

# Master's Preparation

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The complete  
solution  
to gaining  
your Master's  
degree abroad

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# Why Study with DIFC Ireland?

DIFC Ireland offers international students a pathway to study in leading Universities across Ireland, the UK and worldwide.

Established in 1999, DIFC Ireland have extensive experience in helping international students successfully progress to postgraduate degrees. DIFC Ireland is the only NCUK Study Centre in Ireland offering the NCUK Master's Preparation qualifications.



## INDEPENDENCE

Being an independent Foundation provider, we help to keep your options open. This means that you can consider the full NCUK network of university partners for your postgraduate degree, as well as DIFC's own Irish university partners.

## GUARANTEED

All students who successfully complete the NCUK Master's Preparation qualification have guaranteed access to an NCUK University.

## EXCELLENCE

Our programmes are delivered to the highest academic standards, meaning you'll be one step ahead of the pack when you start your university degree.

## LOCATION

We are based in Dublin, Ireland – renowned as one of the friendliest cities in the world. In Dublin, you can immerse yourself in a safe, cosmopolitan city with a vibrant culture.



# Why Ireland?

- ✓ Renowned for high quality education
- ✓ Only English speaking country in the Euro Zone
- ✓ Connect with leading global companies for career opportunities after you graduate
- ✓ Live in one of the friendliest and safest countries
- ✓ Meet a diverse range of students from all over the world
- ✓ Save up to 25% on the cost of your Pre-Master's studies, compared to the UK



## GET EXPERIENCE

Students who complete their Master's degree in Ireland and the UK can stay up to 24 months to gain international work experience.



"The quality of the education system in Ireland is the main reason why I chose this country in terms of studying abroad. There is always an opportunity to meet new people who come from many different countries all over the world."

Nguyen Huynh Kim Xuan, Vietnam  
International Accounting and Analytics, NUI Galway



# Get ready for your Master's degree

## So, you want to study your Master's degree?

Graduating with a master's degree from an international university gives you a highly-respected qualification that is recognised all around the world. It confirms your expertise in your subject area which can create new, exciting opportunities and enhance your career prospects. The Pre-Master's Programme (also known as NCUK Master's Preparation) offered by DIFC Ireland provides you a complete solution to gaining your Master's degree in the UK or other countries globally, such as New Zealand and Australia.

- Preparing you for **academic excellence**. The Subject module gives you experience of studying a relevant subject in English at a high academic level, before you go on to study your full master's degree. This allows students to progress to a wide range of subjects including common areas of Management and Life Sciences, or Engineering – or something completely different, such as Theatre and Drama, Artificial Intelligence, or Robotics. There are thousands of Master's degree courses to choose from.
- Developing **academic research skills** for postgraduate study. Successful master's graduates need to have expertise in a wide range of academic research skills. When you take the Research Methods module, you will learn to effectively source and evaluate information from literature and the web, master qualitative and quantitative research methods, research and plan a project, analyse and manipulate data, and understand intellectual property conventions. During this module, you will prepare a 5,000 word dissertation, which forms part of your assessment.
- Learning the **advanced English language skills** you need. Taking the English for Academic Purposes (EAP) module will ensure you have the high-level reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills needed to succeed on a master's degree course. The EAP module is recognised by DIFC and NCUK universities for the English Language requirement for admission, so you don't need to sit an IELTS test.
- Getting ready to study abroad. The **Orientation to Western Study** module prepares you for the teaching and learning methods you will experience on your master's course: introducing you to the main differences between studying in your own country and studying at a western university. Please note that we will not formally assess you for this module.
- **Guaranteed access** to hundreds of master's degree courses. Successfully passing the Pre-Master's Programme enables you to have complete peace of mind as you will be guaranteed a place on a postgraduate degree at an NCUK University. DIFC will support you throughout the application process from deciding on the right degree or university to confirming your acceptance.

The NCUK Pre-Master's Programme offers you a complete educational package: developing your academic knowledge, research skills and English Language ability to the highest levels, and giving you guaranteed access to a master's degree course in the UK, Ireland or worldwide. This gives you the best possible preparation for success on your chosen postgraduate degree and in your future career.

## When can I start and how long does it take?

There are two intakes – September and January – each year. These are 9 months and 7 months, respectively.

