

HISTORY, HERITAGE AND POLITICS

History, Heritage and Politics is at the cutting edge of interdisciplinary research within the University, producing internationally excellent and world-leading research.

Our strengths include environmental history and heritage, Scottish history, contemporary history and politics, policy studies, public policy, and the study of conflict and cooperation in the past and in the present.

We are home to two interdisciplinary research centres: The Centre for Environment, Heritage and Policy; and The Centre for Policy, Conflict and Co-operation Research. Our academics regularly appear in the media, work as advisers to government agencies in Scotland, the UK and abroad, and work together with the public and private sector to make our research relevant for civil society.

Stirling is an ideal place to study history and heritage. The city is situated right at the heart of Scottish history and is surrounded by stunning heritage sites and diverse museums.

RESEARCH COURSES

Research excellence underpins all we do. As part of our research community, you will contribute innovative, practical and applied solutions to the challenges facing society today.

We offer research options, including PhDs, in the following areas:

- Cultural heritage
- Political and social history
- Medieval to modern Scottish history
- Post-1707 British and imperial history
- Colonial and early American history – interactions across the Atlantic
- Environmental history
- Modern European history
- Modern African history
- Relationship between states and civil society
- The politics of human rights
- Environmental politics
- International conflict and cooperation
- Politics and Public Policy
- International Political Economy
- Foreign Policy

History at Stirling is ranked 3rd in Scotland for outputs and impact and Top 15 in the UK for impact

REF 2021



Full-time course



Part-time course



To find out more about identifying a supervisor and submitting a research proposal, visit: stir.ac.uk/research

HERITAGE



Campus based
MSc

There is a global interest in Heritage as it has diverse economic, social, and political importance. Our MSc Heritage provides you with an understanding of heritage and its place in society.

You will learn about current debates in heritage and its relevance in the world, as well as practical training in conservation and management.

You will develop the knowledge and skills that are essential for a career in the heritage sector. You will also gain transferable skills to support a career in related sectors such as museums, arts management, and creative industries.

Field visits, case studies, and input from heritage professionals offer practical learning during your studies. The Heritage Placement module will provide you with a work placement with an employer in the heritage sector. You will be taught by expert academics who will use their research to inform your learning.

The National Trust for Scotland is Scotland's largest conservation charity, with sites including ancient houses, battlefields, castles, gardens, coastlines and islands. The University of Stirling has partnered with the National Trust for Scotland to enhance research, teaching and learning.

CORE MODULES

- Heritage: Critical Perspectives
- Heritage as Practice: Conservation, Management and Interpretation
- Research Skills
- Dissertation

[Check course web page for optional modules](#)

CAREER PROSPECTS

The MSc Heritage will prepare you for a wide range of roles in heritage and related sectors. Future career paths could include: Heritage Manager, Heritage Interpreter, Heritage Education Officer, Collections Manager, various heritage tourism roles, heritage protection, Heritage Curator, outreach and public engagement roles, Marketing Officer and Heritage Researcher, to name just a few.

This Masters draws upon our partnerships with organisations in the heritage sector such as Historic Environment Scotland, National Museums Scotland and the National Trust for Scotland.

Course Starts: September



HISTORICAL RESEARCH



Campus based
MRes, PG Cert

This Masters of research will prepare you for a research-based career and enable specialisation in historical topics.

It will enable you to become a well-trained historian or go on to research at doctoral level. It provides a foundation for applications to research councils - Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) - and doctoral training partnerships that fund PhD research - including the Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities (SGSAH).

The course will allow you to develop a substantial body of historical knowledge and understand how people have existed, acted and thought in the past. You will develop an appreciation of the complexity and diversity of historical contexts.

You will focus on historical methodologies, approaches to history and research practices to produce a piece of research of value and significance.

CORE MODULES

- Historiography for Masters of Research
- Sources and Methods for Masters in Research
- Dissertation

[Check course web page for optional modules](#)

CAREER PROSPECTS

By helping you develop critical analytical skills and research techniques, the course provides preparation for a wide variety of research-based careers in the public and private sectors.

This research Masters can also enhance your continuing professional development, particularly in teaching, journalism, marketing, and heritage management.

Graduates have also successfully secured external funding to conduct research abroad.

This research Masters allows you the flexibility to tailor the course to your interest, needs and aspirations.

Course Starts: September



HISTORICAL RESEARCH



Campus based
MSc, PG Dip, PG Cert

Our Masters in Historical Research is a one-year research preparation course intended to prepare postgraduates for a research-based career and enable specialisation in social and/or economic history.

It provides a foundation for applications to research councils - Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) - and doctoral training partnerships that fund PhD research-including the Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities (SGSAH). It is also specifically designed for applicants to the [Scottish Graduate School of Social Science \(SGSSS\)](#) seeking funding for a research training Masters linked to a PhD in social or economic history.

