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OVERVIEW

Department of Sociology & Centre for the Study of Politics

Studying and researching sociology and politics at Maynooth University opens up an exciting, distinctive and stimulating pathway to learn and to practice the craft of sociology and political analysis at undergraduate, international, Masters and PhD programmes levels.

Research



Widely acknowledged for research excellence, as the oldest department on the island, we continue to play a key role in Irish sociology and offer fresh perspectives in political research.

We seek to contribute to public facing knowledge that is relevant to societal challenges, aligned to Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.

Our sociology and politics research utilises the latest methodologies to make sense of contemporary worlds; links local, regional and global; and contributes to key debates across culture, economy, politics, society and environment.

Specialisms include inequalities; gender, class, race and ethnicity, culture and identities; sustainable cities and communities; environment and climate change; globalisation and political economy of welfare and work; post Brexit Ireland and EU integration; digital society and data; intimate lives and life courses.

We are public facing, involved in public events, debates, and media commentary and in a wide range of international associations and networks.

Teaching and learning



1200 diverse undergraduate students from all over the world and a diverse range of backgrounds, including many access students.



Students develop as critical, creative, and constructive thinkers, equipped with a strong set of transferable skills.



Cutting edge, contemporary theoretical and methodological research informed teaching.



Study abroad, short field trips, Erasmus international exchanges.

Qualifications



Offers core theory and research methods as well as pathways to enable student to plot their own degree specialisms in:

- Changing lives and relationships
- Inequalities, old and new
- Sustainablity and climate change
- Digital societies, culture and identity
- Power and social change



Equips students with skills for active citizenship and specialism in:

- Globalisation and risk
- Power from below
- Power and public policy



MA in Digital Societies, MA in Societies in Transition, and M Litts and PhDs in Sociology & Politics.