The UK's European university

BRUSSELS SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

University of Kent, Brussels, Boulevard Louis Schmidt 2a, 1040 Brussels, Belgium
T: +32 2 641 1721  F: +32 2 641 1720
E: ukbapplications@kent.ac.uk  www.kent.ac.uk/brussels

Graduate study
Welcome

Kent is known as the UK’s European university with seven locations across Europe and strong links with prestigious European institutions.

Situated in the ‘capital of Europe’, the Brussels School of International Studies is one of Kent’s four specialist postgraduate centres in major European capitals. We offer Master’s and PhD programmes led by world-leading academics in international studies from top-ranking schools across the University. Experienced practitioners regularly contribute to our courses and we are able to offer our students valuable work experience through a range of internship opportunities.

As Dean for Europe, I am responsible for the overall strategic vision of Kent’s European centres and I am proud to welcome you to the Brussels School of International Studies.

Professor Roger Vickerman
Dean for Europe, University of Kent

The Brussels School of International Studies is a unique postgraduate centre in which students from all over the world come to study advanced international affairs.

We welcome students from 45 countries across the globe and our staff represent 12 different nationalities, creating a truly international academic community. We take advantage of our location in Brussels, the diplomatic capital and policymaking centre of Europe and host city to the European Union, NATO and many other international organisations, and encourage our students to interact and make valuable connections with these institutions. The School is grounded in an interdisciplinary spirit, creating synergies between subjects in law, politics and international relations.

Our teaching philosophy is highly interactive, based on active participation, and I am delighted to welcome you to this vibrant postgraduate learning environment, where you will enter into debate and become a critical thinker, rather than a passive consumer of knowledge.

Dr Tom Casier
Academic Director, Brussels School of International Studies

Come and Visit Us

If you are able to travel to Brussels, we encourage you to visit our campus. Our staff members are happy to meet with you, give you a tour of the facilities, answer any queries you may have and, when possible, arrange a meeting with a member of academic staff.

If you wish to visit the Brussels School of International Studies (BSIS), please contact one of our admissions staff (see Contacting Admissions on the opposite page for details) to arrange an appointment.

Our facilities are located on the second floor of Boulevard Louis Schmitt 2a, just across the road from the campus of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and opposite the Arsenal tram stop. When visiting us, please ring the bell marked ‘Kent’ to the right of the door near the elevators. BSIS staff will open the doors for you, allowing access to the elevators.

Travelling to the Brussels School of International Studies

By road
BSIS is situated at Boulevard Louis Schmitt 2a on the corner of Waversesteenweg (Chaussée de Wavre).

By tram
Take the 7 or 25 and alight at the Arsenal stop, from which BSIS is situated across the road.

By metro
BSIS is a short walk from the Pétillon Metro station.

By bus
Take bus 34 from Porte de Namur or Trône and alight at the Etterbeek stop.

Map
www.kent.ac.uk/maps/brussels

The Etterbeek train station is 250 metres from the BSIS campus and provides regular connections with Schuman, Brussels North and Brussels Midi stations.

By rail
The Etterbeek train station is 250 metres from the BSIS campus and provides regular connections with Schuman, Brussels North and Brussels Midi stations.

By road
BSIS is situated at Boulevard Louis Schmitt 2a on the corner of Waversesteenweg (Chaussée de Wavre).

By tram
Take the 7 or 25 and alight at the Arsenal stop, from which BSIS is situated across the road.

By metro
BSIS is a short walk from the Pétillon Metro station.

By bus
Take bus 34 from Porte de Namur or Trône and alight at the Etterbeek stop.

Map
www.kent.ac.uk/maps/brussels

The Brussels School of International Studies is a unique postgraduate centre in which students from all over the world come to study advanced international affairs.

We welcome students from 45 countries across the globe and our staff represent 12 different nationalities, creating a truly international academic community. We take advantage of our location in Brussels, the diplomatic capital and policymaking centre of Europe and host city to the European Union, NATO and many other international organisations, and encourage our students to interact and make valuable connections with these institutions. The School is grounded in an interdisciplinary spirit, creating synergies between subjects in law, politics and international relations.

Our teaching philosophy is highly interactive, based on active participation, and I am delighted to welcome you to this vibrant postgraduate learning environment, where you will enter into debate and become a critical thinker, rather than a passive consumer of knowledge.

Dr Tom Casier
Academic Director, Brussels School of International Studies
CONTENTS

Why come to the Brussels School of International Studies? 2
Advanced international studies 2
Academic excellence 4
Brussels: the ‘capital of Europe’ 6
Collaborative, interdisciplinary approach 8
Excellent facilities 10
A global community 12
Impressive career prospects 14

Academic schools and programmes 16
Academic schools 17
Taught degree programmes 19
EU External Relations MA
International Conflict and Security MA
International Development MA
International Migration MA
International Political Economy MA
International Relations MA
Political Strategy and Communication MA
Human Rights Law LLM
International Law LLM
The Two Capitals programme

Taught modules 25
Research degree programmes 26
Comparative Politics PhD
International Conflict Analysis PhD
International Relations PhD

Political and Social Thought PhD
Law PhD
Short courses 27
Staff profiles 28

Studying at the Brussels School of International Studies 33
About the Brussels School of International Studies 34
Studying in Brussels 35
Structure of the academic year 36
Incoming student support services 38
Moving to Brussels 39
Career opportunities 40

Resources and facilities 41
Academic facilities and learning resources 42
Leisure facilities and support services 44
Student activities 45

Fees and funding 47
Tuition fees and financial support 48

How to apply 50
Entry requirements and applications 51
Come and visit us 53
The University of Kent’s Brussels School of International Studies is a specialist postgraduate centre, which offers advanced English language-based degrees covering the spectrum of international affairs.

Our strong links with Brussels-based organisations greatly enhance the teaching on our programmes and you benefit from many opportunities for research, internships and future employment by studying in Europe’s centre.