The course will train you in social research methods and social history, and help you appreciate the complexity and diversity of historical contexts. You will gain practical experience in project design and in undertaking qualitative and quantitative analysis using historical documents and datasets.

Like the MRes Historical Research, this Masters is a research preparation course but with modules in social research required for SGSSS PhD studentships.

CORE MODULES

- Research Design and Process
- Qualitative Data Analysis
- Quantitative Data Analysis
- Dissertation

[Check course web page for optional modules](#)

CAREER PROSPECTS

By helping you develop critical analytical skills and research techniques, the course provides preparation for a wide variety of research-based careers in the public and private sectors.

This Masters can also enhance your continuing professional development, particularly in teaching, journalism, marketing, and heritage management.

Become a research-oriented historian, equipped to undertake research at a Doctoral level.

Our Masters teaches skills necessary to be a social and economic historian, and involves the completion of research projects.

Course Starts: September



INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT AND COOPERATION



Campus based
MSc, PG Dip, PG Cert

Delivered by experienced practitioners and leading academics, our Masters in International Conflict and Cooperation prepares you for variety of challenges facing the international community today.

The course looks at the dynamics of international conflict and cooperation in light of major events such as the war in Ukraine, the Syrian civil war, the rise of China, the Gaza/Israel conflict and the relationship between global climate change and conflict.

We investigate conflict resolution and the role of international organisations to focus on conflict prevention and management in specific geographical areas. The course also explores the development and regulation of conflict in relation to factors like natural resources and migration.

CORE MODULES

- International Conflict and Cooperation Analysis
- International Organisations
- Approaches to International Politics
- Researching International Politics
- Dissertation

[Check course web page for optional modules](#)

CAREER PROSPECTS

Our Masters is a gateway to employment in areas such as the diplomatic service, government agencies, political risk analysis, conflict resolution, the NGO sector and international organisations. Many graduates have also gone on to study PhDs.

We are ranked top 10 in the UK for Politics
The Guardian University Guide 2024

As part of our strong focus on employability, this course includes a study trip to Geneva to allow you to interact with policymakers and potential employers.

Course Starts: September



PUBLIC POLICY



Campus based
MPP

Our Masters course gives you an advanced qualification in research and policy analysis, taught by world-leading experts in the field.

You will develop the conceptual, analytical and practical skills you need to flourish in the policymaking world, preparing you for a variety of careers where you can make a contribution to the development or delivery of public policy.

You will learn to define a policy problem, generate feasible solutions, predict their effects, and make a recommendation. The course offers a comprehensive analysis of policymaking theories and approaches and it's extremely flexible so you can tailor it to your fit your interests. If you want to use the degree to pursue research, you can take optional modules in Applied Social Research. Alternatively, you could combine a focus on policy and research with options in areas like law, economics, behavioural science, social marketing, environmental and international politics.

You will graduate with subject-specific knowledge of the policy process as well as transferable skills in research and analysis.

CORE MODULES

- The Politics of Policy Analysis
- Policymaking: Theories, Approaches and Applications
- Dissertation

[Check course web page for optional modules](#)

CAREER PROSPECTS

Previous graduates have entered government, the voluntary sector, and private companies offering research and policy analysis. The course also equips you to study a PhD.

We are ranked top 10 in the UK for Politics

The Guardian University Guide 2024

You can take advantage of a variety of placement opportunities to gain practical experience with a relevant organisation in the public, private, or third sector.

Course Starts: September



GLOBAL POLITICS



Campus based
MSc, PG Dip, PG Cert

Our MSc Global Politics provides you with a pathway towards PhD study in the field, taught by leading experts to equip you with essential training to undertake an original and significant doctoral project.

Our MSc Global Politics integrates an international perspective with an intercultural one. The course will allow you to focus on international studies, conflict analysis, comparative politics, and international political economy. You will acquire skills in social science approaches and can take additional specific modules.

This course is designed to be interdisciplinary. This means that you take modules from across other faculties and choose from law, politics and human rights modules in related subjects to develop a course which is specific to your interests. Additionally, the dissertation allows you to undertake original research, developed with the support of your Supervisor and Course Director, providing a solid foundation for your progression onto PhD study.

CORE MODULES

- Research Design and Process
- Qualitative Data Analysis
- Approaches to International Politics
- Quantitative Data Analysis
- Dissertation

[Check course web page for optional modules](#)

CAREER PROSPECTS

This Masters is primarily a gateway into PhD study or further research. Graduates from this course can also find employment in government agencies, the NGO sector and international organisations, trade unions, journalism, research (including think-tanks) and academia.

We are ranked top 10 in the UK for Politics
The Guardian University Guide 2024

Course Starts: September