## How much does it cost?

Tuition fees are:  
September intake: €12,000 plus registration  
January intake: €10,000 plus registration

Further details on fees are available at [www.difc.ie/fees-payments](http://www.difc.ie/fees-payments)

## What are the entry requirements?

To be eligible for the Pre-Master's programme you must have:

- ✓ Successfully completed a recognised undergraduate degree. Note, students with lower second class degree may have limitations to their progression.
  - Students who have completed a three-year Diploma from recognised universities in China may be accepted with limited progression
- ✓ English language requirements
  - September intake: 5.0 IELTS or equivalent
  - January intake: 5.5 IELTS or equivalent
- ✓ CV outlining any work experience

DIFC Accepts Duolingo English Test for Admission Purposes

## Who awards the Pre-Master's Programme?

NCUK will present you with your certificate when you successfully complete the NCUK Pre-Master's Programme. You will also receive a transcript with details of your individual module results.

## How long is a Master's degree?

A master's degree in the Ireland and the UK lasts one year. In Australia and the United States, they last two years. The NCUK Master's Preparation qualification prepares you to hit the ground running, whichever country you choose to study in.



"Studying with DIFC was one of greatest and exciting times of my life. I really enjoyed my teachers, because they were very professional and patient – and went out of their way to help me when I was struggling. This help not only encouraged my strong desire to learn, but also benefited me a lot in future. DIFC provides a great learning platform, I really appreciate all the teachers.

By the way, Dublin is friendly to international people. There are many interesting free events, where we got many local friends and friends from many countries. My experiences in Ireland are my wealth."

Yanxin Shi  
Big Data Science and Technology, University of Bradford

# A guaranteed place on a Master's degree

Successful completion of the NCUK Pre-Master's Programme allows you to gain guaranteed access to leading Irish and NCUK Universities, with a choice of over 1,000 degree courses to choose from. Over 90% of our students get into their first-choice university and students have progressed to a wide range of courses including Art & Design, Engineering, Life Sciences, Theatre Studies, Business Management and much more!

★  
★  
9 NCUK universities are ranked in the top 100 Universities worldwide

45% of UK-bound students progressed to Top 100 ranked universities



## NCUK Universities



## Irish Universities



# What Master's degree can I study?

Whether you want to study a master's degree in Art or Computer Science and Engineering, Life Sciences and Pharmacy or Business, Law and Management, your qualification guarantees you two conditional offers and one guaranteed place. You will have the choice of thousands of degree courses. Below are examples of where our student's have successfully progressed to in the last few years.

Nationality	University	University Course
Chinese	Maynooth University	MSc IT – Enabled Innovation
Chinese	Aston University	MSc Marketing
Malaysian	Aston University	MSc Strategic Marketing
Nigerian	Sheffield Hallam University	MSc Human Resource Management
Chinese	University College Cork	MSc Cyber Security
Chinese	University College Cork	LLM (Marine and Maritime Law)
Chinese	Kingston University	MA Communication Design (Illustration)
Chinese	Aston University	MSc Big Data Science and Technology
Vietnamese	NUI Galway	MSc International Accounting and Analytics
Chinese	University of Leeds	MSc Transport & Planning Engineering
Chinese	University of Sheffield	MSc Environmental & Energy Engineering
Kazakhstan	Dublin City University	MSc in Management (Aviation Leadership)
Japanese	Aston University	MSc Business and Management
Nigerian	Sheffield Hallam University	MSc international Tourism and Aviation Management

Use our course finder to search through hundreds of PG courses today  
[www.difc.ie/course-finder](http://www.difc.ie/course-finder)

“A few years ago I chose to study in DIFC to prepare myself for third level education. In DIFC I received a great western-style pre-college experience and useful study tips from the staff, not to mention thousands of potential offers from partner universities across Ireland and the UK.



I did exceptionally well in DIT in my Master's degree and received PhD scholarship. I have to admit that I can never achieve these without the choice of studying in DIFC.”

Mingzhu Chen, China  
Ph.D. in Engineering at Technological University Dublin (formerly DIT)

# The perfect start to a successful career

Graduating with a Master's from an international university will give you knowledge and skills that are recognised and valued by employers all around the world. Your DIFC or NCUK University can give you valuable advice and guidance to help you focus on the right job for you and to stand out from the crowd in an increasingly competitive jobs market. Studying the NCUK Pre-Master's Programme is the first step to realising your dreams and ambitions.

## How to Apply

To submit an application to DIFC Ireland, you can:

1. Apply directly online at [www.difc.ie/apply-online](http://www.difc.ie/apply-online)
2. Apply through one of our in-country recruitment partners (for your local representative, see below)

Your Local DIFC Representative:

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