INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND SECURITY
As a postgraduate student you will benefit from being taught by a team of research-active scholars. This ensures that the knowledge and expertise you gain is grounded in the latest academic thinking.

**Key features of our programmes**

- We have a reputation for excellent teaching, with strong links between course content and the work of our research-active academic staff.
- You can attend a diverse programme of research seminars with presentations from high-profile guest speakers.
- You’ll benefit from links with International NGOs, many of whom are based in Oxford, such as Oxfam and Rights and Accountability in Development (RAID).
- You can access excellent learning resources both at Brookes and through Oxford’s Bodleian Library, as well as the extensive use of e-learning facilities to complement your time in the classroom.
- If you choose a campus-based programme, a four-day study trip to Brussels and The Hague is included in your fees (travel and accommodation). You will gain first-hand experience of important international institutions, such as the EU and International Criminal Court.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Choose from postgraduate degrees in:

- MA International Relations
- MA International Relations (Distance Learning)
- MA International Security

We have great links with key institutions in Oxford, from world-renowned NGOs to world-class facilities such as the Bodleian Libraries, providing you with a wealth of additional opportunities unique to this city.
WHY CHOOSE OXFORD BROOKES?

Learning and teaching
Our MA courses are taught by a truly international team of research-active scholars in small, focused sessions. This supportive environment means your taught study time will be more specific to your needs and informed by the most recent research in the field.

Diverse teaching methods are employed including lectures, tutor/group-led seminars, analysis of case studies, group work, individual and group presentations, and individual and small group tutorials.

Specialist facilities
Studying at Oxford Brookes gives you access to an excellent library and IT resources, sport and leisure facilities, a dedicated student careers service, a nursery, medical and dental facilities and student support services including academic and personal counselling.
Globalisation, environmental degradation, poverty and deprivation, international conflict, the rise of religious fundamentalism and the future of democracy - these are interesting times for international relations. Postgraduate students on our MA in International Relations seek to understand and engage with trends taking place in modern society. They take part in critical reflection both with each other and with members of the faculty.

**Option modules**
- International Development
- Global Politics and the Environment
- Production, Finance and Global Governance
- Global Civil Society
- International Energy Security
- Violence and Peacebuilding
- Dilemmas of International Ethics
- Critical Approaches to Terrorism
- Postcolonial Perspectives: Security, Violence and Resistance
- The Refugee Experience
- Independent Study

**Experience international relations in action**

The course also includes a four-day study trip to Brussels and The Hague. You will have first-hand experience of important international institutions, such as the EU and International Criminal Court. The cost of travel and accommodation for the trip is included in the fees.

Every year we run an annual Postgraduate Day in early summer. MA students are joined by some of our research students and staff. Over the years we have welcomed a number of high-profile speakers to this event to provide our guest lecture.

**Why distance learning?**

Distance learning allows you to enjoy the flexibility of being able to study in your own time. You will have access to a dynamic, supportive and rapidly growing community of scholars undertaking internationally recognised research in International Relations.

A range of online teaching methods are used on the course, combining narrated powerpoints, videos, and documents with a range of online activities to encourage direct engagement with these materials. Dedicated online discussion forums will allow you to deepen your engagement with the topics. You will also have the opportunity to interact in a live environment with staff and other students through online seminars.
MA INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Security has always been a key theme in the study of “the international”. In recent years some scholars have suggested that in the post-Cold War era we need to move beyond a focus on national and international security. This course offers both the traditional focus on the security of states and more contemporary debates centred on “human security” in a variety of contexts. Postgraduate students on our MA in International Security explore these issues and take part in critical reflection both with each other and with members of the faculty.

Option modules
- International Development
- Global Politics and the Environment
- Production, Finance and Global Governance
- Global Civil Society
- International Energy Security
- Violence and Peacebuilding
- Dilemmas of International Ethics
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- Postcolonial Perspectives: Security, Violence and Resistance
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“The Centre for Global Politics, Economy, and Society (GPES) provides an interdisciplinary group encouraging reflection on and investigation into social transformations of global scope which are impacting upon the world today.

Our enthusiastic research culture is driven by a thriving and collaborative community of academic staff and doctoral students. Our research expertise is focused around four areas: Critical Security Studies, International Political Theory, Cultures and Identities, and State and Society.

Staff involved in teaching on the programme have been awarded a number of Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) grants.

