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Essential information

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Language: IELTS test (preferred) with total score of 7.0 with no component within that score lower than 6.5, or TOEFL IBT with overall score of 102 with no component within that score lower than 25. The validity of a test is two years.

Fees and scholarships

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How to apply

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Get in touch

Taught Postgraduate Secretary, The Al-Qasimi Building, Elvet Hill Road, Durham, DH1 3TU
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For more information please visit www.durham.ac.uk/sgia/graduate_study/taught_programmes/globalpolitics
We live in an increasingly globalised world. Nuclear proliferation, terrorism, failed states, global poverty and inequality, financial market instability, biodiversity losses, and climate change are among the global challenges we face and which demand global cooperation if they are to be adequately addressed. The MSc Global Politics programme’s core modules concentrate on the institutional drivers of global politics and offer an incisive view of the main theoretical and applied moral debates concerning the ethics of globalisation. Building on Durham’s successes in developing cutting-edge multi-disciplinary programmes, students taking the MSc Global Politics will benefit from a wide choice of elective modules within Durham’s School of Government and International Affairs, Law School, Department of Geography, and the Durham University Business School. The generous choice of electives guarantees the opportunity for tailoring study paths to individual interests and enhances career opportunities in fields such as international and non-governmental organisations, management, public service, consultancy, media, and international business.

Why study Global Politics?

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Why study at the School of Government and International Affairs?

Programme structure

Core Modules

Deterritorialisation (60 credits)

Theoretical Approaches to Global Governance (15 credits)

The first core module explores the genesis, since 1945, of international organisations and transnational governance institutions, the different theoretical explanations of their development and impact, the role of the United Nations and its Security Council, the World Trade Organisation and the World Bank, and transnational governance institutions.

Theories of Global Justice (15 credits)

The third core module introduces students to the crucial debates concerning the nature of ethical obligations between persons living in different political communities. Questions that arise in this debate include: does the idea of justice make sense in the global context? Does the global order violate the poor’s rights? Is democracy a universal right?

Ethical Aspects of Global Governance (15 credits)

The fourth core module analyses the main ethical issues that are raised in the development of international organisations and transnational governance institutions. It addresses the ethical aspects of the design and impact on the development of those organisations (for example, the Security Council, the World Bank, the IMF, the WTO) and transnational governance institutions.

Dissertation (60 credits)

An independent research project carried out by the student of no more than 12,000 words.

Optional Modules

Students may select from any SGIA Level 4 module and/or any of the following: Environmental Law and International Trade (30 credits)
Fundamentals of International Law (30 credits)
International Human Rights Law, Development and Commerce (30 credits)
Introduction to European Union Law (15 credits)
Law of the WTO (30 credits)
Theorised Approaches to Global Governance (15 credits)

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