



New College  
of the Humanities

# MSc Digital Politics & Sustainable Development

Introduction to your Degree  
and Reading List



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This document is prepared ahead of the academic period to which it relates to provide potential students with an overview of the programmes for which they are applying. As a result, there may be infrequent occasions when the College is unable to offer individual courses, degree programmes, or services described herein. Furthermore, the College reserves the right to withdraw individual courses or degree programmes where there is an insufficient number of applications or confirmed students to make the course viable. On such occasions, students will be informed of changes within a reasonable timescale and another individual course or degree programme will be offered, which will have equal academic benefit to the course or degree programme originally described.

From time to time, individual faculty members may stop teaching at the College. In such instances, the College will undertake reasonable endeavours to ensure that students are taught by another academic with an appropriate level of qualification, research interests, and experience.

# Welcome to the Master of Science Digital Politics & Sustainable Development at NCH!

**This degree introduction lays out what you will be studying for your degree, how you will be taught, and what qualification you will receive when you graduate. You will also find your reading list, which has been designed by our faculty, allowing you to get into the mindset of an MSc Digital Politics & Sustainable Development student.**

At NCH, we have one of the best staff-to-student ratios in UK higher education, and in the National Student Survey (NSS) 2020, 95% of the College's students stated that they were satisfied with their programme.

If you have any questions about your programme, you can email your buddy, contact the admissions team, or chat to one of our student ambassadors on UniBuddy!

Best wishes,  
Anthonia, Brian, David, Hayley, Kinga, Marie-Anne, Mollie and Syed

The Admissions & Recruitment Team  
[info@nchlondon.ac.uk](mailto:info@nchlondon.ac.uk)



## Our new campus

We are pleased to present our new campus – Devon House.

Located in scenic Saint Katharine Docks, Devon House offers increased teaching spaces with 14 classrooms, 7 tutorial rooms, and seminar space, providing flexible capacity for class sizes from 2 to 80. A first-floor open event area accommodates up to 180, and a ground floor open event space seats up to 70. The innovative and modifiable space will be able to serve up to 1,400 students and staff, with a capacity of up to 715 at one time.

Devon House is the focal point for our stimulating and diverse international community, with NCH and Northeastern University students sharing facilities.



Our campus is extremely welcoming to all, with excellent accessibility and support, including lifts, wide entry points, adaptable furniture.

**We are looking forward to welcoming you to our new campus this September.**



## Your qualifications

**The College is an established Higher Education Provider which is registered with the Office for Students. The College can sponsor international students via its Student Route visa licence.**

New College of the Humanities' degrees have been designed and created by the College's academic staff. The courses reflect their areas of expertise and research interests, meaning that they are strongly engaged with the material that they will teach you, and there may be opportunities for students to participate in active research.

## MSc Digital Politics & Sustainable Development Introduction

**Masters of Science Digital Politics & Sustainable Development explores power shifts, power diffusion, and evolving organisational structures in an increasingly interconnected society.**

By undertaking this degree you will learn how to train in political science and international relations, how to find sources, analyse and critique evidence, and how to evaluate the value of different sources.

You will undertake four courses (Green Political Thought, Global Politics in the Digital Age, Research Methods and the Extended Dissertation) which provide the core knowledge, skills, and resources to support an informed, reflective and thoughtful approach to life.

You will also have the opportunity to undertake options courses in the following areas: AI & Data Ethics, Minds & Machines, Human Security, Globalisation and Sustainable Development and Technology & Human Values allowing you to hone in on a specific aspect of Digital Politics.

The Extended Dissertation is a sustained piece of independent research on an agreed topic of your choice in the area of Politics and International Relations.

## Your reading list

**We encourage you to dip into some of the books below to obtain a sense of what is involved in the study of Digital Politics & Sustainable Development.**

It is not compulsory to read all or any of the texts but we do believe you will find it easier to adjust to postgraduate study with a broad understanding of the concepts covered in your degree. At this stage, it is best to gain a general view rather than attempt to acquire a detailed understanding of any specific topic.

The following books will assist you to do so:

Bjola, C. and Zaiotti, R. (eds.), *Digital Diplomacy and International Organisations: Autonomy, Legitimacy and Contestation* (London: Routledge, 2020).