The School promotes a culture of flexibility that enables you to choose a single taught programme or combine two fields of study in line with your interests, leading to a tailored Master’s degree that reflects both disciplines. You can also study on a full-time or part-time basis, completing your programme in an intensive 12 months or over several years. We offer course start dates in January and September, as well as short course opportunities.
Kent is one of the UK’s leading universities. All our academic schools produce research of international standing and our research activities and collaborations with outside organisations create knowledge that is highly influential in many areas.

Our programmes in Brussels are informed by this commitment to research excellence, drawing on the expertise of leading academics in international studies from across the University. Rigorous teaching and experienced research degree supervision is complemented by input from external practitioners from Brussels-based organisations, who contribute to courses in their field or are regularly invited to deliver guest lectures. This means you are able to develop skills and knowledge relevant to contemporary issues.
BRUSSELS: THE ‘CAPITAL OF EUROPE’

Home to the main institutions of the European Union and numerous European and international organisations, such as think tanks, lobby groups, NGOs and multinational companies, Brussels is at the heart of Europe.

As a student of the Brussels School of International Studies, you can earn a degree from a renowned British university while enjoying unparalleled opportunities for networking, academic development and professional advancement facilitated by the School’s excellent location in the ‘capital of Europe’.

Our students benefit from access to numerous archives, conferences, scholars, experts and practitioners who thrive in the institutions of this world centre of international affairs. In addition, you have the chance to develop your language skills while exploring the historical and cultural highlights the city has to offer. Brussels is also ideally located for easy access to other major European cities.
Criminal Law

Contract Law

Administrative Law
COLLABORATIVE, INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

At the Brussels School of International Studies, we revel in diversity, applying insight from a wide spectrum of knowledge to specific problems.

We host five academic schools of the University of Kent, which allows you to specialise in one programme while informing your personal approach to international studies with courses spanning such disciplines as political science, law, sociology, history and economics.

We strongly believe that teaching and learning should be a collaboration. The School represents not only a partnership of staff and students and of faculty from different disciplines, but also a collaboration among professional academics and academics who are practitioners in the institutions of global governance. This provides you with a holistic view of your subject and an interdisciplinary approach to international studies.
EXCELLENT FACILITIES

The extensive facilities and learning resources available in Brussels enable you to achieve your full potential and gain the most from your studies.

We have our own purpose-designed facilities, including academic offices, a student common room and teaching rooms, as well as access to IT facilities, reference books and journals. Students at the Brussels School of International Studies also have full use of the campus facilities of our partner universities, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) and the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), giving you access to a wide choice of libraries, sports and leisure facilities, social and cultural events, and language classes.

In addition, you have ready access to numerous general and specialist public and private libraries suitable for postgraduate study. There are also many opportunities for students to interact with the international institutions in Brussels, through guest lectures, workshops, conferences, policy review committees and specially arranged tours.
Our international reputation means that we attract staff and students from around the world, creating a cosmopolitan atmosphere and an inspiring student experience.

The composition of our staff and student body in Brussels is overwhelmingly international. Our faculty is drawn from nearly every continent and our students represent 45 different nationalities. This diverse academic community creates a stimulating intellectual and social environment, giving you the chance to hear the perspectives of many different nationalities and to develop a truly global approach to your studies.
IMPRESSIVE CAREER PROSPECTS

Whatever your career goal, a postgraduate qualification from the University of Kent equips you with an impressive portfolio of skills, specialist knowledge and practical experience to help you succeed in a competitive job market.

Students in Brussels do extremely well in terms of entering their chosen careers shortly after graduation. Possible options include working for EU institutions, NGOs, the diplomatic services, the United Nations or in fields related to public policy, public relations, international commerce, finance, government and law.

The University is dedicated to helping students develop transferable skills through their studies and we have our own careers adviser in Brussels who can provide advice tailored to the needs of each student. The Brussels School of International Studies has also developed strong links with the Brussels community, which means many of our students are able to improve their professional skills and gain real-world experience through a range of internships and voluntary work opportunities.
ACADEMIC SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMMES

In this section

17 / Academic schools
19 / Taught degree programmes
25 / Taught modules
26 / Research degree programmes
27 / Short courses
28 / Staff profiles
School of Politics and International Relations

Kent’s School of Politics and International Relations is one of the most dynamic places to study politics and international relations. We combine high-quality teaching with cutting-edge research in a supportive environment that welcomes students from all over the world. All programmes are informed by the latest research and scholarship, and are taught by academic staff who have internationally recognised expertise in their field.

Academic excellence

The School has a good track record of research excellence. In the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014, politics and international studies at Kent was ranked 15th in the UK for research power; 96% of the research submitted was judged to be of international quality.

Staff generate a vibrant research culture, which has led the School to achieve international excellence in many areas of the discipline. Leading professional journals such as Global Society are edited or co-edited in the School. The strength of the School’s research culture is reflected in the numerous books and articles published and in the existence of three core research groups: Conflict, Security and Human Rights; Comparative Politics; and Political and Social Thought. The School is also home to four research centres: the Conflict Analysis Research Centre (CARC); the Centre for Critical Thought (CCT); the Centre for Federal Studies; and the Global Europe Centre (GEC).

The School is internationally renowned for its expertise in international conflict analysis and has built on this reputation, developing its knowledge and elaborating its capacity for research, teaching and consultancy. Members of academic staff have been involved in the hallmark ‘Problem-solving Workshops’ in a variety of conflicts, including Cyprus, Moldova, Northern Ireland and South Africa. The School’s Conflict Analysis Research Centre brings together academics and students from UK universities and abroad who are particularly concerned with studies of international mediation and act as facilitators in inter-communal and international conflicts.

Programmes of study

The School has been offering the MA in International Relations since 1978, making it one of the oldest in the UK. The MA programmes in the area of international conflict analysis are consistently ranked among the best worldwide. The School now offers Master’s degrees in International Political Economy, Political Strategy and Communication, EU External Relations, and International Migration. These are speciality degrees of BSIS, which have been designed to incorporate theory and practice in an interdisciplinary approach, as well as to take advantage of our excellent location in Europe’s capital. The teaching in Brussels is conducted in English by members of staff from Kent; staff of international reputation at other European universities, the KU Leuven and the University of Bamberg; or members of Brussels institutions, such as NATO and the Council of the European Union.

