies and develop your interests in a large and intellectually stimulating community. Guest lectures and various seminar series will make an important contribution to your academic programme, bringing prominent international scholars and practitioners to Edinburgh to present current research and perspectives.

Programme structure
Teaching will be by lectures, seminars, group work and guided independent study. You will complete two compulsory courses and four option courses, after which you will work towards an independently researched dissertation. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available. In the second semester you will have the choice to embark on the European Practitioner Pathway (conditional on performance in semester 1 coursework). This will allow you to do a six-to-eight week work-based project and write a practice-related report on your work placement as an alternative to the classic dissertation.

A highlight of this academic year is our study trip to Brussels, when we visit multiple international organisations and meet with practitioners, including those in our vibrant Edinburgh University Brussels Society.

Career opportunities
While many graduates of this programme have gone on to further study and academic careers, many have taken up positions in a wide range of international organisations, government institutions, development organisations, educational, research and think tank organisations, banking, media, lobbying, and commercial organisations including Rolls Royce and Vodafone. The transferable skills you gain in areas such as communication and problem solving will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your eventual career.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ international)(graduate entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director Dr Carmen Gebhard (Sep - Dec) / Dr Chad Damro (Jan - July)
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Email c.gebhard@ed.ac.uk / chad.damro@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/406

International Political Theory

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This programme aims to equip you with the intellectual skills to analyse contemporary international affairs from a philosophically informed perspective, with a particular focus on their ethical dimensions. In the next few decades, we could face unprecedented political, economic and social issues that relate to justice, rights, political obligation and forms of government are being analysed beyond their nation-state context in light of increasing global integration.

This political theory programme looks at contemporary international issues critically and normatively, examining the rights and wrongs of international affairs as well as their global political and economic consequences.

Among the attractions of this programme is the inclusion of an innovative compulsory course, Contemporary Political Theory: Engaging in Current Research. This course is structured around a series of seminars in which prominent scholars are invited to present recent research. Students are thus able to meet established scholars and debate their work in person. The idea is to enable you to gain not only an understanding of the topics taught but also an insight into how political theorists conduct their research.

Programme structure
Teaching will be by lectures, seminars, group work and guided independent study. You will complete two compulsory courses and four option courses, after which you will work towards an independently researched dissertation. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available. With the agreement of the Programme Director, you may select option courses from elsewhere within the University.

Career opportunities
This programme will give you the theoretical foundation for further study and a career in academic teaching and research. Alternatively, you may apply for employment with a career relating to international political policy. Recent graduates are now working for employers such as KPMG and Deloitte. The transferable skills you gain in areas such as communication and problem solving will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your eventual career.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ international)(graduate entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director Dr Mihaela Mihai
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See also...

Some of the School of Social & Political Science's taught programmes listed here are closely related to those in other Schools and Colleges, particularly Edinburgh Law School.

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/prospectus-request
Politics & International Relations programmes (continued)

International Relations

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This programme studies international relations and the pressing problems humanity faces in the international realm. By joining this fascinating programme, you’ll become part of a community that is passionate about international relations. We explore topics such as war, terrorism, power, diplomacy, climate change, trade, poverty, migration and international cooperation; not just their study, but also ways to meet the associated challenges.

Our approach combines innovative research with creative and inspirational teaching, provided by staff who combine intricate knowledge of the major international institutions with a deep appreciation of historical change and the most important ideas in international thought.

You’ll be inspired to explore a world of possibilities, from evolutionary psychology and the sociology of the financial crisis to state survival in the Middle East and the social construction of security.

Programme structure
The programme will be delivered through lectures, seminars, group work and guided independent study. You will complete two compulsory courses and four option courses, followed by work towards an independently researched dissertation. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available.

With the agreement of the Programme Director, you may select option courses from elsewhere within the University.

Career opportunities
This qualification could lead to a career in a wide range of institutions and roles, such as regional, national and international government institutions, party political support, development organisations, educational, research and think tank organisations, banking, media, lobbying, and commercial organisations.

Recent graduates are now working for the United Nations, the National Trust for Scotland, AECOM, EY, Moody’s Analytics, the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Scottish Widows. You may also choose to work in international/graduate-entry roles, such as regional, national and international government institutions, party political support, development organisations, educational, research and think tank organisations, banking, media, lobbying, and commercial organisations.

In addition to your work on your taught masters programme, you may wish to take advantage of opportunities to learn Persian or Turkish while at the University.

In addition to your work on your taught masters programme, you may wish to take advantage of opportunities to learn Persian or Turkish while at the University.

You’ll acquire a strong understanding of theoretical and conceptual tools required to understand Middle East international relations.

Programme structure
The programme will be delivered through lectures, seminars, group work and guided independent study. You will complete two compulsory courses and four option courses, after which you will work towards an independently researched dissertation. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available.

In addition to your work on your taught masters programme, you may wish to take advantage of opportunities to learn Persian or Turkish while at the University.

Career opportunities
The specialist knowledge you acquire through this programme will equip you for a career relating to international/Middle Eastern relations, either in academia or with an international institution. In addition, the transferable skills you gain in areas such as communication and research will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your eventual career.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry) in politics, international relations, or the social sciences. We may also consider your application if you have a different background but have taken courses relevant to the programme.

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
Dr Shaina Western
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The University of Edinburgh
Social & Political Science Postgraduate Opportunities 2020

Politics & International Relations programmes (continued)

International Relations of the Middle East with Advanced Arabic

MSc 2 yrs FT

Programme description
This MSc offers an intensive Arabic language programme (including a period spent in an Arabic-speaking country) with an advanced theoretical and empirical understanding of the international relations of the Middle East. You will study the international politics and culture of the Middle East while learning to communicate, to an advanced level, in its dominant language. This will include a period of study in an Arabic-speaking country. No prior study of Arabic is required.

Programme structure
The programme will be delivered through lectures, seminars, group work and guided independent study followed by an independently researched dissertation. You will complete four compulsory courses and two option courses, as well as a programme of intensive Arabic language studies that will involve oral and written exams. You may also take language courses in Persian and Turkish, although they will not count towards your qualification.

Career opportunities
The specialist knowledge you acquire through this programme will equip you for any career relating to international relations, particularly of the Middle East, either in academia (after further study) or with an international institution. Your Arabic language skills will be invaluable in many contexts including academia, media and the NGO sector.

In addition, the transferable skills you gain in areas such as communication and research will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your eventual career.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry). You should also have Arabic language skills at a level between CEFR B1 and C1 to be a good fit in the relevant courses.

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
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International Relations of the Middle East with Innovation & Governance

MSc 2 yrs FT

Programme description
This programme aims to equip you for a career relating to international relations, particularly of the Middle East, either in academia (after further study) or with an international institution. Your Arabic language skills will be invaluable in many contexts including academia, media and the NGO sector.

In addition, the transferable skills you gain in areas such as communication and research will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your eventual career.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
Dr Ronan Bolton
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Science, Technology & Innovation programmes

Science, Technology & Innovation in Society

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This programme is designed to equip you for a career relating to international relations, particularly of the Middle East, either in academia (after further study) or with an international institution. Your Arabic language skills will be invaluable in many contexts including academia, media and the NGO sector.

In addition, the transferable skills you gain in areas such as communication and research will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your eventual career.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
Dr Ronan Bolton
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Science, Technology & Innovation

MSc 2 yrs FT

Programme description
This MSc offers an intensive Arabic language programme (including a period spent in an Arabic-speaking country) with an advanced theoretical and empirical understanding of the international relations of the Middle East. You will study the international politics and culture of the Middle East while learning to communicate, to an advanced level, in its dominant language. This will include a period of study in an Arabic-speaking country. No prior study of Arabic is required.

Programme structure
The programme will be delivered through lectures, seminars, group work and guided independent study. You will complete three compulsory courses and three option courses, as well as a programme of intensive Arabic language studies, which will involve oral and written exams. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available. You may also take language courses in Persian and Turkish, although they will not count towards your qualification. Your second year of study will culminate in an independently researched dissertation.

Career opportunities
The specialist knowledge you acquire through this programme will equip you for any career relating to international relations, particularly of the Middle East, either in academia (after further study) or with an international institution. Your Arabic language skills will be invaluable in many contexts including academia, media and the NGO sector.

In addition, the transferable skills you gain in areas such as communication and research will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your eventual career.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
Dr Jamie Allinson
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Science & Technology

MSc 2 yrs FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This MSc offers an intensive Arabic language programme (including a period spent in an Arabic-speaking country) with an advanced theoretical and empirical understanding of the international relations of the Middle East. You will study the international politics and culture of the Middle East while learning to communicate, to an advanced level, in its dominant language. This will include a period of study in an Arabic-speaking country. No prior study of Arabic is required.

