

MSc Social Science Research Methods (Politics/International Relations)

Programmes covered

Social Science Research Methods (Politics and International Relations) (MSc)

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 Taught Programmes](#).

Faculty

Faculty of Social Sciences and Law

Admissions team and contact details

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

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Telephone: +44 0117 331 7577

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 an application deadline 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
- 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)

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 honours degree (or equivalent qualification). Recognised Prior Learning is currently not 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

Applicants should arrange for referees to provide electronic references, which can be submitted through the online application system. Non-electronic 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.

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 personal 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.

An unconditional offer will be made to successful applicants who have already met the conditions and provided evidence that conditions have been met.

Where academic requirements have not yet been met, successful applicants will receive a conditional offer to meet those requirements. The deadline for this is the first day of August prior to the start of the course.

If there is a deadline by which applicants must accept their offer of admission, this will be stated in the offer letter.

Deferrals

Deferrals are not permitted for this programme.

Deposits

International self-funded students are required to pay a deposit of £1000. You can pay this deposit online at <http://bris.ac.uk/online-payments/deposits> using a credit or debit card. Alternatively you can pay through our PaytoStudy account at www.bristol.ac.uk/paytostudy. PaytoStudy is an international payment solution which offers competitive exchange rates. Where PaytoStudy has a local bank account, all wire fee charges will be eliminated and you will be able to pay in your local currency to a local bank account.

The deposit is non-transferable and non-refundable except under the circumstances outlined in the International Deposits Refund Policy which is available at <http://www.bris.ac.uk/academicregistry/office/policies/idrp.html>. You may pay your deposit in advance of meeting the conditions of your offer. If you subsequently fail to meet the conditions attached to your offer and are therefore rejected from your course on academic grounds then a refund will be made to you. To make the payment you will need your student number which you will find in your offer letter.

ATAS

An ATAS certificate is not required.