Our programmes are interdisciplinary, and you have the opportunity to combine your chosen degree with a secondary specialisation, from one of the other degrees offered at BSIS, allowing you to study one subject in the context of another. For more information, see p19.

Kent Law School

Kent Law School is a centre of world-class critical legal research, offering a variety of innovative and interdisciplinary taught and research degrees with an international and contemporary focus.

Academic excellence

Based on our results in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014, law at Kent was ranked 8th in the UK for research intensity by the Times Higher Education. Kent Law School has a long tradition of critical and socio-legal approaches to law and, in the field of international law, this research is concentrated in the dynamic Centre for Critical International Law (CeCIL).

Kent Law School is dedicated to high-quality and innovative teaching. At postgraduate level, this is evidenced by the interdisciplinary nature of our teaching and research, with students in Brussels regularly benefiting from the knowledge of key political policymakers, complementing their knowledge and understanding of international law and human rights law. Students at Kent are immersed in a supportive and active culture of critical research, developing their intellectual and legal knowledge and insight.

Programmes of study

The Law School has been offering postgraduate taught programmes for many years in subjects...
The teaching at BSIS is excellent. The different countries and gain a different perspective. I interact with students from so many
reputation. Here but also because it has a great
My decision to study at BSIS was an easy one, not only because I work
fascinating!
My decision to study at BSIS was an easy one, not only because I work
here but also because it has a great reputation.

What have you particularly enjoyed?
I’ve loved the whole experience from start to finish. The course has allowed me to
develop my research skills and to really get to grips with the subject in-depth.
I have sometimes found it a challenge
to another can fundamentally change
how you feel about who you are. It’s fascinating!

What advice would you offer to potential students of BSIS?
BSIS is a great place to study and you’ll have an unforgettable year. You will be
based in a fantastic city, studying alongside people from many different
nationalities and backgrounds, with the opportunity to travel all over Europe.

INEZ SUMMERS
MA INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

Why did you choose to go into this area of study?
I have always been interested in the area of migration, and its impact on identity – the fact that moving from one place to another can fundamentally change how you feel about who you are. It’s fascinating!

What have you particularly enjoyed?
I’ve loved the whole experience from start to finish. The course has allowed me to
develop my research skills and to really get to grips with the subject in-depth.
I have sometimes found it a challenge
to another can fundamentally change
how you feel about who you are. It’s fascinating!

What advice would you offer to potential students of BSIS?
BSIS is a great place to study and you’ll have an unforgettable year. You will be
based in a fantastic city, studying alongside people from many different
nationalities and backgrounds, with the opportunity to travel all over Europe.
TAUGHT DEGREE PROGRAMMES

The Brussels School of International Studies (BSIS) offers a range of taught programmes in international studies so you can choose the degree that reflects your interests. Below is an explanation of what the different degree programmes offer.

**Taught programmes**
- EU External Relations MA
- International Conflict and Security MA
- International Development MA
- International Migration MA
- International Political Economy MA
- International Relations MA
- Political Strategy and Communication MA
- Human Rights Law LLM
- International Law LLM
- The Two Capitals programme

**An interdisciplinary approach**
BSIS offers a truly interdisciplinary approach to international studies, allowing you to broaden and deepen your knowledge while enhancing your career profile.

Not only does each degree pathway contain a wide choice of modules among its required subjects, but programmes also provide the opportunity to enrol on optional modules extending across such disciplines as political science, law, sociology, history and economics.

Focusing on different aspects of international studies, you select your area of study from the programmes listed above. You may choose a single programme of study or opt to combine two subjects, focusing on a primary area of interest while exploring a secondary subject. You could, for example, read for an LLM in International Law with International Migration or an MA in International Development with International Conflict and Security.

When making your application, you should choose a single programme of study in the area that interests you most from the above list; you will then have the opportunity to choose a secondary area of specialisation when you enrol at BSIS. For further information on application procedures, see p51.

**Programme structure**
Our taught Master’s programmes are offered in both a standard 90 ECTS credit format (which comprises six taught modules from your chosen programme’s pathway plus a dissertation over 12 months full-time) and an extended 120 ECTS credit format (which comprises nine taught modules plus a dissertation over 18 months full-time). Standard taught programmes are also offered on a part-time basis over two years.

If you are taking a standard taught programme and wish to include a secondary area of focus, you choose three modules from the pathway of your chosen MA/LLM programme and then two modules from the secondary area, plus one further module from the full list of modules offered at BSIS. For the extended programme, you choose four modules from the pathway of your chosen MA/LLM programme and then four modules from the secondary area, plus one further module from the full list of modules offered at BSIS.

All students, irrespective of taught programme format, duration and start date, take an additional compulsory dissertation module, Fundamentals, Dissertation and Research in their first and final terms. For more information on how the academic year is structured at BSIS, see p36.

**EU External Relations MA**
Attendance: One year full-time (90 ECTS credits), 18 months full-time (120 ECTS credits), or two years part-time (90 ECTS credits).
Start: September or January.
Fees: See p48.
Entry requirements: A first or upper second class honours degree in a relevant subject or equivalent (see p51).

In a rapidly changing world, the European Union (EU) is a key actor. As the largest economy, it is the first trading partner for many countries around the world. But by developing its own foreign and defence policy, it equally seeks to become a crucial diplomatic player. This MA programme responds to an increasing need to study the EU’s external relations at an advanced level. The EU is studied in its different dimensions, such as foreign policy, security and external relations law, and also from an outsider’s perspective in a context of global change and regional instability.

The programme draws heavily on the presence of the EU and other institutions in the proximity of BSIS and builds on the tradition of inviting high-level diplomats to share their views with students. Key modules are taught by leading experts in the field from both BSIS and the University of Kent’s Canterbury campus.