Programme structure
The programme will be delivered through lectures, seminars, group work and guided independent study. You will complete three compulsory courses and three option courses, as well as a programme of intensive Arabic language studies, which will involve oral and written exams. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available. You may also take language courses in Persian and Turkish, although they will not count towards your qualification. Your second year of study will culminate in an independently researched dissertation.

Career opportunities
The specialist knowledge you acquire through this programme will equip you for any career relating to international relations, particularly of the Middle East, either in academia (after further study) or with an international institution. Your Arabic language skills will be invaluable in many contexts including academia, media and the NGO sector.

In addition, the transferable skills you gain in areas such as communication and research will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your eventual career.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
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Science, Technology & Innovation

MSc 1 yr FT

Programme description
This programme is designed to equip you for a career relating to international relations, particularly of the Middle East, either in academia (after further study) or with an international institution. Your Arabic language skills will be invaluable in many contexts including academia, media and the NGO sector.

In addition, the transferable skills you gain in areas such as communication and research will give you an edge in the employment market, whatever your eventual career.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
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Social Anthropology programmes

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/299

Medical Anthropology

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Social Anthropology

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This programme studies health, illness and healing from a cross-cultural perspective. With a focus on the understanding of health, illness and medicine in a globalised world, this programme allows you to engage with contemporary debates about known and emerging diseases, and explore both traditional forms of healing and modern medical technologies.

You’ll examine key questions in current medical anthropology from the perspective of both medical and social sciences, and address relevant issues, such as: the way encounters between patients and professional healers are negotiated in varied cultural settings; the importance of political, economic and historical analysis to an understanding of the body; and the health-related effects of globalisation.

Intended for a diverse range of students, this distinctive and interdisciplinary programme will complement your background in anthropology or health sciences.

This programme is affiliated with the University’s Global Health Academy and Global Development Academy, which support and develop global interdisciplinary research, teaching and partnership links:

www.ed.ac.uk/global-health
www.ed.ac.uk/global-development

Programme structure
Teaching combines lectures, seminars and tutorials, and you will produce essays and assessed coursework. The programme works in close collaboration with the Global Public Health Unit and other subjects in the School of Social & Political Science. You will complete two compulsory courses and four option courses. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available.

Career opportunities
You will gain the conceptual and methodological skills to understand contemporary health practices in a wider context of social, political, and economic problems, and be able to work in academic and applied health research. The programme also acts as a conversion MSc for those without training in anthropology who wish to progress to a research career. In addition, you will develop a range of highly transferable skills, such as communication and project management, which can be applied to roles in any field.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/internationalgraduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

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Social & Political Science programmes

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/310

Social Research

Social Research with Quantitative Methods

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
PgCert 1 yr FT/2 yrs PT intermittent (UK/EU students only)

Programme description
These programmes are designed to provide a firm grounding in the theory, philosophy and methods of social research, as well as opportunities to develop an area of substantive interest within the social sciences. They combine compulsory training in a combination of quantitative and qualitative social research skills with the essentials of research design; you’ll graduate with an in-depth understanding of the key issues, approaches and techniques of research in the social sciences, and the ability to conduct quality social research of value to the public, policymakers, professionals, and the academic community.

The quantitative methods pathway combines advanced statistical and data analysis skills with substantive social science theory. It draws on expertise from the University of Edinburgh Q-Step Centre, which is based in our School: www.q-step.ed.ac.uk

Practical application of your skills is also a priority, and you will have the option to complete a placement-based dissertation. Our programme has been uniquely chosen within the School for the Student Awards Agency for Scotland’s (SASS) Postgraduate Loans (Scotland and EU) scheme. Recognised as research training by the Economic and Social Research Council, the programme is also eligible for the Open Societies Foundation grant scheme.

Programme structure
The programme will be delivered through lectures, seminars, group work and guided independent study. You will complete four compulsory courses and two option courses, then work towards an independently researched dissertation. Courses range from those offering an overview of theories and methods to those examining specific issues such as kinship, gender, development and religion. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available.

Career opportunities
Past students of this programme have gone on to doctoral research in anthropology, while others have been very successful in securing places both in the UK and overseas in a wide variety of careers – from journalism to working in non-governmental organisations. You will also develop a range of highly transferable skills, such as communication and project management, which can be applied to roles in any field. Recent graduates are now working for employers such as the United Nations, Refugee Action and Police Scotland.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/internationalgraduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

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Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
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For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.
Social & Public Policy programmes

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/301

Comparative Public Policy

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This programme provides intensive analytical training in the systematic comparison of social and public policies from an international perspective. It helps develop substantive knowledge in a wider range of policy fields around topical issues such as policy evaluation, policy learning and policy transfer.

Amid the ongoing debate on Scotland’s role within the UK, we offer the ideal environment in which to observe contemporary public policy developments. You’ll focus on variation in national policy patterns within and beyond Europe, with a view to understanding how and why nations differ in their social and public policies and what they can learn from each other’s experience in key contemporary policy concerns, including labour market, work-life balance, health, social care, inequality and welfare issues, education policy and child-oriented policy and practice.

Programme structure
Teaching combines lectures, seminars and tutorials, plus a combination of essays and assessed coursework. You will complete two compulsory courses and four option courses. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available. In addition, you will complete an independently researched dissertation. You can undertake a standard dissertation or produce a placement-based dissertation which can be undertaken in the UK or abroad. For more details on placement-based dissertations see page 38.

Career opportunities
Highly relevant to anyone who works, or intends to work, in policy-relevant professions in the public, private or non-governmental sectors, this programme will develop highly transferable analytical, communication and project management skills, which can be applied to roles in any field. In the past, students have gone on to employment in the public, private and third sector both locally and internationally or progressed to PhD study.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/International/graduated-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
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See also...
Some of our taught masters programmes are closely related to those in other schools and colleges. You may be interested in programmes offered by other schools, particularly Biological Sciences, Education and Sport; Literatures, Languages & Cultures; Philosophy; Psychology & Language Sciences; Health in Social Science; or Geosciences.

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/prospectus-request
Social Work programmes

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/634

Advanced Professional Studies (Mental Health Officer Award)

PgCert 1 yr PT (UK/EU students only)

Programme description
This programme is for qualified social workers wishing to practise as mental health officers (MHOs). It has been designed by, and is delivered in partnership with, 12 local authorities in the east of Scotland. It focuses upon the role of the MHO in relation to relevant Scottish legislation. In addition to the taught elements, students undertake two periods of assessed MHO practice. Under Section 32(2) of the Mental Health Care and Treatment (Scotland) Act 2003, local authorities have a statutory duty to appoint and provide training for MHOs to undertake mandatory MHO responsibilities, enshrined in legislation: namely the 2003 Act, but also the Adults with Incapacity Act 2000 and the Criminal Proceedings (Scotland) Act 1995. Our primary aim is to provide the required MHO qualification in partnership with the East of Scotland MHO Award Partnership.

Programme structure
The programme comprises 14 taught days and six days of online learning over two semesters. You will also undertake two periods of practice learning (37 days and 32 days), organised and supported by your employing local authority. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available.

Career opportunities
This qualification is for qualified social workers wishing to practise as mental health officers (MHOs).

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/International/graduate-entry), or a recognised qualification in social work and at least two years’ relevant experience in social work practice. If you are a qualified social worker but you do not hold a degree-level qualification, you may ask for special consideration when applying. You must be employed, supported and seconded by one of the 12 employing local authorities within the East of Scotland MHO Partnership catchment area.

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director: Dr Pearse McCusker
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www.ed.ac.uk/pg/991

Global Mental Health & Society

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
Mental health and wellbeing are crucial global health and social welfare policy concerns with significant resources and research focused on this area. Mental health is emerging as a hybrid academic discipline concerned with improving equity and quality of mental health services. This interdisciplinary programme will offer you opportunities to develop social science perspectives on global mental health policy, practice and research. You will develop a critical understanding of how conceptions of distress and mental health are socially, culturally and politically constructed in different contexts and theorise the intersections between social and economic development and mental health. You will acquire effective interdisciplinary approaches to address the mental health development interface, tools for conceptual and practice innovation in global mental health, and the intellectual space to create transformative possibilities in global mental health.

Graduates will be able to:
- critically engage with key conceptual and policy debates in global mental health, applying contextually appropriate perspectives;
- apply concepts, theories and methods from diverse disciplines, such as social work, medical anthropology, clinical psychology, psychiatry and development studies;
- independently apply, integrate and critically reflect on interdisciplinary approaches to global mental health;
- critically assess complex societal issues from an open-minded, reflexive and reasoned perspective;
- communicate effectively with a variety of audiences; and
- critically apply the knowledge acquired to inform future global mental health programmes, practice, policies and research.

