



The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.

Department  
Of  
Sociological  
Studies.

# Global Social Policy.

Responding to the need to confront social problems at a global level, we have launched a new Masters programme in global social policy. The programme develops academic and technical skills that will enable students to think critically about global social policy formulation and implementation. Students will also gain a substantive understanding of the role and function of international agencies in tackling social problems at various levels, from poverty and disease to environmental devastation and crime.

## What will this MA give me?

This MA will equip students with the ability to:

- Undertake research into the international policy making process
- Engage in policy analysis for international organisations
- Analyze and assess the aid and policy dissemination policies of international organisations
- Critically assess policy transfer research and practice
- Apply a range of criteria to compare social policies in different countries
- Evaluate specific social policies

## Course structure

Credits: 180

The course is built around three complementary strands:

- Generic social science research training
- Research training in global social policy analysis and practice
- Specialist study in global social policy analysis

## Core modules

### Global Social Policy Analysis, Research, Practice and Evaluation

This module will enable you to understand how international social policy has been analysed, researched, practiced and evaluated.

### Global Social Policy and Governance

This module addresses the implications of the contemporary globalisation process for social policy. First, it examines the impact of a number of international actors, including the World Bank and the UN system, on national health, education and social protection policies. Second, it investigates the emerging mechanisms of supranational social policy, including processes of global and regional redistribution, social regulation and social rights. Third, it critically analyses mechanisms of global social governance and proposals for its reform.

### The Political Economy of Global Social Policy

This module examines the political and economic dimensions of global social policy.

### Global Social Problems

This module provides an overview of contemporary social problems and political and policy strategies to overcome these problems. The module assesses and compares strategies among international organisations, international non-governmental organisations and private social actors.

### Dissertation

This dissertation requires the student to write a piece of work that examines international, supranational or transnational social policy. This is your opportunity to bring together the theoretical and research methods strands of the MA and combine these in a piece of supervised but independently conducted research on a topic of your own choosing.

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### Placement Option

The programme offers students the opportunity to conduct research within an international non-governmental organization. The faculty will assist the student in finding the placement (self-funded with potential opportunities for assistance) and in coordinating the research for the dissertation. We are also eager to recruit part-time students currently working in international agencies or non-governmental organizations.

### Optional modules

#### International Crime Prevention

This module explores the emergence of crime as an international problem. International agencies and institutions for prevention of crime are to be examined in light of the original issues that led to their formation. The module will cover international crimes, such as human trafficking, and international organisations for the suppression of crime, such as those connected with the UN.

#### Global Health Policy

This module provides an overview of global health policy (topics) and governance (actors).

#### Gender and Globalisation

Analyses the ways in which the process of globalisation is gendered. The module begins by looking at the theoretical approaches to gender and development and women in development. It then examines the main structures and actors involved. This covers the global setting, global governance and civil society (including global women's movements). The rest of the module

then examines the major trends that are seen as characterising globalisation. It examines the gendered nature of the changes in global production, trade, finance and migration.

#### Researching Abroad (virtual course)

This course offers instruction in how to conduct research in another country. To be introduced next academic year as an online option.

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The MA is available for full-time and part-time modes of attendance. As a guide, part-time students can expect to attend for 4-5 hours per week for approximately 24 weeks between October and mid-June (usually on one day).

### Entry requirements

A good honours degree in a relevant discipline, or an equivalent recognised qualification or equivalent experience.

A relevant language qualification for students whose first language is not English (e.g. IELTS 6.5 or above TOEFL 600 or above).

### Key Teaching staff

#### Professor Bob Deacon

*Course Director, module convenor, teaching and supervision*  
Globalisation and social policy, International Social Policy, Social Policy of International Organisations, Regionalism and Social Policy (e.g. EU, ASEAN), Global social movements and social policy

#### Dr Kevin Farnsworth

*Module convenor, teaching and supervision*  
Business and society, corporate power and policy making, internationally organized business, international social policy, occupational welfare, political economy and social/public policy, privatisation and public policy.

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#### Dr Shana Cohen

*Module convenor, teaching and supervision*  
Social change and international development, the impact of social services and the state of professional social service, international non-governmental organizations, Middle East and North Africa, South Asia.

#### Mr Dave Phillips

*Module convenor, teaching and supervision*  
Quality of life, social exclusion, ethnicity and identity, sustainability and quality of life, altruism, trust, reciprocity and social cohesion, West Africa.

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#### Dr Zoë Irving

*Module convenor, teaching and supervision*  
Comparative social policy, research on international organizations, gender and global social policy.

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#### Dr Paul Knepper

*Module convenor, teaching and supervision*  
International crime, international criminal law, social policy and crime.