By taking an interdisciplinary and critical look at the EU’s international role, this MA programme provides good preparation for careers in diplomacy, research and employment in diverse organisations that deal with the external dimension of the EU.

**Course content**
- EU International Relations Law
- European Foreign and Security Policy
- Fundamentals, Dissertation and Research

CONTINUED OVERLEAF
International Conflict and Security MA

Attendance: One year full-time (90 ECTS credits), 18 months full-time (120 ECTS credits), or two years part-time (90 ECTS credits).

Start: September or January.

Fees: See p48.

Entry requirements: A first or upper second class honours degree in a relevant subject or equivalent (see p51).

Understanding the complex factors of modern conflict and security issues, and fashioning effective and legitimate responses to the major armed conflicts active today is a major challenge for the international community. The MA in International Conflict and Security at BSIS is structured to introduce you to the key concepts and theories necessary to understand the features of contemporary international conflict and security issues. At the same time, it gives you the opportunity, through practical and case study-driven modules, to learn about conflict prevention and settlement as well as the appropriate ways of managing conflicts peacefully through negotiation and mediation. The programme also provides you with a training specific to working in the field of conflict analysis, such as preparing reports on specific conflicts or security issues, drafting recommendations for policymakers or mediating between conflicting parties.

The programme is also available as a two-year Master’s with the first year spent in Brussels and the second year in Canterbury.

Course content
- Conflict and Security
- Theories of Conflict and Violence
- Fundamentals, Dissertation and Research
- One module chosen from: Gender and Conflicts; Law of Armed Conflict; Negotiation and Mediation; Security and Liberties
- Three optional modules chosen from the full list of modules offered at BSIS
- Dissertation

Assessment
Assessment is by coursework plus the dissertation.

International Development MA

Attendance: One year full-time (90 ECTS credits), 18 months full-time (120 ECTS credits), or two years part-time (90 ECTS credits).

Start: September or January.

Fees: See p48.

Entry requirements: A first or upper second class honours degree in a relevant subject or equivalent (see p51).

International development is an exciting field of study at the forefront of international affairs, exploring questions of poverty, inequality, social orders and global justice. The MA in International Development is a unique interdisciplinary programme taught by academics, practitioners and policymakers to enable you to understand the multifaceted political, economic and legal processes that shape development. BSIS is an attractive home for development studies not just because of its experience and expertise in international studies, but also because of its location in Brussels, the site of various development institutions and agencies at the core of the field.

The MA in International Development seeks to contribute to a critical understanding of contemporary issues in development and provides practical tools for a future engagement. It considers theoretical, practical and ethical issues by interrogating development discourses, objectives and effects, and by seeking to understand forms of inclusion/exclusion and intervention in societies. Issues covered include economic development, poverty eradication, legal empowerment, public-private partnerships, social entrepreneurship, trade and privatisation, informal economies and finance, and technological initiatives. The MA in International Development is offered jointly by the School of Politics and International Relations and the School of Economics to provide you with an interdisciplinary approach to development and to allow you to specialise in your field of interest, such as development economics, development and migration, development and conflict, or human rights.

BSIS attracts an exceptionally diverse and active student body that shares an enthusiasm for engagement in global affairs. Our students come from Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas; many have spent extended periods abroad and/or worked for development institutions. An important forum is the International Development Group, which meets regularly to discuss personal experiences, debate issues in development, invite guest speakers, attend conferences and workshops, and also organise conferences.

The programme is suitable for students seeking to understand the field of international development as well as for practitioners who have substantive experience. It provides conceptual tools and practical skills for a variety of careers in international affairs.

After their studies at BSIS, our students engage in careers in international affairs, including international organisations, NGOs, international business and research institutions across the globe.

Course content
- Politics of International Development
- Development: Theory and Practice
- Fundamentals, Dissertation and Research
- One module chosen from: Development Economics; Gender and Conflicts; Law and Development; State, Market and Society
- Three optional modules chosen from the full list of modules offered at BSIS
- Dissertation

Assessment
Assessment is by coursework plus the dissertation.

International Migration MA

Attendance: One year full-time (90 ECTS credits), 18 months full-time (120 ECTS credits), or two years part-time (90 ECTS credits).

Start: September or January.

Fees: See p48.

Entry requirements: A first or upper second class honours degree in a relevant subject or equivalent (see p51).

Migrants: the motor of development in a country, or a drain on the economy? A source of vibrant cultural contributions or a threat to local culture? Can a migrant be politically active in his or her country of origin, and also be integrated in his...
or her host country? How can states best protect migrants’ human rights, including those of trafficking victims, while maintaining control over their borders? What can states legitimately ask of newcomers in terms of integration? What role can migrants or refugees play in helping to develop, or rebuild, their home country after a conflict, natural disaster or independence?

In the MA in International Migration, you ask all of these questions and more. You examine these questions from different actor perspectives and from different disciplinary perspectives. Both theoretical and policy perspectives are studied in order to gain an in-depth, analytical understanding of the issues. Using this approach, you study a wide variety of topics on migration and integration to offer a more comprehensive understanding of the phenomenon of migration and its role in societies today.

The defining feature of the MA programme is its interdisciplinary character. You gain an in-depth understanding of the broader field of migration while being able to specialise in a particular migration issue (for instance, human trafficking, asylum or forced migration, or integration and citizenship, or the transnational engagement of a migrant group in its home country) and to examine the links between migration and fields ranging from development economics and conflict analysis to human rights law or international migration law.

The Brussels campus is an ideal location for studies in international migration. BSIS has an international student body, with around 45 nationalities represented among its 220 postgraduate students. There are numerous migration-related policy briefings and conferences – for instance, at think tanks or the European Parliament. Brussels is also characterised by numerous migration-related NGOs, interest groups and international organisations’ EU liaison offices.

The programme is suitable either for students who have recently completed their undergraduate studies or those who have some experience working with migrants/refugees or on migration-related issues.