The programme will be of interest to experienced professionals and recent graduates with backgrounds in social work, international development, health studies, public health, psychology, nursing, medicine, social and medical anthropology and other social science disciplines.

Programme structure
The programme consists of three compulsory courses, three option courses and a dissertation. Compulsory courses will engage you in ongoing debates, enhancing your understanding of current research, policy and practice on global mental health and enable interdisciplinary and contextualised understandings of mental health. A core feature of the programme will be an emphasis on critical analysis of the theoretical, conceptual, and policy underpinnings of transformative global mental health praxis. You will be able to access options from disciplines including social work, medical anthropology, global public health, international development and clinical psychology.

Career opportunities
Graduates will be suited for careers in global mental health policy, implementation, and research and will be qualified to undertake similar careers within the UK health sector.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/International/graduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director: Dr George Palattiyil
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Sociology programmes

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/936
Digital Society
MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This programme will provide you with a rigorous introduction to the sociological study of digital society and digital culture. It will introduce you to the theoretical and methodological issues that arise when sociologists investigate the increasing prevalence of digital technologies and infrastructures in everyday life. It will also allow you to study the social conditions (economic, political, and cultural) that give rise to such technologies and their circuits of power. You may study specialised topics including the sociological analysis of digital technology and new forms of data on the fields of contemporary culture, work and labour, leisure, health, education, government and law, and finance. Primarily intended for those with some background in the social sciences, the programme is also suitable for anyone who wants to understand and learn to study, analyse and critique digital technologies and the complex ways in which they shape society, social institutions and culture.

Programme structure
This programme combines seminar teaching with individual research supervision leading researchers in the emerging field of digital sociology. Compulsory courses provide a sociological perspective and prepare you for your independent dissertation research. Four further option courses can address digital media, social and cultural theory, and research training needs as you prefer. The dissertation, a piece of self-designed research with supervisory support, allows you to put your personal stamp on your studies.

Career opportunities
You will be well-positioned for a range of careers in the public, private, and third sectors, particularly digital research or digital media design and development. The programme is also suitable for those who wish to engage with digital technology and data in their own personal lives or on a wider scale as an activist, artist, manager, practitioner or policymaker. You may go on to undertake roles in social media analysis, internet research, journalism, education, or law and government. The programme also offers progression to a PhD in social research and you will gain highly transferable skills in research, communication and project management applicable to roles in many fields.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/internationalgraduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

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国民党

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/305
Nationalism Studies
MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This is an interdisciplinary programme designed to give you an understanding of nationalism that is broad in scope and theoretically informed, while also tailored to your specific interests within the field. Here in Edinburgh we have a unique perspective on the study of nationalism. The recently established national-level democratic institutions, along with the independence debate, give you a first-hand view of the cultural, historical and political background of nationalism. This programme also addresses the conflict and oppression that can be engendered through nationalism, and the global changes that can be brought about by national identities, ideologies and interests. You'll gain a comprehensive knowledge of the central concepts and major theories of nationalism, and identify key issues and problems through comparative and case study approaches.

Programme structure
The programme will be delivered through lectures, seminars, group work and guided independent study. You will complete two compulsory courses and four option courses then work towards an independently researched dissertation. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available.

Career opportunities
Drawing on the communication and research skills provided by the programme, our students have gone on to undertake professional internships and secure jobs at governmental, non-governmental, educational and commercial institutions across the world, such as the Canadian and Scottish Governments and the European Centre for Minority Issues. Graduates have also gone on to doctoral programmes at Edinburgh and around the world, pursuing study across the social sciences and humanities. Importantly, our students make strong friendships and connections that last long after their studies on the programme.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/internationalgraduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
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www.ed.ac.uk/pg/643
Sociology & Global Change
MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This programme provides core teaching in the ideas and approaches of sociology as applied to understanding social order and social change globally and internationally. It explores the local impacts of global processes, and global impacts of local processes. This programme will give you a good understanding of global processes of social change, and allow you to explore topics of personal interest in depth, both through coursework and in a supervised dissertation project.

Career opportunities
You will become part of a community led by international experts working on globally involved topics, in one of the UK’s best departments for research and teaching. In the last Research Excellence Framework the University of Edinburgh’s sociology research was ranked first in the UK for research power (Research Fortnight/REF 2014), with 83 per cent of our work rated world leading or internationally excellent.

Programme structure
You will take compulsory courses that give you a sociological perspective and prepare you for independent dissertation research. Your four further option courses can address digital global processes, social theory and research training, as you prefer. Please visit the programme website for more detailed information on the courses typically available. The dissertation, a piece of self-designed research with supervisory support, allows you to put your personal stamp on your studies.

Career opportunities
This programme is relevant if you are seeking employment in consultancy, the public sector, UN agencies, non-governmental organisations, the private sector or think tanks, or as an academic, practitioner or policymaker. Past students have gone on to undertake roles in development and international aid, the public sector, academia/think tanks, migration NGOs, environment and conservation, law and journalism.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/internationalgraduate-entry).

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director
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www.sps.ed.ac.uk
Research at the School of Social & Political Science

The School of Social & Political Science boasts an outstanding range of subjects and research centres, with more than 200 academic staff supporting nearly 400 postgraduate researchers.

We offer a mix of research programmes – MSc by Research and PhD – across the following areas:

- African Studies
- Global Health Policy
- International Development
- Politics & International Relations
- Science, Technology & Innovation Studies
- Medical Anthropology
- Social Anthropology
- Social Policy
- Sociology
- Socio-Cultural Studies
- South Asian Studies
- Social Work

**Programme types**

**PhD**
A PhD is the highest academic research qualification entailing research training and supervised research over a three-year period.

**Entry requirements**
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry). Most PhD programmes also require a UK masters degree with an overall mark of 65 per cent or its international equivalent. Please check the specific entry requirements for your programme online before applying.

**MSc by Research**
A one-year programme assessed by research coursework, examination and a dissertation designed to prepare you for advanced research. We offer MSc by Research Science, Technology & Innovation Studies; and Social & Political Science.

**Entry requirements**
A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry). Please check the specific entry requirements for your programme online before applying.

**Career opportunities**
Many of our graduates use a research programme as a platform for a career in academia, or postdoctoral research, internationally. Others have found work in international development, the charities sector, the civil service or in business, with organisations such as the International Red Cross, the United Nations, and the World Bank.

**Subjects and disciplines**
We support research in the following areas:

**Politics and international relations**
Research in politics and international relations explores the theory, practice and ethics of politics and governance. We cover a broad area of expertise, from local policy to global governance, political theory to empirical studies, constructivism to rational choice approaches. Much of our work focuses on the exciting challenges posed by new institutional settings: devolution, European integration, and multilateral cooperation. Empirical research is complemented by strong political theory, analysing issues of justice, rights and legitimacy in European and international relations. We also address challenges of governance in environmental, security, governance, including work on themes such as constitutional change, political participation, privatisation and the role of organised civil society and expertise in policy making. We specialise in the comparative politics of countries in Europe, Russia, Africa and North America.

**Science, technology and innovation studies**
The University has an international reputation in all aspects of the study of science, technology and innovation in society. With the founding of the Science Studies Unit in 1964 came pioneering work in the sociology of scientific knowledge. Likewise, the establishment of the Research Centre for Social Sciences in 1984 produced innovative and interdisciplinary research, public policy advice and consultancy on the socioeconomic aspects of technology and innovation.

These two bodies have come together to form the Science, Technology and Innovation Studies subject group (STIS). STIS also hosts two interdisciplinary research institutes – Innovgen and the Institute for the Study of Science, Technology and Innovation.

**Social anthropology**
Social anthropology at Edinburgh has a thriving research culture, bringing together academic staff, a lively and cosmopolitan body of postgraduate researchers, and a growing number of postdoctoral fellows. In recent years we have won significant funding from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the British Academy, and the Leverhulme Trust, as well as non-academic partners such as the Department for International Development. We have an excellent record of success in recent ESRC and British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship schemes. Our strengths include: the anthropology of politics; kinship, personhood and ritual; film, media and the aesthetic; anthropology in practice; and medical anthropology.

**Social policy**
We conduct cutting-edge research on a variety of core areas of social and public policy, including the labour market, health, crime, education, social security, family policy and gender equality. Our research also encompasses questions of governance, including work on themes such as constitutional change, political participation, privatisation and the role of organised civil society and expertise in policy making.