Coleman, S., & Freelon, D. (eds.), *Handbook of Digital Politics* (London: Edward Elgar, 2015).

Eckersley, R., *The Green State: Rethinking Democracy and Sovereignty* (Massachusetts: MIT Press, 2004).

Hojtink, M. and Leese, M. (eds.), *Technology and Agency in International Relations* (London: Routledge, 2019).

Klein, N., *This Changes Everything: Capitalism v. the Climate* (London: Penguin, 2015).

Sachs, J.D., *The Age of Sustainable Development* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2015).

Vanderheiden, S., *Environmental Political Theory* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2020).

White, G., *Climate Change and Migration: Security and Borders in a Warming World* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011).

## Your courses

### FULL TIME – 1 Year

#### Michaelmas:

- Green Political Thought (PGT) (15 credits)
- Global Politics in the Digital Age (15 credits)
- AI and Data Ethics (15 credits)
- Minds and Machines (15 credits)

#### Hilary:

- Sustainable Development (PGT) (15 credits)
- Technology and Human Values (15 credits)
- Human Security, Globalization and Sustainable Development (15 credits)
- Research Methods (15 credits)

#### Trinity:

- Extended Dissertation (60 credits)

### PART TIME – 2 Years

#### YEAR 1 – Michaelmas:

- Green Political Thought (PGT) (15 credits)
- AI and Data Ethics (15 credits)

#### Hilary:

- Research Methods (15 credits)
- Sustainable Development (PGT) (15 credits)

#### Trinity:

- Begin Extended Dissertation (60 credits)

#### YEAR 2 - Michaelmas:

- Global Politics in the Digital Age (15 credits)
- Minds and Machines (15 credits)

#### Hilary:

- Human Security, Globalization and Sustainable Development (15 credits)
- Technology and Human Values (15 credits)

#### Trinity:

- Complete Extended Dissertation (60 credits)

The courses are subject to change in line with faculty availability and student demand so there is no guarantee every course will be delivered. For further information, please speak to your admissions contact and visit: [www.nchlondon.ac.uk/notice](http://www.nchlondon.ac.uk/notice)

## How you will be taught

**Full-Time:** You can expect to experience an average of 100 - 180 hours of high-quality contact time over 12 months during Michaelmas and Hilary. Your contact hours will include a mixture of teaching methods best suited to the subject matter and to achieve the learning outcomes for each individual course. Teaching formats for your degree may typically include lectures, seminars and individual or group tutorials.

**Part-Time:** You can expect to experience an average of 100 - 180 hours of high-quality contact time over 24 months during Michaelmas and Hilary. Your contact hours will include a mixture of teaching methods best suited to the subject matter and to achieve the learning outcomes for each individual course. Teaching formats for your degree may typically include lectures, seminars and individual or group tutorials.



For more specific information on your teaching and courses, please check the NCH Academic Handbook.

■ MSc Digital Politics & Sustainable Development Programme Specification



## Where the MSc Digital Politics & Sustainable Development at NCH can take you

**NCH offers a unique and comprehensive career development pathway for all students, tailored to you in accordance with your specific professional aspirations.**

Careers advisers at NCH will assist as you consider what you would like to do on leaving the College. Through one-to-one careers counselling combined with seminars, workshops, and guest speakers, they will guide and support you in choosing and preparing for your career and will assist you with securing a professional future tailored to your skills and ambitions.

Possible career options from our MA in Philosophy include roles in the public sector, technology and programming, academia, UX research and more.

On 24 February 2020, New College of the Humanities was granted Taught Degree Awarding Powers (TDAP) by Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council. This means that the College is now able to award its own degrees.



New College  
*of the* Humanities

## Chat to current students, including students who study Philosophy, to find out what NCH is really like!

Have questions about:

- Employability options
- Admissions
- Funding
- Well being
- Accommodation

Contact your admissions contact or email us at: [info@nchlondon.ac.uk](mailto:info@nchlondon.ac.uk)

Have you accepted your invitation to join the 2021 Freshers Facebook group? If not, email [info@nchlondon.ac.uk](mailto:info@nchlondon.ac.uk) to join



[nchlondon.ac.uk](http://nchlondon.ac.uk)



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