Course content
• Migration: Conflict, the State and Human Rights
• Theories of Migration, Integration and Citizenship
• Fundamentals, Dissertation and Research
• One module chosen from: Humanitarian Issues in Forced Migration; Identity, the State and Belonging; International Migration Law; Security and Liberties
• Three optional modules chosen from the full list of modules offered at BSIS
• Dissertation

Assessment
Assessment is by coursework plus the dissertation.

International Political Economy MA
Attendance: One year full-time (90 ECTS credits), 18 months full-time (120 ECTS credits), or two years part-time (90 ECTS credits).
Start: September or January.
Fees: See p48.
Entry requirements: A first or upper second class honours degree in a relevant subject or equivalent (see p51).

The global economy is contested social and political terrain – more than ever before in history. From the economic ‘cold war’ between the US and China, social movements opposing globalisation, the turmoil of stock markets across the world to the stand-off between the Needs for Economic growth, the preservation of the environment and social justice, questions of international political economy are high on the political agenda. Core issues concerning the relationship between the state, market and society – the ways in which different social and economic priorities are managed through policies – have become part of a worldwide debate.

Understanding the emergence of the new global social and economic order is crucial for anyone who wishes to become involved in today’s politics at national or international level. Our MA programme in International Political Economy draws on the political sociology of world society’ approach, which informs much work in international relations at Kent and at BSIS, to offer a highly integrated interdisciplinary perspective on the global economy. You also have the advantage of being able to select from module options offered in related fields, such as international relations, EU external relations and migration studies. The programme provides a balance between technical understanding, policy relevance and historical (and philosophical) context, building close links between political practice and academic analysis. You therefore acquire the knowledge, conceptual tools and analytical skills appropriate for the development of careers in international organisations, governmental and non-governmental organisations in the fields of international trade and finance, political lobbying and advocacy firms, and international business.

We work in co-operation with Brussels-based international institutions, such as the Economics and Security Committee of NATO Parliamentary Assembly, the European Commission and the office of the United Nations Development Programme. Officials from these institutions involve our students in their work or serve the programme as lecturers.

Course content
• International Political Economy
• State, Market and Society
• Fundamentals, Dissertation and Research
• One module chosen from: Corporate Governance; International Economic Regulation; International Economics; Politics of International Development
• Three optional modules chosen from the full list of modules offered at BSIS
• Dissertation

Assessment
Assessment is by coursework plus the dissertation.
Day after day, we experience what it means to live in an internationalising world. Grasping its essence, however, is all but evident. The MA in International Relations tries to grasp the complexity of international processes and to offer the necessary tools to understand its different dimensions (political, legal, economic) and the role of various actors (states, international organisations, business). The programme is built on the interaction of theory (how we approach the world), method (how we explore the world) and substance (what we know about the world). You can choose modules from a wide variety of options, allowing you to assemble your personal programme, tailored to your interests and background.

The programme builds on the long tradition of the University of Kent as a leading university in the field of international relations. By offering an MA in International Relations in Brussels, we place this expertise in the unique context of a European and international capital, host to the EU and NATO. More than a context, this aspect of Brussels as an internationalising city of Europe, surrounded by international organisations, NGOs and lobbying groups.

The Brussels campus gives students a unique opportunity to live and study in the heart of Europe, surrounded by international organisations, NGOs and lobbying groups. The programmes allow an in-depth study of the fields of international relations, law and migration in a city where decisions are being made that shape our world, within a school that understands them.”

Niels Malskær
Danish
MA International Relations
Human Rights Law LLM

Attendance: One year full-time (90 ECTS credits), 18 months full-time (120 ECTS credits), or two years part-time (90 ECTS credits).
Start: September or January.
Fees: See p48.
Entry requirements: A first or upper second class honours degree in law, political science, international relations, sociology, history, gender studies or any social science or humanities subject (see p51). We also consider applications on the basis of relevant work experience.

Taught in the critical tradition of Kent Law School, this LLM examines the theory and practice of human rights law; international criminal law; humanitarian law; transitional justice; migration law and other fields in the context of different policy areas and various academic disciplines. It is particularly suited to those who currently work (or hope to work) in international organisations, NGOs, international law firms and foreign affairs departments.

Kent Law School is a top 10 UK law school renowned for its critical style of teaching, where you learn more than just the black-letter law: we want you to understand how different legal regimes came about and how they may be interpreted, challenged or possibly changed. This is complemented by the real-world advantage of studying for your LLM in the ‘capital of Europe’; mere hours from the International Court of Justice in The Hague, the Court of Justice of the European Union in Luxembourg, and the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

Course content
- International Human Rights Law
- Fundamentals, Dissertation and Research
- Three modules from those offered by Kent Law School in Brussels, including: EU Constitutional and Institutional Law; European Union Migration Law; International Diplomatic Law; International Economic Law; International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law; International Law of the Sea; International Migration Law; International Relations for Lawyers; Law and Development; Law of Armed Conflict; Transitional Justice and Rule of Law Programming
- Two optional modules chosen from the full list of modules offered at BSIS
- Dissertation

Assessment
Assessment is by coursework plus the dissertation.

International Law LLM

Attendance: One year full-time (90 ECTS credits), 18 months full-time (120 ECTS credits), or two years part-time (90 ECTS credits).
Start: September or January.
Fees: See p48.
Entry requirements: A first or upper second class honours degree in law, political science, international relations, sociology, history, gender studies or a related subject (see p51). We also consider applications on the basis of relevant work experience.

The CIA launches drones to 'legally' kill Al-Qaeda leaders. An arbitrator rules that anti-smoking policies infringe a bilateral investment treaty. A father is suddenly detained at the airport as his name appears on a no-fly list. After recent decades of rule of law promotion, the need to ‘legally’ harm, detain, profit or pollute has transformed how policy moves are now performed and contested on the world stage. This has elevated the significance of international legal rules for a range of governmental, corporate and societal actors, which all compete to devise legal norms, characterisations and strategies to address global political and economic problems. International law has therefore become a central domain of struggle across a variety of pressing policy challenges, ranging from robotised military strategies, territorial claims spurred by climate change, the global projection of EU rules, to transnational blacklists.