Social policy is an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary field of study, operating especially at the intersections of economics, political science and sociology. While we have substantial expertise on social policy in Scotland and the UK, much of the work conducted in our Social Policy group is international and comparative in nature. Social policy is a field of study of obvious societal significance and we are committed to
Research at the School of Social & Political Science (continued)

disseminating our work beyond the academic community, seeking to have impact on policy and practice in Scotland and beyond. The School places a strong commitment to drawing upon and advancing intellectual and theoretical developments in the social sciences, and to contributing to methodological innovation in both quantitative and qualitative research in social and public policy.

Social work

As social work academics, we see our role as not only producing research and pursuing scholarship, but also encouraging the use of research in practice.

Although we conduct a large amount of our research in Scotland, reflecting our core interest in legislation, policy and practice he and knowledge commitment to research in the European and wider international arena. This is reflected in the work supervised by our PhD students and academic staff.

We have been involved in a range of research projects on topics as diverse as youth justice, community mental health in India, HIV and asylum seekers, communicating with children in child protection and linking administrative data for child welfare research.

Sociology

Our work focuses on the interweaving of individual lives, social processes and historical change. Edinburgh is one of the world’s leading centres of the empirical study and theorisation of identity, nations, and nationalism. It takes a leading role in research on intimate relations, emotions, social demography and processes of marginalisation. Renowned for its work on political sociology, narrative and auto/biography as well as the social studies of finance, it also offers an exciting new focus on digital sociology and cultural sociology. Critical sociology – the re-examination of the foundations of the discipline – remains a theme much of the above work. The area is an increasing focus of events and symposia, including our annual Goffman Lecture.

Research centres

Centre of African Studies

Founded in 1962, we are the only academic unit in Scotland dedicated to the study of Africa. Drawing on a proud history of links between Scotland and Africa, from the 19th-century missionaries who played a major role in southern Africa to 20th-century African leaders, such as Edinburgh alumnus Julius Nyerere, the Centre of African Studies brings together African expertise from across the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, and beyond.

Centre of Canadian Studies

We offer opportunities to develop research projects that focus directly on Canada or study Canada in relation to broader research on the Arctic, Scotland, the UK, Europe, North America and developing regions. Our interdisciplinary approach provides opportunities for joint supervision with experts from across the University. The Centre’s activities are currently supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Foundation for Canadian Studies in the UK, and Foreign Affairs & International Trade, Canada.

Centre for Research on Families and Relationships

The Centre for Research on Families and Relationships is a partnership between six Scottish universities: Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Glasgow Caledonian, Highlands and Islands, and Stirling. We probe forms and disseminate high-quality social research based on qualitative and quantitative approaches. Our research programmes encompass a broad array of themes and inform policy, practice and debate in Scotland, the UK and internationally.

Centre for Security Research (CeSeR)

CeSeR is an interdisciplinary centre that aims to promote and link diverse forms of security research across disciplines. It connects the increasing number of University researchers who work on security from social and political science, law, business, psychology, informatics, divinity, history, geoscience, engineering, and elsewhere. CeSeR is based in politics and international relations in the School of Social & Political Science and was established in 2015.

Security was once a matter of war and international relations alone, but has become a pressing issue for potentially any area of research or policy. Security challenges have become multidimensional and crosscutting, ranging from traditional security topics such as war and military alliances to new insecurities including human security, cyber security, environmental resource conflicts, pandemics, global terrorism, environmental crises, health threats, resource disruption and critical infrastructure breakdown. The multidimensional nature of security and insecurity demands the multidisciplinary perspective that CeSeR provides.

Centre for South Asian Studies

Our Centre for South Asian Studies is one of the major UK research centres focused on the affairs of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Whatever the topic, staff at the Centre work with students to make the study of South Asia come alive. In addition to a lively seminar series featuring graduate students, staff, and leading figures from across the world the opportunity to be heard in Edinburgh, the Centre also organises workshops and conferences on topical themes.

Edinburgh Centre for Medical Anthropology

This centre is dedicated to the anthropological study of the body, health and medicine. Medical anthropology, a subfield of social anthropology, applies anthropological ideas, comparative theories and methodologies to the study of global health problems. While the increasing move towards interdisciplinary teams and research, medical anthropology has far more to offer than just the application of qualitative research methods. This field occupies a unique niche in the rapidly growing group of social sciences that investigates health and illness.

Europe Institute

Founded in 1968, the Europa Institute is one of the longest-established specialist centres for advanced European integration. The Institute brings together world-class scholars on EU law, politics, and policy, and supports a vibrant community of early-career research fellows and postgraduate research students. Our work straddles the School of Social & Political Science and Edinburgh Law School. The Institute is a pre-eminent centre for the study of the European Union and enjoys close collaborations with leading research scholars in European Union studies and practitioners from across the world. The Europa Institute has been designated a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence by the European Commission in recognition of its high-quality research and teaching.

Global Development Academy

The Global Development Academy has been created to harness the University’s international teaching, research and partnership to ensure Edinburgh plays a role in contributing solutions to world problems. Researchers at the School of Social & Political Science work at the heart of the Global Development Academy, teaching the majority of the Academy’s MSc programmes and supervising its PhD students, who typically work on interdisciplinary research projects.

Global Health Policy Unit

This unique, cross-disciplinary team of researchers and lecturers is committed to addressing the major global health policy challenges facing countries of all income levels. Our world-leading research and expertise allow us to offer practical solutions for decision-makers at all levels of governance, and collaborate with intergovernmental organisations and others. Much of the work undertaken within the GHP Unit focuses on four areas: information and communication technologies; energy technologies and environmental innovation; life science innovation; and the historical sociology of science, technology and medicine.

Innogen Institute

The Innogen Institute conducts internationally recognised research for practical impact and innovation in life science and related advanced technology areas. We consider the business models and value chains that need to be developed to translate new scientific discoveries to practical use, how smarter approaches to regulation can help support innovation that better meets societal needs, and how stakeholders can most effectively participate in governance processes.

With a distinctive focus on globalisation and expertise and research on life science innovation in Africa, India and China, in addition to Europe and the US, our research outputs are used in decision-making, ongoing debates and academic agendas.

The Institute has an Ethics Forum, which supports academic and public debate on the ethical dimensions of contemporary concerns, with standing groups addressing the research and teaching themes of the University’s Global Academies.
Research opportunities

African Studies

PHD 3 yrs FT (6 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Research environment
Since its foundation in 1962, the Centre of African Studies (CAS) has expanded research activities from its core disciplines of history, politics, social anthropology and education to include many other fields, including law, business and management studies, sociology, gender studies, environment and development, and religious studies. African Studies doctoral students will receive regular one-to-one thesis supervision from two supervisors with expertise in their research areas. As well as having access to a wide range of methodological courses and training resources in the School of Social & Political Science, you are encouraged to participate in the Centre’s weekly research seminar series, which features a wide range of influential scholars. A series of workshops are given throughout the academic year that help prepare you for various stages of the PhD and offer guidance on career choices. Recent graduates are now working for the Department for Work & Pensions, IHS Country Risk and Forecasting, and for universities worldwide.

Outstanding collections
The city of Edinburgh and the University both have superb resources for the study of Africa. The National library of Scotland has major collections relating to Africa, especially through the Church of Scotland’s mission papers. The University Library has built up one of the finest collections of African studies texts in the UK. Through the UK’s Standing Conference on Library Materials on Africa, the library additionally has an obligation to maintain collections on Zambia and Malawi. CAS organises weekly seminars for visiting scholars and also holds an annual international conference.

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Contact: Dr Andrew Bowman
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Global Health Policy

PHD 3 yrs FT (6 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Research environment
This programme aims to provide rigorous postgraduate training to those interested in pursuing interdisciplinary research across public health and the social sciences. It offers structured training towards research, either for a PhD or a masters by research, as a solid basis for a research career. The Global Health Policy Unit (GHPU) was established to carry out and disseminate research in health policy and provide exceptional postgraduate teaching. Focusing on the principles of equity, access and universality, we have gained an international reputation for the quality and social relevance of our research. Our research is organised around the following four intersecting themes, each of which is central to contemporary policy debates:

• Commercial sector and public health
• Health systems and global governance
• Social determinants of health and public policy
• Science, advocacy and health policy.

GHPU staff have a history of conducting outstanding research and of playing a leading role in debates around the impact of current policies on public health and social inequalities. We contribute to the world’s leading peer-reviewed journals and to professional journals, as well as the wider media.

