

PhD Sociology, Politics and International Studies

Programmes covered

Politics (PhD)
Sociology (PhD)
East Asian Studies (PhD)

Applicants should also refer to the relevant prospectus entry for further programme details.

This admissions statement should be read in association with the [University Admissions Principles and Procedures for Postgraduate Research/Taught Programmes](#).

Faculty

Faculty of Social Sciences and Law

Admissions team and contact details

Postgraduate Student Administrator
School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies
University of Bristol
11 Priory Road
Bristol BS8 1TU

Email: spais-phdenquiries@bristol.ac.uk
Telephone: +44 0117 331 7572

Admissions cycle

2017

Application process

Online application

Applicants should complete the online application form, uploading all required documents directly into the application form. Guidance on uploading documents can be found in the [How to Apply FAQs](#).

Applicants should make every effort to choose the correct programme in the application form by reading the prospectus entry and admissions statements fully. Applicants should contact the relevant Admissions Team if clarification is required.

Application Deadline

There is currently no application deadline for this programme but early application is advised.

There is a deadline for funded applications for this programme which is displayed on the individual programme page within the [University course finder](#).

Required documents

All documents must be translated into English. Degree certificates and transcripts should be certified copies and list subjects taken and grades/degrees achieved. If your degree is not yet complete, please provide transcripts of subjects taken and marks achieved to date. All documents must be uploaded into the online application form unless otherwise noted. Applicants who have already submitted an application can upload additional documents into the 'Post-

submission uploads' section. You can find information about how to upload documents to your application form in our [How to Apply FAQs](#).

Required documents for this programme are:

- Two references
- Degree certificate(s) from first and subsequent degrees
- Academic transcript(s) from your first and subsequent degrees
- Personal statement
- Research statement
- English language certificates if English is not your native language and your undergraduate degree was not in an English-speaking country (please see the English Language Requirements for a list of English-speaking countries)

A curriculum vitae (CV) and research training statement are not required but can help your application

Interviews

Interviews are not normally part of the selection process.

Correspondence with applicants

Applicants will normally receive communication via email to the email address used to set up their application form account. Applicants should ensure that this profile email address is kept up-to-date.

Admissions criteria

Academic entry requirements

An upper second-class degree (or international equivalent) and a Master's qualification (or international equivalent). Degrees from all disciplines are considered. Accredited Prior Learning is not currently accepted. Work experience is not required.

For information on international equivalent qualifications, please see our [International Office](#) website.

English language criteria for non-native English speakers

For applicants whose first language is not English, it is necessary to achieve a minimum score in an approved English language test specified in Profile E of the [University's English Language Requirements Policy](#).

You can find information about the University of Bristol's Pre-Sessional English courses at the [Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies website](#).

Reference criteria

References should either be submitted directly by the referee using the online reference form, or submitted directly by the applicant.

References should be on headed paper, with clear contact details and signed by the person who wrote it.

Referees should be familiar with the applicant's academic work.

Personal statement criteria

The personal statement should set out what within the content of the degree programme connects to the applicant's own interests, and it may include an account of the applicant's own intellectual journey and how this has forged their interest in and passion for the subject.

Research statement and research training statement criteria

A good PhD statement will clearly explain: (1) what the research aims to achieve and what it is about; (2) why the research is important and in what way it is original or new; (3) how the research is to be conducted (methodology). Statements are usually around eight to ten pages long.

Your research training statement should describe research training you have received to date, including that received as part of your employment.

Interview criteria

Interviews are not normally part of the selection process.

Additional requirements

There are no additional requirements for this programme.

Selection process and offers

Selection process

All applications are considered in accordance with the [University's policy on equality and diversity](#). The University of Bristol upholds the principles of equality and diversity, respect and dignity. Candidates are not discriminated against on the grounds of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexuality, religion or belief, disability, health or age.

Applications are processed once all documents have been submitted. The admissions tutors will consider academic performance, English language ability, the two academic referee statements, the personal statement and any other relevant experience indicated. The key criteria are academic performance, English language ability and academic referee statements. The research statement is also significant.

Decisions

Applicants will be notified by email when a decision has been made and decision letters will be available to view and print by logging into their application.

Successful applicants will be offered a place via the online application system. Applicants are required to accept their offer by 1 August each year. Supporting documents to provide proof of meeting the offer criteria should be submitted as soon as available but no later than 1 August.

There will be an internal review of progress of the candidate within 21 months of admission (or equivalent for part-time students). If the candidate does not meet the requirements at the review, they may be able to exit with an MPhil award, provided they meet the requirements for an MPhil. Full details will be made available on registration.

Deferrals

Applicants are able to defer their place for one year, after which applicants will need to reapply.

Deposits

There is no deposit required for this programme

ATAS

An ATAS certificate is not required.