Our LLM in International Law provides a programme of study that responds to increasing complexity in the international legal order; where

“The LLM in International Law offers a comprehensive specialisation in international law, firmly rooted in the traditions of the internationally renowned Kent Law School and BSIS. The approach to law as a social science does not preclude the teaching skills and knowledge necessary to become a good lawyer – quite the contrary. We believe that good lawyers are critical lawyers, and this degree offers students the chance to become both.”

Professor Harm Schepel
Professor of Economic Law
international law evolves through transformations such as global counter-terrorism, global value chains, and foreign investment arbitration. Our academic staff is at the forefront of teaching, research and practice in international law, and our LLM modules encompass subfields that range from EU law, public international law, the law of the sea, and the law of armed conflict, to trade and investment law.

Course content
- Legal Aspects of Contemporary International Problems
- Fundamentals, Dissertation and Research
- Three modules from those offered by Kent Law School in Brussels, including: EU Constitutional and Institutional Law; European Union Migration Law; International Diplomatic Law; International Economic Law; International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law, International Law of the Sea; International Migration Law; Law of Armed Conflict; Transitional Justice and Rule of Law Programming
- Two optional modules chosen from the full list of modules offered at BSIS
- Dissertation

Assessment
Assessment is by coursework plus the dissertation.

The Two Capitals programme
Attendance: Two years full-time (120 ECTS credits).
Start: September or January.
Fees: See p48.
Entry requirements: A first or upper second class honours degree or equivalent (see p51).

The University of Kent’s Two Capitals programme gives you a unique opportunity to learn about international affairs in a global context. You spend one year at BSIS before moving to, for example, Washington, DC, Beijing or Brasilia for your second year. On successful completion, you are awarded two Master’s degrees: one from the University of Kent and the other from the relevant partner institution.

The University of Kent degree, MA in International Studies (Two Capitals programme) consists of nine taught courses, six of which are taken in Brussels and three of which are transferred from the partner institution, and a dissertation.

You are initially enrolled on one of the MA programmes here at BSIS from the following list: MA International Relations, MA International Conflict and Security, MA EU External Relations, MA International Development or MA International Political Economy. You are expected to have completed the taught courses of your chosen programme and have achieved an average of a Merit before applying for one of the exchanges as part of the Two Capitals programme. A decision on whether you may transfer to the Two Capitals programme will be made in May for those students who started their Master’s in the previous September and in February for those students who started in January.

For further information about the programme, please contact the Admissions Officer on ukbapplications@kent.ac.uk

“The Two Capitals programme gave me the unique opportunity to study international affairs at two distinctly different academic schools and in two vibrant, diverse cities. I was able to pursue a variety of internships, which have shaped my career and opened up opportunities with some leading global companies. I have learned a lot about the field of international studies and having the opportunity to study in Washington, DC or Beijing as well as Brussels was the reason I chose this degree.”

Sam Glover
American
MA International Relations

Student profile

MARIE ANGELE ABANGA
LLM INTERNATIONAL LAW WITH INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

What attracted you to BSIS?
I wanted to study international law with international relations at a UK institution and Kent is rated highly in the university league tables. I chose to study at BSIS because Brussels is the centre of Europe and the programme’s January start date was ideal for me.

What have you particularly enjoyed?
BSIS is a diverse institution. I’ve met people from all over the world and made a lot of friends. The academic and administrative staff here are also fantastic. They provide feedback on your work and ensure any issues are followed up. I had some difficulty transitioning from the system of education I was used to back home in Cameroon to one where you are expected to be a critical thinker, but my law professor really helped me through the process.

I have recently completed an internship at the European Parliament, which involved a lot of research and policy advising. The experience has helped me to keep abreast of the current laws and issues, and it’s been great to put what I’ve learnt in class into practice.

What about your career prospects?
I am a lawyer by profession and have previously worked at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, so I’m keen to return to work in a UN setting. BSIS is a renowned institution – having attended this school and completed work experience at the Parliament, I think my employment prospects are very good.

Kent is a leading university and is ranked 16th in the UK in The Guardian University Guide 2016.

A TOP 20 UK UNIVERSITY
TAUGHT MODULES

Below is a selection of the modules currently offered on the taught postgraduate programmes.

China’s Foreign Policy
Convenor: Professor Gustaaf Geeraerts

Conflict and Security
Convenor: Dr Yvan Guichaoua

Corporate Governance
Convenor: Chris Halburd

Development Economics
Convenor: Professor Roger Vickerman

Development: Theory and Practice
Convenor: Dr Tugba Basaran

EU Constitutional and Institutional Law
Convenor: Professor Harm Schepel

EU Politics and Governance
Convenor: Dr Tom Casier

Europe and Global Change
Convenor: Dr Tom Casier

European Foreign and Security Policy
Convenor: Professor Richard Whitman

European Union Migration Law
Convenor: Mr Anthony Valcke

EU International Relations Law
Convenor: Professor Harm Schepel

Foreign Policy Analysis
Convenor: Professor John Groom

Fundamentals, Dissertation and Research (jointly convened by BSIS staff)

Gender and Conflicts
Convenor: Dr Yvan Guichaoua

Global Governance and International Organisation
Convenor: Professor John Groom

Histories of International Conflict
Convenor: Dr Anna Bara

Humanitarian Issues in Forced Migration
Convenor: Dr Amanda Klekowski von Koppenfels

Identity, the State and Belonging
Convenor: Dr Amanda Klekowski von Koppenfels

International Diplomatic Law
Convenor: Mr Ciaran Burke

International Economic Law
Convenor: Dr Chris Downes

International Economic Regulation
Convenor: Professor Harm Schepel

International Economics
Convenors: Professor Roger Vickerman, Professor Miguel Leon-Ledesma and Dr Matloob Piracha

International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law
Convenor: Professor Yutaka Arai

