



MSc Digital Politics & Sustainable Development

**New College of
the Humanities**



Introduction

The technological boom over the last decade has reshaped contemporary international relations. Our increasing reliance on digital methods of communication has resulted in the emergence of new power shifts and organisational structures. Contemporary international relations therefore faces new challenges in terms of the digital spaces in which they exist and conflicting views on ecological sustainability.

The Master of Science in Digital Politics & Sustainable Development programme offers unique approaches to tackling these problems. As these challenges are complex and multifaceted, an interdisciplinary approach is needed to explore and tackle them.

Drawing on political science, political theory, philosophy, and computer science, you will explore the increasingly urgent phenomena of social activism, fake news, cyber crime, artificial intelligence and sustainability within a unique and compelling programme.

Meet the Programme Director



Dr Callum Barrell is an Associate Professor of Political Thought, lecturing on the history of political philosophy; contemporary international political theory; and green political and anthropogenic thought. Dr Barrell's research lies at the intersection between the history of philosophy and the history of political thought. He is especially interested in the philosophy of history; dialogues between philosophy and politics in contemporary international relations (IR) and IR theory; and environmental political and philosophical thought.

Research at NCH

Research at NCH is truly interdisciplinary, with philosophers, historians, lawyers, and English, politics and economics scholars working hand-in-hand with technical experts in data science and artificial intelligence.

Research areas span ethics in AI, urban and global analytics, higher education in the twenty-first century and global sustainability. In 2022, NCH will become the European centre for Northeastern University's (US) Network Science Institute. NCH's research showcases the power and importance of the humanities in the digital age. Recent research awards and highlights include:

Most recently, NCH has entered an exciting new research collaboration (led by Diana Bozhilova) on global climate justice and sustainability. Recent United Nations events and COP-26 have prompted a new focus on the sustainability agendas (beyond fossil fuels) of the global energy sector.



In response to this, NCH is collaborating with the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, and the D'Amore McKim School of Business, International Business and Strategy at Northeastern University to examine the sustainability-driven agendas and policies of global energy corporations.

Your Courses

Full time – 1 year

Michaelmas:

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

Hilary:

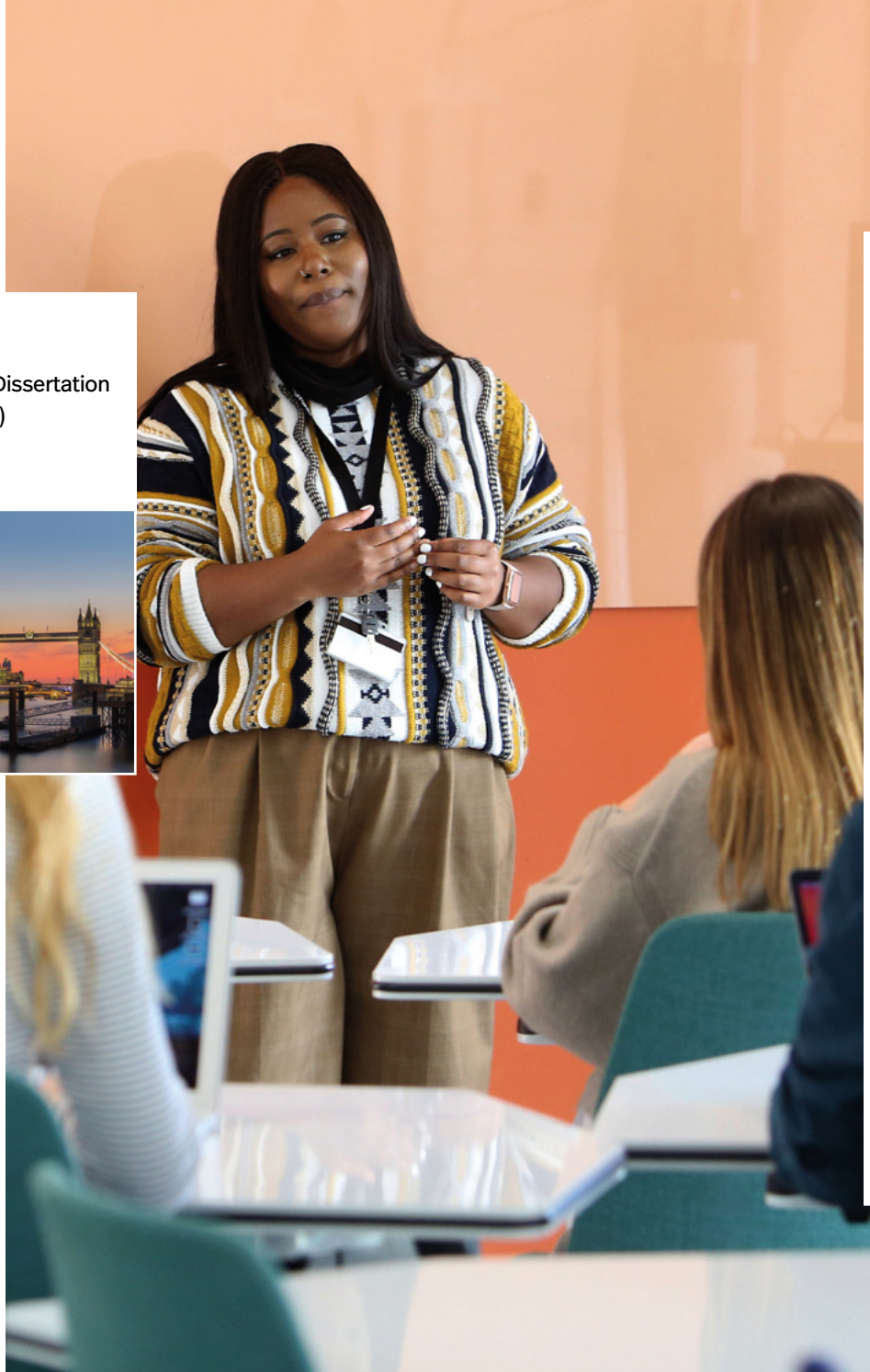
- Minds & Machines (15 credits)
- Technology & Human Values (15 credits)

Either Michaelmas or Hilary:

- Sustainable Development (PGT) (15 credits)
- Human Security, Globalization & Sustainable Development (15 credits)
- Research Methods (15 credits)

Trinity:

- Extended Dissertation (60 credits)



Part-time – 2 year

YEAR 1 – Michaelmas:

- Green Political Thought (PGT) (15 credits)
- AI & 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)

Hilary:

- Minds & Machines (15 credits)
- Technology & Human Values (15 credits)

Either Michaelmas or Hilary

- Human Security, Globalization & Sustainable Development (15 credits)

Trinity:

- Complete Extended Dissertation (60 credits)

The courses above 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

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).
- Hoijtink, 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).

“Studying the MSc in Digital Politics and Sustainable Development at NCH has been fascinating. The academic staff are excellent, and the course is perfect for those wishing to study current affairs and developments in international politics, in the context of the increasingly digitised age.”

Ben Campaniello, MSc Digital Politics & Sustainable Development

Chat on UniBuddy

Chat to current students 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

Have you followed us on social media yet? [@nchlondon](#)



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.

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