Collaborative culture
We offer PhD students a supportive research environment in which you’ll find senior academics and research fellows working together on team-based projects. Students studying for the PhD are encouraged to contribute to GHPU’s ongoing projects. All postgraduates researching public health policy are encouraged to take part in seminars and to take advantage of training courses run at School, College and University level.

English language requirements
See page 40.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

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“I’m currently working with the National Museum of Scotland, Perth Museum and Art Gallery and the University of Aberdeen Collection, where I’ve been on research visits to explore the exchange of argillite art through the fur trade.”

Kaitlin McCormick, from Ontario, Canada, PhD
Research opportunities are formulated.

Dr Spiegel, Senior Lecturer in International Development at the School’s Centre of African Studies, is giving a voice to these miners, who are often overlooked when industry regulations are formulated.

Project background

There is a recognised need to make mining in developing nations more environmentally and economically sustainable. Dr Spiegel has discovered that the livelihoods of small-scale miners are often ignored when policies and regulations are developed, particularly those that relate to trans-boundary pollution (for example, mercury pollution) and health inequalities. His global research drew on interviews with mining communities, lending institutions and policymakers to investigate government-led environmental initiatives and donor-funded projects, and the way in which they take into account the socioeconomic challenges facing small-scale miners. The results of his research showed a lack of formal recognition of marginalised miners, leaving most mining-related policy frameworks with significant weaknesses. His research also showed that tightening environmental regulation without addressing the needs of artisanal miners criminalises the way in which these communities make their living and survive.

Project results

Dr Spiegel’s research has changed attitudes towards artisanal mining, with the Minamata Convention now making allowances for the industry’s specific needs (for example, in allowing the use of limited quantities of mercury). He has also advised policymakers and NGOs from Africa, Asia and South America on implementation of these new regulations, resulting in improved environmental management and lifestyles in many rural developing areas. Regional artisanal miners’ associations, such as the Zimbabwe Artisanal and Small-Scale for Sustainable Mining Council, have also benefited from the research.

Dr Spiegel’s research has changed attitudes towards artisanal mining.

See more online: www.ed.ac.uk/research/impact

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Case study: Edinburgh’s research with impact

Mining and resource governance

With artisanal and small-scale mining providing livelihoods to an estimated 80–100 million people worldwide, governance of the industry is a major issue. Research carried out by Dr Sam Spiegel, Senior Lecturer in International Development at the School’s Centre of African Studies, is giving a voice to these miners, who are often overlooked when industry regulations are formulated.

Support and training

Postgraduates in our International Development group will receive regular one-to-one thesis supervision from two supervisors with expertise in their research area. Doctoral students will enjoy special opportunities to meet development policymakers, practitioners, diplomats, and internationally recognised academics visiting the Global Development Academy. In addition, they will be invited to join research workshops hosted by the Global Development Academy and regular open research seminars held by subject areas across the School of Social & Political Science.

The University of Edinburgh is host to a thriving and cosmopolitan community of researchers working on global development challenges. The University of Edinburgh is home to internationally renowned academics working at the intersection of international development policy and health, science/technology, religion, migration, energy, urbanisation, mining and human rights, as well as regional centres of expertise in Africa and South Asia. Doctoral students in International Development become part of a vibrant, interdisciplinary research community, and members of the Global Development Academy, which coordinates research and teaching on international development across the University. We also welcome students who are keen to develop doctoral research projects in collaboration with third parties (NGOs, multilateral/bilateral agencies, campaign groups, or media organisations).

English language requirements

See page 40.

Fees and funding

For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Contacts

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See more online: www.ed.ac.uk/pg/850
Research opportunities

Dr Harshan Kumarasingham

Fees and funding

Most of our recent graduates have gone on to research and academia of doctoral studies. This programme includes courses in research design and methodology skills. The Graduate School provides a suite of ESRC-recognised research training courses for social science students across the University. We have an exciting package of flexible, web-based training courses in line with the increased emphasis on advanced training throughout the course of doctoral studies.

Major research focuses include:

- political theory, especially war ethics, environmental ethics and professional practitioners with staff and students interacting with the public, academic practitioners and policymakers in mutually enriching ways.

- nationalism, democratic transition, civil society and institution building;
- public policy: including health, welfare, environment, competition, and governance;
- political theory, especially war ethics, environmental ethics and theories of freedom;
- gender and politics.

Support and training

This programme includes courses in research design and methodology skills. The Graduate School provides a suite of ESRC-recognised research training courses for social science students across the University. We have an exciting package of flexible, web-based training courses in line with the increased emphasis on advanced training throughout the course of doctoral studies.

Most of our recent graduates have gone on to research and academia of doctoral studies. Others find private sector employment for organisations such as KPMG.

English language requirements

See page 40.

Programme Contact
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Research environment

The University of Edinburgh has an international reputation as a leading centre of research for the social study of science, technology and innovation. Edinburgh scholars work around the globe on the social, political and historical aspects of science, technology and medicine. Particular research strengths include:

- the history and philosophy of science and technology;
- the historical and sociological studies of medicine and health care;
- the politics of controversies and public engagement with science and technology;
- science, technology and gender;
- data, digital technologies and society;
- food, agriculture and security;
- energy, environment and sustainability;
- the social dimensions of science, technology and innovation in low and middle income countries.

Facilities

Research library and archive facilities in Edinburgh are outstanding. All research students are members of the Graduate School of Social & Political Science, with full access to the Graduate School’s facilities in the Chrystal Macmillan Building. Other library and archive facilities include the University’s Main Library, the National Library of Scotland and the Scottish Records Office. Proximity to the Scottish Parliament and other institutions of national government provides further research opportunities.

English language requirements

See page 40.

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Fees and funding

For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Contact
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Social & Political Science

Research environment

For students looking to undertake doctoral-level research in social and political science subject areas, this programme will give you the necessary skills through a structured programme of research training.

The MSc by Research (MScR) is different from our other programmes in that, typically, taught masters have more focus on subject-relevant substantive topics rather than acquiring the skills to undertake advanced research, which is the focus of this degree. You will have the opportunity to undertake research training alongside an independent research project, supported by a supervisor.

Your expertise and interests range across the following subject areas:

- African Studies
- Global Health Policy
- International Development
- Medical Anthropology
- Politics and International Relations
- Social and Public Policy
- Social Anthropology
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Sociocultural Studies
- South Asian Studies.

Your application must clearly state the subject area you are interested in and the potential supervisor you have contacted.

Support and training

You will join our lively research community and participate in regular seminars and workshops, and, if a PhD student, an annual retreat. Frequent seminars and lectures by visiting scholars provide opportunities for contacts beyond the University.

Facilities

Research library and archive facilities in Edinburgh are outstanding. All research students are members of the Graduate School of Social & Political Science, with full access to the Graduate School’s facilities in the Chrystal Macmillan Building. Other library and archive facilities include the University’s Main Library, the National Library of Scotland and the Scottish Records Office. Proximity to the Scottish Parliament and other institutions of national government provides further research opportunities.

English language requirements

See page 40.

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Fees and funding

For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

See more online: www.ed.ac.uk/research/impact
Research opportunities

“Living in Edinburgh has been a hugely rewarding experience. The city has much to offer in terms of research resources, and it is also a great place to live as a student.”

Kaitlin McCormick, from Ontario, Canada, PhD

Social Anthropology

PHD 3 yrs FT (6 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Research environment

Our Social Anthropology group forms an international centre of excellence for postgraduate training, recognised as one of the premier research departments in the UK. Applied research includes policy-related work on asylum seekers, non-governmental organisations, sustainable development and participatory rights. Our regional expertise is not confined to Scotland and the UK but includes Europe, Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia, and North and South America. Particular research strengths include:

• law and justice
• politics, governance and the state
• nationalism and citizenship
• war, violence and displacement
• medicine and health
• science and technology studies
• history and theory of anthropology
• development and environment
• kinship and relatedness
• death and the limits of the body
• material culture, identity and memory
• contemporary hunter-gatherers
• linguistic anthropology
• urban anthropology
• anthropology of landscape.

Support and training

The PhD programme combines work on your thesis project, usually based on long-term fieldwork, with systematic training in anthropological and social research skills. The Graduate School provides a suite of ESRC-recognised research training courses for social science students across the University. We are developing an exciting package of flexible web-based training courses in line with the increased emphasis on ongoing training throughout the course of doctoral studies.

English language requirements

See page 40.