International Human Rights Law
Convenor: Professor Yutaka Arai

International Law of the Sea
Convenor: Professor Erik Franckx

International Migration Law
Convenor: Dr Sylvie Saroklia

International Political Economy
Convenor: Dr Paul Cook

International Relations Theory
Convenor: Dr Tom Casier

International Relations for Lawyers
Convenor: Dr Tom Casier

Law and Development
Convenor: Professor Harm Schepel

Law of Armed Conflict
Convenor: Professor Yutaka Arai

Legal Aspects of Contemporary International Problems
Convenor: Dr Nikolaos Rajkovic

Migration: Conflict, the State and Human Rights
Convenor: Dr Amanda Klekowski von Koppenfels

Negotiation and Mediation
Convenor: Dr Juan Diaz

Political Communication
Convenor: Dr Albena Azmanova

Political Strategy
Convenors: Dr Albena Azmanova, Dr Jamie Shea, Russell Patten and John Robinson

Political Theory
Convenor: Dr Albena Azmanova

Politics of International Development
Convenor: Dr Tugba Basaran

Public International Law
Convenor: Professor Yutaka Arai

Public Policy Analysis
(offered by the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and taught by Mihnea Tanasescu)

Security and Liberties
Convenor: Dr Tugba Basaran

State, Market and Society
Convenor: Dr Albena Azmanova

Theories of Conflict and Violence
Convenor: Dr Yvan Guichaoua

Theories of Migration, Integration and Citizenship
Convenor: Dr Amanda Klekowski von Koppenfels

Total War 1914-1945
Convenor: Dr Nico Wouters

Transitional Justice and Rule of Law Programming
Convenor: Dr Sari Kuovo

Please note: the above module list is not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/brussels for the most up-to-date information.
Our cosmopolitan environment, interdisciplinary approach and firm theoretical grounding make the Brussels School of International Studies (BSIS) an ideal place to undertake a PhD degree by research and thesis.

Programmes
- Comparative Politics PhD
- International Conflict Analysis PhD
- International Relations PhD
- Political and Social Thought PhD
- Law PhD

Studying for a research degree
A PhD, also known as a doctorate, is awarded for a substantial piece of supervised research that is worthy of publication and makes an original contribution to knowledge in a particular field. A PhD is a requirement for a career as an academic or researcher. In addition, it has become a qualification valued by many employers who recognise the skills and commitment a PhD requires. Research students benefit from having a supervisory committee, including a main supervisor, to guide and support their research.

Your supervisor
Your main supervisor will have experience related to your chosen field of research. His/her role is to oversee your progress, give you advice and feedback on your work, share any special areas of expertise and provide advice on further training opportunities. You will have regular meetings with your supervisor for informal discussion as well as formal feedback on your work.

Your supervisory committee
All research students are assigned a supervisory committee composed of a main supervisor and other members of academic staff. This system enables you to gain formal access to a broader level of knowledge and support. All candidates for research degrees are expected to present work to their supervisory committee at regular intervals. Members of the supervisory committee provide full feedback on the material presented and ensure research supervision of the highest standard.

Academic progress
Your progress is carefully monitored by the supervisory committee to ensure that you are well supported and on track to produce a thesis of value to the academic community. Records of formal supervisory meetings are maintained and you will be reviewed at key stages of your degree, including induction, probation, annual and submission reviews.

Research training seminars
PhD candidates are expected to attend the research training seminars, which provide the opportunity for postgraduate students to meet fellow students and staff members to exchange new ideas and discuss work in progress. These are formal seminars run mainly by students with staff participation. Each term, every PhD student is required to present a piece of work which might be a research outline, the results of bibliographic search or a field trip report. The seminar provides candidates with experience of presenting their ideas, defending points and gaining a wide range of feedback on their work.

Along with other similar experiences, such as presenting papers at conferences, the seminar helps to prepare you for the viva voce (oral) examination, where you defend your thesis in front of a panel of examiners. This viva takes place following the submission of your thesis and represents a key part of the PhD assessment process.

Developing skills
Within your academic programme, you gain specialist knowledge in your field and develop your research and analytical skills to the highest level. In addition, all research students have access to transferable skills training co-ordinated by Kent Graduate School. All new PhD students complete a skills review, which they are required to complete online following attendance at an introductory workshop provided in Brussels by Graduate School staff members.

The Researcher Development Programme is comprised of a suite of online training workshops, and PhD students also have the opportunity to visit the Canterbury campus to attend workshops, which take place there.

Transferable skills training enhances your career prospects by helping you to develop a range of skills in communication, teamwork, research management, career management and personal effectiveness. The skills training offered at Kent is in line with the requirements laid down by the UK Research Councils and is compliant with the Researcher Development Framework.

For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/graduateschool/skills

Entry requirements
Applicants to PhD programmes must have at least a Master’s-level degree. For further information on general entry requirements and the application process, see p51.
SHORT COURSES

We understand that many people who are working in the various institutions, organisations and government departments in Brussels are not able to commit to even a part-time programme of study. With this in mind, the School runs a number of short courses and summer school programmes.

Short Courses programme
This programme enables you to take only the module, or modules, that are of most interest to you, or of most direct relevance to your work or career. You may choose from any of the modules offered at the School at any given time, and receive a certificate of completion for that module. The course fee is on a pro-rata basis (the normal programme fee, divided by seven).

Taking a number of these courses allows you to accumulate sufficient credit to be awarded a formal qualification such as the Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma or even, in exceptional circumstances, the Master’s (LLM or MA) in the specialism you have chosen.

Assessment
Students following these courses must demonstrate, through the normal assessment procedures for each module, successful mastery of the learning outcomes for each module. Assessment methods vary between modules – some are assessed entirely on the basis of coursework and research papers; others through a mixture of papers and a final examination.

To be awarded credit for the module, you must achieve the minimum pass grade. The eventual award of any qualification will be made according to the normal assessment conventions. You must also ensure, in consultation with your individual supervisor, that you have taken the appropriate range of compulsory and optional modules to satisfy the programme requirements.

