Maynooth University

National University of Ireland Maynooth

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WHAT WE OFFER

Department of Sociology & Centre for the Study of Politics

Theory and research methods – skills, toolkits, choice of specialist pathways and career paths.

Theory and method toolkits

Research active and engaged academics. Relevant to broad publics, actively linking local and global research to teaching.

Theory

The classic and contemporary concepts needed to make sense of our fast changing local and global worlds.

Methods

The latest approaches to research, qualitative and quantitative. Digital and visual data sources.

Extra curricular activity

Active students societies and range of active learning activities including study abroad and urban/rural field trips to Northern Ireland, Duisberg, Germany, Brussels, Erasmus, Politics and Sociology Student Society.

Choice of degree pathways

Politics

- Power from below
- Power and public policy
- Global politics and risk

Sociology

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

Careers

Skills

- Reflexivity skills
- Reflection skills
- Hard, soft and critical skills
- Transferable or transversal skills
- Competencies, time and project management
- Group work in diverse teams
- Specialist Information and knowledge
- Designing a project
- Data collection
- Complex processes and analysis
- Verbal and numerical skills
- Report writing
- Project management
- Challenges of research
- Time management
- Problem solving skills
- Communication skills
- Calm under pressure
- Remote and digital working

Top skills in 2025

Source: Future of Jobs Report (2020)
World Economic Forum

- Analytical thinking and innovation
- Active learning and strategies
- Complex problem solving
- Critical thinking and analysis
- Creativity originality and initiative
- Leadership and social influence
- Technology use monitoring and control
- Resilience stress tolerance and flexibility
- Reasoning, problem solving and ideation

Know yourself

True reasoning

Know the world