Fees and funding

For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Director

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Social Policy

PHD 3 yrs FT (6 yrs PT for UK/EU students)

Research environment

The Social Policy group at the University of Edinburgh is one of the oldest and most respected in the UK and among the most highly ranked for the quality of its research and postgraduate training. We offer supervision across the whole subject range, with particular substantive expertise in children, families and family policy, health, education policy, labour markets and social security. We also supervise projects on constitutional change (including devolution and European integration), governance and policy making and political participation. Research students in social policy can receive expert instruction and guidance across the range of social science methods, including advanced quantitative techniques. We have a particularly strong reputation in international and comparative social policy research.

Support and facilities

Research students in social policy access formal training provided through the Graduate School of Social & Political Science, and are supported to participate in courses and summer schools outside University, for example through the Scottish Graduate School of Social Science. A rolling programme of professional development training is coordinated by the School's student development office. You will be allocated two supervisors for your individual research project, but are strongly encouraged to join and be an active member of wider research groups and clusters in the subject area and to participate in our active seminar programme. Students meet regularly in the dedicated Social Policy Doctoral Seminar to present and comment on work-in-progress and critically discuss cutting-edge research in the subject.

English language requirements

See page 40.

Fees and funding

For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Contact

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Social Work

PHD 3 yrs FT (6 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Research environment

Our social work researchers have excellent links with professional and social work services in statutory and voluntary sectors. The research interests of staff cover the full range of applied social specialisms and theoretical issues in social work. Our research areas include children and families, mental health, child protection, domestic abuse, welfare, disabilities, criminal justice, refugees, fostering and adoption. International and European perspectives are also part of academic staff interests. We have a strong commitment to knowledge exchange with practice and policy colleagues.

Support and training

Together with students in all disciplines across the School, you will undertake research methods courses in first year (and second year if part time) before proceeding with your thesis. Each student has two supervisors with the possibility of the second supervisor coming from an outside discipline. There are regular group meetings, especially in year one, between staff and students. Our work is enriched by the perspective of both international students and UK/EU students who are experienced professionals studying part time while working.

English language requirements

See page 40.

Fees and funding

For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Contact

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Socio-cultural Studies

PHD 3 yrs FT (6 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Research environment

Socio-cultural studies attracts people with social science backgrounds who wish to work on interdisciplinary topics, and also those from an arts or humanities background who want to gain skills and experience in social research. Our PhD students can apply to the Arts & Humanities Research Council and some have already been successful in applications for doctoral research funding to the AHRC.

Support and training

You will work with a supervisor on an original research dissertation and participate in advanced sociology research training workshops, work-in-progress seminars and a writing workshop. The Graduate School provides a suite of research training courses for social science students across the University. We are developing an exciting package of flexible, web-based training courses as well as training in innovative methods addressing topics such as visual sociology, or web-based training courses, or both.

English language requirements

See page 40.

Fees and funding

For fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

Programme Contact

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www.ed.ac.uk/pg/324
www.ed.ac.uk/pg/323
www.ed.ac.uk/pg/325
www.ed.ac.uk/pg/312
**South Asian Studies**

**Research environment**

Edinburgh has one of the largest concentrations of South Asianists in the UK, constituting a wide range of expertise. Examples of our recent research include: the study of social, historical and anthropological aspects of Joint Forest Management Agreements in India; socio-historical research on the Indian Uprising of 1857; sociological and human geographical aspects of secondary schooling in north India; and sociological and anthropological aspects of pharmaceuticals in India and Nepal.

Other cross-disciplinary areas where students are particularly welcome include: the historical and contemporary study of religion (Buddhism, Islam, Christianity and Hinduism) and South Asian societies; gender, family and population; development processes; migration; violence; nationalism and caste; the media; the South Asian diaspora; and contemporary politics and identity.

The PhD combines work on an individual thesis project with systematic training in research skills. The Centre for South Asian Studies hosts regular research seminars, workshops and conferences.

**Outstanding collections**

The University’s Main Library has many manuscripts in oriental languages originating from the countries of the Middle East and South Asia. You will have access to rich library and archive resources across the University including divinity and Celtic and Scottish studies. You will also have access to the National Library of Scotland (holding the papers of several Viceroys of India) and the Scottish National Record Office.

**English language requirements**

See page 40.

**Fees and funding**

See page 40 for fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

**Programme Contact**

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**Sociology**

**Research environment**

Sociology at Edinburgh is one of the premier research units in the UK. In the last Research Excellence Framework our sociology research was ranked first in the UK for research power (Research Fortnight, REF 2014). We have a longstanding commitment to original empirical and theoretical work on society, and to the production of cultural and scientific knowledge. Many of our graduates use the programme as a foundation for their own future research or for an academic career.

We work closely with other colleagues in the School and supervise many cross-disciplinary projects. Applications are particularly welcome from students wishing to specialise in:

- autobiography and narrative studies
- comparative sociology
- digital sociology
- South Asian studies
- Southern Africa
- family and intimate relations
- innovation in genomics
- medical sociology
- political sociology
- nationalism studies
- constitutional change and governance
- social studies of finance and markets
- social, cultural and feminist theory
- gender, inequality and social stratification
- work, consumption and organisations
- Scottish society and politics
- science and technology studies
- sociology of emotions

**Support and training**

You will work with a supervisor on an original research dissertation and participate in advanced sociology research training workshops, work in progress seminars and a writing workshop. The Graduate School provides a suite of ESRC-recognised research training courses for social science students across the University. We are developing an exciting package of flexible, web-based training courses in line with the increased emphasis on ongoing training throughout your doctoral studies.

**English language requirements**

See page 40.

**Fees and funding**

See page 40 for fees see page 40 and for funding information see page 42.

**Programme Contact**

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About the School of Social & Political Science

The School of Social & Political Science provides an intellectually vibrant teaching and research environment, boasting an international community of more than 280 world-class academic staff and 800 postgraduate students.

The School was established to promote a culture of interdisciplinary research and collaboration across various subject areas, research groups and centres. These include: the subject areas of politics and international relations, social anthropology, social policy, social work, sociology and science, technology and innovation studies; the Centres of Canadian Studies, African Studies and South Asian Studies; and an array of specialist institutes and centres for the study of governance, public policy, global development, the EU, families and relationships; criminal justice, social work and innovation in genomics.

The School is one of Europe’s leading lights for research in the social sciences. In the last Research Excellence Framework (REF), 77 per cent of our submitted research was rated world leading or internationally excellent and all of our assessed research units were ranked in the UK top 10 for either research power or research quality (Research Fortnight, REF 2014). Our research has recently attracted large grants from the Economic and Social Research Council, European Research Council (ERC) and the Leverhulme Trust, among others.

With faculty members coming from across the world, and many dynamic international research collaborations, the School has outstanding global connections. Edinburgh is a member of the League of European Research Universities, a 21-strong partnership of Europe’s top multi-faculty universities, and the Coimbra Group, a network of 40 European universities, including some of the oldest and most prestigious on the continent.

The Graduate School
Our international and interdisciplinary approach cuts across traditional social science boundaries, bringing together outstanding teachers and researchers from across the University to inspire and challenge you.

We attract a diverse body of students from across the world, some continuing their studies straight after undergraduate degrees, others returning to study after a period of employment. Over the past five years a half of our postgraduate students have come from outside the UK. Providing a meeting place for cultures and perspectives is a valuable part of the experience we offer here in the School of Social & Political Science.

Facilities and resources

Your postgraduate experience will take place within our historic campus, centred around the attractive buildings of George Square in the heart of the city.

Our location gives you easy access to outstanding University-wide facilities, including the Main Library, one of the biggest university libraries in the UK, and the oldest purpose-built student union in the world.

All postgraduate students have access to shared study spaces, networked printers, and lockers. Wi-fi is available across the School and the University.

Our later-stage PhD students are provided with access to desks in a dedicated Graduate School study facility. PhD students can also benefit from a laptop loan for the duration of their studies.

The ground floor of the Chrystal MacMillan Building includes a cafe and social space which is popular with students and staff alike.

All postgraduate students will be able to register for the University’s wireless and VPN services. The School is equipped with wi-fi throughout and makes full use of managed desktop services for seamless support.

Social and political capital
Many of our postgraduate students find inspiration from studying in our vibrant capital city, where social and political issues, current and historical, are woven into the fabric of the cityscape and are never far from the surface of daily life. Our proximity to the institutions of government in Scotland offers a range of opportunities for public engagement and knowledge exchange.

Meanwhile, our flexible online learning programmes allow you to gain all the benefits of a masters from our School without leaving your home, wherever that may be, or interrupting your career.

Collections of the University
The University of Edinburgh has one of the world’s great collections, which has been growing ever since its foundation in 1583. Our collections include rare books, archives and manuscripts, art, historical musical instruments and a wide range of museum objects from geological specimens to anatomical models. If laid out end to end, we would have almost 60 kilometres of shelving and storage space devoted to our heritage material, from 1st century Greek papyrus fragments to new works of sculpture. This is curated by specialist staff across 45 sites and used for our teaching and research and by the wider public community.

