**MSc International and European Politics**

This programme requires students to take 2 compulsory courses, leaving 4 courses or the equivalent of 80 credits for course options. Electives are meant to give students the opportunity to either specialise in a particular area of European Politics, combine their European Studies programme with International Relations or develop their regional or thematic knowledge in an area of their choice.

**Recommended Course Options**

* *European Social Policy*: this is a course taught by the Social Policy subject area in the School and has a specific focus on (1) comparative state-specific approaches (UK, Germany, France and Denmark), (2) key contemporary debates and (3) the EU dimension of European Social Policy. This option is well-suited for anyone with an interest in specialising in social issues including the study of the welfare state and also very well complements the core courses on the programme.
* *European Foreign and Security Policy*: This is a key optional course which all IEP students should consider taking. It looks at the politics of European foreign and security policy as well as the development of the EU’s engagement with ‘external relations’ over time. The course ties in well with the core courses and gives students an opportunity to specialise further in this area.
* *The Politics of Migration in Europe*: This is a very topical course with specific focus on the EU as an organisation (including its member states) and how it deals with migration as a complex policy issue. All IEP students should seriously consider taking this course.
* *Global Environmental Politics*: with its focus on environmental issues from a global perspective this course is one of the most popular International Relations options in the School. It's an ideal complement to the institutionalist contents of the programme. Note that places are very limited since this is also a specialist course on another programme.
* *Foreign Policy Analysis*: This option is well suited for those with an interest in policymaking processes and the link between domestic politics and international affairs. The subject-matter extends beyond Europe and the EU, but the theoretical perspectives are of relevance both to European and international politics more broadly.
* *International Security*: this is another key International Relations option and therefore a very popular (and therefore quite large) course. It gives students the opportunity to engage with International Relations theory in the area of security and offers room for specialisation in a very important policy area.
* *Gender, Politics and Representation*: this course offers great insights into the study of gender issues using a global approach, and is best suited for students who want to complement their European Studies insights with this particular perspective in the study of Politics.
* *International Political Economy*: this International Relations option is ideal for anyone who would like to learn more about the global economy but does not as yet have any specialist knowledge in the area. IPE, although not EU-specific, is a very helpful perspective from which to analyse key aspects of what the EU is and does. Due to its breadth and popularity, classes on this course can be quite large and spaces usually fill up quickly.
* *The Politics of Post-Soviet Russia*: This course will be useful for those interested in the politics of post-communism or the politics and security questions raised by Russia’s engagement with the EU. The emphasis is on Russia’s politics and its foreign policy, but also extends to the comparative study of other post-communist regimes.
* *Identity and Conflict in Multinational States*:A very useful course for those interested in the territorial dimension of European politics. The coverage is broad but includes a significant focus on the territorial politics of Spain, the UK, and Bosnia.
* *The Politics of Electoral Representation*: The course is ideal for those interested in developing a more explicitly ‘political science’ approach to European politics, and to those interested in questions of public opinion and political behaviour. Many of the empirical examples are drawn from, or are directly relevant to, debates in contemporary European political science.