



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh

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POLITICS AND SOCIETY
(HIGHER DIPLOMA IN ARTS)

Higher Diploma in Arts (POLITICS AND SOCIETY)

Course Overview

The Centre for Adult Learning and Professional Development, in conjunction with the School of Political Science and Sociology and the School of Education, NUI Galway, is now offering a two year part-time Higher Diploma in Arts (Politics and Society), which has been designed to directly respond to the needs of those teaching the subject at secondary school level. The course focuses on content which directly responds to the four strands of learning as identified on the Leaving Certificate curriculum. It covers a wide range of subject matter, but focuses specifically on Power and Decision Making, Active Citizenship, Human Rights, Globalisation and Localisation.

It aims to provide students with the learning, knowledge, skills and methodologies required to teach Politics and Society within the secondary-school system. The course will be delivered in a blended learning format combining face-to-face seminars with online study throughout each academic year.

Course Aims

The aim of the course is to upskill current second level teachers (and those who wish to teach the subject in the future) with the learning, knowledge and skills required to effectively teach Politics and Society in a second level classroom. The course will provide students with a level 8

qualification in Politics and Society, which reflects current curriculum requirements.

On the successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1) Teach the new Politics and Society subject on the Leaving Certificate Curriculum;
- 2) Evaluate the four strands of learning on the Politics and Society Curriculum and the relationship between each strand;
- 3) Analyse issues relating to Power and Decision Making, Active Citizenship, Human Rights, Globalisation, Identity & Localisation and how these interact in societal settings;
- 4) Apply the necessary knowledge, skills and teaching methodologies required to engage with the discipline and teach effectively.

Entry Requirements

Applicants wishing to undertake the course for the purposes of teaching must have completed a level 8 honours degree, in order to meet Teaching Council requirements. Other applicants, who do not meet this entry criteria may be considered for the course under the University's Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) policy.



www.nuigalway.ie/adultlearning/courses/arts-&-social-science

COURSE FACTS

ECTS: 60

NFQ Level: 8

Duration: 2 years, part-time

Mode of study: Blended Learning

Fees: (per annum)

EU: €2,035

Non EU: €2,535

Start date: September 2018

APPLY ONLINE

www.nuigalway.ie/adultlearning/apply

CONTACT

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Workshop Delivery

This is a blended learning course with materials and lectures delivered through face-to-face workshops and NUI Galway's virtual learning environment – Blackboard. The flexibility of our delivery approach allows you to complete coursework at a time that is convenient to you, allowing you to combine personal and professional responsibilities while undertaking the course.

Students will be expected to attend a number of full day workshops throughout each academic year (September to May). These workshops will be held on Saturdays, with some 10 credit modules requiring a Friday and Saturday attendance. No more than two Friday workshops will be allocated each term.

Dates for all workshops will be provided to students at the commencement of each academic year. Workshops will be held at NUI Galway. Alternative venues may be offered subject to demand.

Assessment

Assessment techniques may include a range of the following: written assignments, online activities, exercises and presentations.

Course Content

Year One	ECTS
Politics and Sociology: Origins, Concepts and Practice	10
Social Research Skills	5
The Sociology of Identity and Belonging	10
Teaching Methodologies for Politics and Society	5
Year Two	
Introduction to Human Rights Law: Rights and Responsibilities	10
Understanding Equality and Diversity	5
Social Inclusion, Civic Engagement and the Modern State	10
Development and Change	5

Accreditation

Higher Diploma in Arts (Politics and Society), NUI Galway

Career and Further Study Opportunities

This course provides career opportunities for secondary teachers who wish to upskill in order to teach Politics and Society on the Leaving Certificate curriculum and for those wishing to pursue further studies in this area for professional development reasons. Students may also proceed to level 9 studies through the Masters in Political Science and Sociology.

THIS COURSE HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO DIRECTLY RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF THOSE TEACHING POLITICS AND SOCIETY AT SECONDARY SCHOOL LEVEL.



Higher Diploma in Arts (POLITICS AND SOCIETY)

Modules

Politics and Society, Origins, Concepts and Practice (10 ECTS)

This module introduces students to the 'sociological perspective' and encourages its application in the analysis of social issues. The module examines the main factors which led to the emergence of sociology as an academic discipline, as well as the main classical and contemporary theorists involved. It also provides a context for the emergence of modern day politics and introduces students to many key concepts in political science, including democracy and political ideologies.

Social Research Skills (5 ECTS)

This module is comprised of an introductory course on the theory and application of social research. It provides a broad overview of the key ethical, practical and theoretical issues in the field of social research, as well as providing opportunities to examine, review and reflect on specific research methods. Students learn various techniques for gathering data, how to organise data and how to draft and edit a research report.

The Sociology of Identity and Belonging (10 ECTS)

Introducing students to theories and key debates relating to 'identity' and 'belonging' in a globalised world is the focus of this module. Students will review different forms of identity constructs which are central to contemporary society, including culture, nationality, gender, language and social class. Students will also study discrimination, stereotyping and

prejudice as a form of 'identity abuse' and will enter into debate around migrant identities, the impact of migration on individual's life trajectories, identities and understanding of 'home' both 'real' and 'imagined'.

Teaching Methodologies for Politics and Society (5 ECTS)

This module aims to provide students with the ability to examine and critically engage with the subject of 'Politics and Society'. It will give students the skills to identify and employ a range of materials, resources and teaching methodologies which will allow them to effectively teach and engage with the subject. It will provide students with the skills and the confidence to provide a collaborative, participative learning environment for those studying the subject in a second level context.

Introduction to Human Rights Law: Rights and Responsibilities (10 ECTS)

This module examines the philosophical origins of human rights and the significance and position of human rights internationally, regionally and in terms of domestic law and policy. The foundations of modern day human rights will be examined, particularly the United Nations in 1945 and the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948.

Understanding Equality and Diversity (5 ECTS)

Exploring the concepts of equality and diversity is the focus of this module with a particular emphasis on the changing nature of Irish

Society. It seeks to promote a full understanding of Equality and Diversity issues within Ireland and Europe, their opportunities, relevance and application to our daily lives (within individual, family, the labour market, community and work-based settings).

Social Inclusion, Civic Engagement and the Modern State (10 ECTS)

Exploring the meaning of 'social inclusion' and 'civic engagement' in conceptual terms, this module clarifies and distinguishes between both concepts, before debating the wider implications for the application of these concepts within current research, policies and practices in modern society. Questions will be raised as to how 'citizenship' and 'civic engagement' can be usefully applied to our thinking about social inclusion in society.

Development and Change (5 ECTS)

This module provides a critical introduction to the sociology of development, a key area in the social sciences. It provides a critical overview of different theoretical perspectives on development, locating them within the historical and geopolitical context including the modernisation approach, dependency and world-systems theory and other alternative perspectives. Through a discussion of globalisation it links the different perspectives on each concrete issue, their assumptions and implications.

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