The Centre for Research Collections in the Main Library is the hub for all our collections, where specialist curators make them available for study, research and pleasure. Postgraduate students are welcome to study original objects and have made many important research discoveries while working on the archives. You will find an incredible range of material in our collections that is available nowhere else in the world.

About the School of Social & Political Science

The School of Social & Political Science provides an intellectually vibrant teaching and research environment, boasting an international community of more than 280 world-class academic staff and 800 postgraduate students.

The School was established to promote a culture of interdisciplinary research and collaboration across various subject areas, research groups and centres. These include: the subject areas of politics and international relations, social anthropology, social policy, social work, sociology and science, technology and innovation studies; the Centres of Canadian Studies, African Studies and South Asian Studies; and an array of specialist institutes and centres for the study of governance, public policy, global development, the EU, families and relationships; criminal justice, social work and innovation in genomics.

The School is one of Europe’s leading lights for research in the social sciences. In the last Research Excellence Framework (REF), 77 per cent of our submitted research was rated world leading or internationally excellent and all of our assessed research units were ranked in the UK top 10 for either research power or research quality (Research Fortnight, REF 2014). Our research has recently attracted large grants from the Economic and Social Research Council, European Research Council (ERC) and the Leverhulme Trust, among others.

With faculty members coming from across the world, and many dynamic international research collaborations, the School has outstanding global connections. Edinburgh is a member of the League of European Research Universities, a 21-strong partnership of Europe’s top multi-faculty universities, and the Coimbra Group, a network of 40 European universities, including some of the oldest and most prestigious on the continent.

We have established close ties with the National University of Singapore and the Bremen International Graduate School of Social Science (BIGSS), while membership of the Universitas 21 network has greatly enhanced our ability to collaborate, linking us to high-profile universities all around the world: three in Australia, three in the UK, two each in the US, Canada and China and one each in Hong Kong, India, Ireland, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea and Sweden.

The Graduate School
Our international and interdisciplinary approach cuts across traditional social science boundaries, bringing together outstanding teachers and researchers from across the University to inspire and challenge you.

We attract a diverse body of students from across the world, some continuing their studies straight after undergraduate degrees, others returning to study after a period of employment. Over the past five years more than half of our postgraduate students have come from outside the UK. Providing a meeting place for cultures and perspectives is a valuable part of the experience we offer here in the School of Social & Political Science.
Employability and graduate attributes

We are dedicated to providing you with the best possible support for the successful completion of your studies and in preparation for your future. We believe supporting your academic and professional development plays a large part in this.

The School runs an intensive induction, providing extensive networking opportunities and explaining how to make the most of your time here. For research students, we provide a mix of generic interdisciplinary training and specialist training, focusing on research design, quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis. Some taught masters programmes offer the chance to undertake a placement based dissertation instead of the traditional academic dissertation. We provide training seminars within all our programmes and practical workshops in skills including preparing for fieldwork, ethics, writing an academic CV, presenting and publication plans and presentations.

Student Development Office
Our Student Development Office offers you skills and employability training through workshops, interactive seminars and placement-based dissertation opportunities. Open to all students, it is the framework through which we connect you with the world beyond academia.

Workshops and seminars
We run professional development and academic skills sessions in collaboration with professionals from the University and the public/private sector. These provide excellent opportunities to enhance your employability and build networks within a relevant field. We also provide financial and practical support to student-led initiatives including conferences, exhibitions and bespoke workshops.

The School of Social & Political Science

Edinburgh Awards
We offer two awards designed to develop your professional competencies and foster academic engagement with the wider community. The awards, Professional Development and Professional Development Leaders, run throughout the academic year and feature a range of skills workshops and practical activities.

Placement-based dissertations
On certain programmes you will be eligible to apply for a placement-based dissertation as part of your MSc. These enable you to link with external organisations to collect primary data for your dissertation. Placements last eight weeks (typically May-June) and may be in the UK or international. We will guide you throughout the placement process, from initial project scoping to on-placement support.

Institute for Academic Development
All postgraduate students can benefit from our Institute for Academic Development (IAD), which provides information, events and courses to develop the skills you will need throughout your studies and in the future. IAD events also offer the perfect opportunity to meet and network with other postgraduates from across the University.

Further information is available online: www.ed.ac.uk/gradschool/student_development

IAD also provides a comprehensive programme of transferrable skills training, resources and support for researchers completing a doctorate. The workshop programme is designed to help you successfully prepare for the various milestones of your PhD, from getting started with your research, to writing up and preparing for the viva, as well as developing personal and professional skills that can be transferred to your future employment. Workshops cover topics such as writing skills, reference management tools, statistics, preparing for conferences, delivering presentations, time and project management, and personal development.

IAD also offers online resources and planning tools to help get your research started, as well as support for tutoring and demonstrating, and public engagement and communication.

Careers Service
Our Careers Service plays an essential part in your wider student experience at the University, offering a range of tailored careers and personal development guidance and support. We support you to recognise the wealth of possibilities ahead, while at university and after graduation, helping you explore new avenues, tap into your talents and build your employability with confidence and enthusiasm.

We provide high-quality, tailored support to all students. From exploring career options to making decisions, from CV writing to interview practice, from employed internships to graduate posts and from careers fairs to postgraduate alumni events, we will help you prepare for the future.

We sustain and continually develop links with employers from all industries and employment sectors, from the world’s top recruiters to small enterprises based here in Edinburgh. Our employer team provides a programme of opportunities for you to meet employers on campus and virtually, and advertises a wide range of part-time and graduate jobs.

More information: www.ed.ac.uk/careers/postgrad

Community

The Graduate School is not only a lively and thriving academic environment – we also have a wide range of social events.

We have a collaborative blog, It Ain’t Necessarily So, that is managed by postgraduates. The blog publishes the writing of PhD students and ranges from current affairs, international relations, and reflections on ethics, to philosophy, food, and television. It is a showcase for PhD students to make their research relevant beyond the academy.

Many of our programmes call for periods of study away from the UK, and our students have seen the benefit of recording their experiences in photography and film. Every year they review the best of their fieldwork photographs and hold an exhibition, with pictures being auctioned for scholarship funds.
Applications and fees

We have an online application process for all postgraduate programmes. It’s a straightforward system with full instructions, including details of any supporting documentation you need to submit.

When applying, you will set up an account, which lets you save your application and continue at another time. Full guidance on our application system can be found online: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/applying

General requirements

Our usual entrance requirement for postgraduate study is a relevant UK 2:1 undergraduate degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry). You will also need to meet the University’s language requirements (see below).

Entry requirements for individual programmes can vary, so check the details for the specific programme you wish to apply for.

References

We do not require references for taught programmes. For applications to masters by research programmes, one reference is required. For applications to PhD programmes, two references are required. You should check the online requirements for your intended programme of study: www.sps.ed.ac.uk/gradschool/applicants/application_requirements

Deadlines

Some programmes have application deadlines. Please check the programme entry online for details. For all other programmes, you are encouraged to apply no later than one month prior to entry to ensure there is sufficient time to process your application. However, earlier application is recommended, particularly where there is a high demand for places or when a visa will be required. Should you wish to submit a late application, please contact us for guidance.

English language requirements

You must demonstrate a level of English language competency at a level that will enable you to succeed in your studies, regardless of your nationality or country of residence. We accept the following English language qualifications at the grades specified:

- International Relations of the Middle East with Arabic:
  - IELTS: total 7.0 (at least 6.5 in each module).
  - TOEFL-iBT: total 100 (at least 23 in each module).
  - PTE Academic: total 67 (at least 61 in each of the Communicative Skills sections).
  - CAE and CPE: total 185 (at least 176 in each module).
  - Trinity ISE: ISE III (with a pass in all four components).

- All other programmes:
  - IELTS: total 7.0 (at least 6.0 in each module).
  - TOEFL-iBT: total 100 (at least 20 in each module).
  - PTE Academic: total 67 (at least 56 in each of the Communicative Skills sections).
  - CAE and CPE: total 185 (at least 169 in each module).
  - Trinity ISE: ISE III (with a pass in all four components).