- Dr. Michael Lister co-led a project entitled ‘Anti-Terrorism, Citizenship and Security in the UK’, examining the extent to which citizens of the United Kingdom feel that their security has been enhanced (or even diminished) by contemporary anti-terrorism measures.

- Findings from Dr. Sarah Whitmore’s ESRC-funded research project ‘Parliamentary Oversight in Russia and Ukraine’ have been published in a range of academic journals. Sarah has also given numerous media interviews on Ukrainian politics and has undertaken consultancy work for a range of actors including the UK’s Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

- Dr. Stephen Hurt was successful in a bid to the ESRC Research Seminars Competition, focusing on British policy to Africa. This includes the impact, more recently, of a Conservative-led coalition government operating in a context of financial austerity.

- Dr. Rico Isaacs has conducted research funded by the British Academy into the effectiveness of Election Observation Missions (EOMs) in ensuring freer and fairer elections in the former Soviet Union.

“Oxford is also an inspiring city to live and study. I had a great year and would recommend the course to anyone seriously thinking about working in an international context.”

Amy Blong
MA International Relations alumna

Semester 1 Semester 2 Summer

Security: Beyond Bullets and Bombs
Option
Option
Dissertation

Advanced Research in International Relations
Option

“The really enjoyed my time at Brookes and would recommend the university to anyone. The department of Social Sciences have a lot of great, dedicated lecturers who will do their best and beyond to help you succeed.”

Martin Mogstad
MA International Relations alumna
FUNDING AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry requirements
You will normally have, or be predicted to have, a good honours degree in an appropriate discipline. However, all applications are considered on their merits and we will consider all applicants who can show that they have qualifications or experience (or both) which demonstrate that they have knowledge and capabilities judged by the programme director to be equivalent to those possessed by holders of the standard qualifications for admission.

If your first language is not English, proof of language skills must be presented. This could be English Language GCSE or O-level, or an IELTS score of 6.5.

If you do not meet this language requirement, Oxford Brookes International offers a number of preparation courses designed to improve your use of English in an academic context.

Pre-Master's course requirements are for a minimum IELTS 5.5 (with 5.0 in Reading and Writing).

For more information see:
www.brookes.ac.uk/international

How to apply
Please apply through UCAS Postgraduate.

Funding
- Oxford Brookes graduates are eligible for a 10% discount on postgraduate tuition fees
- The UK government offer postgraduate loans to all eligible UK/EU students

Visit our website for details of scholarships, bursaries and other funding sources.
www.brookes.ac.uk/studying/finance

STUDYING IN OXFORD

Oxford Brookes University is a historic city with a thriving academic culture. At Oxford Brookes, you will join a collaborative and supportive community at the forefront of the academic world.

International Relations in Oxford
Oxford is recognised internationally as an educational, scientific and technological centre of excellence and the facilities on offer to you are incomparable. The city has a high proportion of "knowledge intensive" employees of any English city, and one of the highest concentrations of non-governmental organisations outside of London, including Oxfam - so you are in an excellent position to pursue career development opportunities in the region.

Library resources
In addition to our own excellent libraries and resource centres, Oxford Brookes also offers you access to the world-renowned Bodleian Library - one of the oldest libraries in Europe and home to over 12 million printed items. This is an amazing resource that can be invaluable when completing your dissertation.

"The ability to sign up to the Oxford Bodleian Library was something which really helped me with my studies. Not only did it give me a new insight into an invaluable range of sources but it was also an inspirational and impressive place to work."

Claudia Le Blanc
MA International Relations alumna

Living in Oxford
With over 30,000 students, Oxford is not only a centre of education and learning but it is also a rich cultural hub with a wealth of historic buildings, cinemas, theatres and museums, exceeding many other cities of its size.

Oxford offers a world of dining opportunities as well as bars, clubs and traditional English pubs famous for their legendary customers. Performances of live music range from classical concerts at the intimate Holywell Music Room to jazz, reggae, rock and indie at the O2 Academy on Cowley Road.

Oxford has parks, meadows and nature reserves to discover as well as Britain’s oldest botanic garden – ideal spots for a quiet walk or picnic with friends. Your time in Oxford wouldn’t be complete without spending an afternoon rowing or punting on the river.
Department of Social Sciences

For more information about the International Relations and Security programmes:

www.brookes.ac.uk/IRIS