Please note:

- English language requirements can be affected by government policy so please ensure you visit our degree finder to check the latest requirements for your programme: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/degrees
- Your English language qualification must be no more than three and a half years old at the beginning of your programme, unless you are using IELTS, TOEFL, PTE Academic or Trinity ISE, in which case it must be no more than two years old.
- We also accept recent degree-level study that was taught and assessed in English in a majority English-speaking country (as defined by UK Visas & Immigration), or at a university in a non-majority English-speaking country which has specifically been approved by the University of Edinburgh’s Admissions Qualifications Group. A list of approved universities is published on our website. If you are not a national of a majority English speaking country, then your degree must be no more than three and a half years old at the beginning of your programme of study.
- We do not require you to take an English language test before you apply.

Abbreviations: IELTS – International English Language Testing System; TOEFL-iBT – Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-Based Test; PTE – Pearson Test of English; CAE – Certificate of Proficiency in English; CPE – Certificate of Advanced English; Trinity ISE – Integrated Skills in English.

www.ed.ac.uk/english-requirements.jpg

Tuition fees

The following table provides an overview of indicative fee levels for programmes commencing in 2020.

Please note:

- International students starting full-time taught programmes of study last year will be charged a fixed annual fee.
- All other students on full-time and part-time programmes of study last year should be aware that annual tuition fees are subject to revision and are typically increased by approximately five per cent per annum. This annual increase should be taken into account when you are applying for a programme.
- In addition to tuition fees, your programme may be subject to an application fee and additional costs/programme costs may apply. Please check the latest programme information online.

Asylum seeker tuition fee status and scholarship

Information for applicants seeking asylum from within the United Kingdom, who wish to commence a programme of study at the University in 2020, is available online. This includes our tuition fee rates and scholarship opportunities: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/asy

Tuition fees for EU students

EU students enrolling in the 2020/21 academic year will be admitted as Scottish/EU fee status students. Taught masters students will be eligible for the same tuition support as Scottish domiciled students from the Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS).

For UK/EU students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>International Relations of the Middle East with Arabic with Advanced Arabic 2-years FT</td>
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<td>Master of Social Work</td>
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<tr>
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Funding

A large number of scholarships, loans and other funding schemes are available for your postgraduate studies. It is only possible to show a small selection in print. To see the full range, please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/postgraduate

Awards are offered by the School of Social & Political Science, the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences, the University of Edinburgh, the Scottish, UK and international governments and many funding bodies. Here we list a selection of potential sources of financial support for postgraduate students applying to the School of Social & Political Science. This list was correct at the time of printing but please check the full and up to date data online.

University of Edinburgh Alumni Scholarships
We offer a 10 per cent scholarship towards postgraduate fees to all alumni who graduated from the University as an undergraduate, and to all students who spent at least one semester studying at the University on a visiting programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/alumni-scholarships

Scholarships at the University of Edinburgh
- College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences Studentships and Scholarships
  - Studentships and scholarships are open to those admitted to the first year of PhD research: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/research-ahss
- Edinburgh Global Research Scholarships
  - These scholarships are designed to attract high-quality international research students to the University: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/global-research
- SPS Graduate School Scholarships
  - A number of scholarships and awards are available to postgraduate students in the School of Social & Political Science: www.sps.ed.ac.uk/pgfunding
- MasterCard Foundation Scholars Programme (Africa)
  - A number of scholarships for applicants who are residents and citizens of a Sub-Saharan African country will be available for eligible masters programmes. The scholarships cover full tuition fees and expenses for accommodation and maintenance for African scholars with few educational opportunities: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/mastercardfnd
- Principal's Career Development PhD Scholarships
  - These provide a valuable opportunity for PhD students to undertake training and skills development and offer opportunities in areas such as teaching, public engagement, entrepreneurship, data science, and research. Each award covers the UK tuition fee and a stipend: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/development

Research council awards
Research councils offer awards to masters and PhD students in most of the Schools within the University of Edinburgh. All studentship applications from the research councils must be made through the University, through your School or College office. Awards can be made for both taught and research programmes.

Normally only those UK/EU students who have been resident in the UK for the preceding three years are eligible for a full award. For some awards, candidates who are EU nationals and are resident in the UK may be eligible for a fees-only award. The UK Government has confirmed that EU postgraduate research students commencing their studies in 2020/21 will retain their fee status and eligibility for research council support for the duration of their programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/research-councils

The University also offers a number of scholarships in partnership with the following overseas government agencies:
- Mexico
  - Banco de Mexico and the Banco de Mexico's FIDERH trust (FIDERH): www.fiderh.org.mx
- Fundacion Mexicana para la Educacion, la Tecnologia y la Ciencia (FUNED): www.funedmx.org
- Pakistan

Loans available for study at the University of Edinburgh
The University of Edinburgh is a participating institution in the following loans programmes, meaning we certify your student status and can help with the application process.

- The Canada Student Loans Program
  - The University is eligible to certify Canadian student loan applications: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/canadian-loans
- Erasmus+
  - The Erasmus+ Master Loan helps masters students with their living and tuition costs when studying in an Erasmus+ country other than where they live or where they took their first degree. For more information: erasmusplus.org.uk/master-loan
- Postgraduate Doctoral Loans England
  - Student Finance England offers postgraduate loans for doctoral study, payable to eligible students: www.gov.uk/postgraduate-loan
- Commonwealth Scholarships Scotland and EU
  - The Student Awards Agency Scotland offers eligible students tuition fee loans for taught and research programmes, at certificate-, diploma-, and masters-level, which will be paid directly to the University: www.studentfinanceco.uk
- Postgraduate Loans Wales
  - Student Finance Wales offers eligible students tuition fee loans for taught and research programmes at certificate-, diploma-, and masters-level, which will be paid directly to the University: www.sawss.gov.wales

- Postgraduate Doctoral Loans Wales
  - Student Finance Wales offers loans for postgraduate doctoral study, payable to eligible students, divided equally across each year of the doctoral programme: www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/postgraduate-students/postgraduate-doctoral-loan
- Postgraduate Loans (PGL) England
  - Student Finance England offers postgraduate loans for taught and research masters programmes, payable to eligible students: www.gov.uk/postgraduate-loan
- Commonwealth Scholarships Wales
  - Student Finance Wales offers eligible students tuition fee loans for taught and research programmes, at certificate-, diploma-, and masters-level, which will be paid directly to the University: www.sawss.gov.wales
- Commonwealth Scholarships Scotland and EU
  - The Student Awards Agency Scotland offers eligible students tuition fee loans for taught and research programmes, at certificate-, diploma-, and masters-level, which will be paid directly to the University: www.studentfinanceco.uk
- Commonwealth Scholarships Ireland
  - Student Finance Ireland offers postgraduate loans for taught and research programmes, at certificate-, diploma-, and masters-level, which will be paid directly to the University: www.studentfinanceireland.ie
- Commonwealth Scholarships Australia
  - The Australian Government offers postgraduate loans for taught and research programmes, at certificate-, diploma-, and masters-level, which will be paid directly to the University: www.studentfinanceaustralia.com
- Commonwealth Scholarships New Zealand
  - The New Zealand Government offers postgraduate loans for taught and research programmes, at certificate-, diploma-, and masters-level, which will be paid directly to the University: www.studentfinanceaustralia.com
- Commonwealth Scholarships Canada
  - The Government of Canada offers postgraduate loans for taught and research programmes, at certificate-, diploma-, and masters-level, which will be paid directly to the University: www.studentfinanceaustralia.com
- Commonwealth Scholarships US
  - The University is eligible to certify loan applications for US loan students. Full details on eligibility and how to apply can be found online: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/us-loans

Other sources of funding
The following are examples of the many scholarships and support schemes available to students from particular countries who meet certain eligibility criteria.

- Chevening Scholarships
  - A number of partial and full funding scholarships are available to one-year masters students: www.chevening.org
- Commonwealth Scholarships
  - Scholarships available to students who are resident in any Commonwealth country, other than the UK: www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk
- Marshall Scholarships (USA)
  - Scholarships available to outstanding US students wishing to study at any UK university for at least two years: www.marshallscholarship.org
You’ll find us in a recently refurbished building at the heart of the University’s Central Area, a stone’s throw from city attractions and University amenities, such as the Main Library and the Centre for Sport and Exercise.
On 23 June 2016 the UK electorate voted in a national referendum to leave the European Union. EU postgraduate taught students enrolling in the 2020/21 academic year will be admitted as Scottish/EU fee status students and eligible for the same tuition support as Scottish domiciled students for the duration of their studies. This will still be the case in the event of a Brexit no deal scenario. For the latest information for students and applicants from the EU, please visit our website: www.ed.ac.uk/news/eu

The University’s standard terms and conditions will form an essential part of any contract between the University of Edinburgh and any student offered a place here. Our full terms and conditions are available online: www.ed.ac.uk/student-recruitment/terms-conditions

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