Intensive training programmes
The University of Kent offers a series of intensive training programmes designed to meet the needs of professionals working in Brussels. These courses, which normally last three days, aim to deepen the knowledge of those professionals who have a firm understanding and experience of EU affairs, by looking at EU external relations as well as the issue of energy security. The training programmes seek to combine academic expertise in different fields of European studies (public policy, law, economics, political science) with the expertise of practitioners, both within and outside the EU.

The sessions are highly interactive and make use of cases, discussions, simulations and exercises.

Summer courses
The University’s Brussels staff run a number of short summer schools in Brussels, orientated towards EU politics and legal framework, for undergraduates studying on the Canterbury campus. We also arrange summer schools for US universities on similar themes.

Further information
If you are interested in any of these courses, please contact Admissions by email at ukbapplications@kent.ac.uk.

“Taking a module in public policy allowed me to enhance my knowledge and skills while working full-time. The flexibility of the programme was ideal for this.”

Torsten Holbek
Associate Director, Kreab Gavin Anderson
Professor Yutaka Arai

LLB, LLM (Keio), LLM, PhD (Cambridge)
Professor Arai is Professor of Public International Law and International Human Rights Law at the University of Kent. Professor Arai’s LLB and first LLM were awarded by Keio University, after which he studied at the University of Cambridge where he was awarded an LLM in International Law and then a PhD for his research on the jurisprudence of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Professor Arai has published widely in international law journals and has been particularly concerned with international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law. His current research includes the drafting records of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and its two Additional Protocols of 1977, as well as legal philosophical analyses of IHL. His working languages are English, French and Japanese while he has a reading knowledge of German and Spanish for research purposes, and basic reading knowledge of Chinese.

Key publications

Dr Albena Azmanova

PhD (The New School for Social Research, New York)

Originally from Bulgaria, Dr Azmanova participated in the organisation of the anti-communist student revolts in 1989. She completed her doctoral work in political science in New York, for which she won the Hannah Arendt prize of the New School. She has specialised in EU law at the Institut des Hautes Etudes Européennes in Strasbourg and has taught modern political theory in New York (the New School), Paris (Sciences Po) and Brussels (Vesalius College). Her research and teaching focus on political transitions, social justice, the metamorphosis of capitalism and the transformation of the left-right ideological divide.

In parallel to her academic activities, Dr Azmanova has worked as political consultant to international institutions, such as the Council of Europe, the United Nations, the European Commission and the European Parliament.

Key publications

Dr Tugba Basaran

PhD (Cambridge)

Dr Tugba Basaran is Lecturer at Kent’s School of Politics and International Relations. She is Director of Graduate Studies (Postgraduate Research) and convenes the MA in International Development, and was a visiting research fellow at Sciences Po, Paris. Dr Basaran is particularly interested in fundamental rights, critical security studies and sovereign practices of bordering. She has published Security, Law and Borders: At the Limits of Liberties (Routledge, 2010), which analyses border controls and the rights of refugees in liberal democracies, and currently works on the relation between security and indifference. She sits on the editorial board of Cultures & Conflicts, and is an associated researcher at the Centre d’Études sur les Conflicts, Liberté et Sécurité (France).

Apart from her academic work, Dr Basaran has ten years of professional experience in international co-operation and development. She has worked for international organisations, research institutes and as international project manager in Latin America and the Caribbean, Southeast Europe and Asia. She continues to be civilian personnel for peace operations and elections, and is a regularly invited expert on issues related to security, development and borders.

Key publications

Dr Tom Casier

PhD (KU Leuven)

Tom Casier is Academic Director of the Brussels School of International Studies. He is Senior Lecturer in International Relations and holds a Jean Monnet Chair. He is Deputy Director of the Global Europe Centre, a recently established research centre at Kent. He is also Visiting Professor at the University of Leuven (KU Leuven), where he lectures on political developments in Central and Eastern Europe.

Dr Casier obtained his PhD in Political Science from the University of Leuven with a dissertation on the transformation process in Central and Eastern Europe. From 1990 to 1999, he worked at the University of Leuven, first as a Researcher of the Belgian National Fund for Scientific Research, later as Post-Doctoral Researcher and as Co-ordinator of European Studies. In the following years, he worked as Lecturer at EIPA (European Institute of Public Administration) in Maastricht and at EHSAL/HUB in Brussels. From 2003 to 2007, he was Assistant Professor at the University of Maastricht, where he was also founding Director of the MA in European Studies.

His research interests include EU external relations, EU-Russia relations, energy and European Neighbourhood Policy/Eastern Partnership. Currently, he co-ordinates an
international research project (Jean Monnet Multilateral Research Group) on EU-Russia relations with Saint Petersburg State University, Carleton University and the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz. Recent articles have appeared in Europe-Asia Studies, International Politics, Journal of European Integration, Democratization and Geopolitics.

Key publications

Professor AJR Groom
PhD (Tampere)
Professor AJR Groom was previously Head of the School of Politics and International Relations, and is Emeritus Professor of International Relations at the University of Kent.

He was educated at University College London, Lehigh University and the Institut Universitaire de Hautes Études Internationales in Geneva from which he received his doctorate. He received a Doctorate honoris causa from the University of Tampere in Finland in May 2000. He is an Honorary (Guest) Professor of Renmin University of China in Beijing and teaches regularly at Sciences Po, Paris and Lille and the Diplomatische Akademie in Vienna. He is Visiting Professor in Politics at Canterbury Christ Church University.

He has been particularly active in professional associations, having been the Founder and, for ten years, Chairman of the European Standing Group on International Relations, Chairman of the British International Studies Association (BISA) and Vice-President of the International Studies Association (ISA). He was a member of the Executive Committee of the European Consortium for Political Research and is currently Executive Secretary of the World International Studies Committee (WISC).

Key publications
He has published 16 books and over 160 articles and chapters in the fields of international relations, international organisation, conflict and strategic studies, European international relations, and British foreign and defence policy. He has also served as Editor of Global Society.

Dr Yvan Guichaoua
BA, MSc (Lille), PhD (EHESS)
Dr Yvan Guichaoua is Lecturer in International Conflict Analysis. He recently joined BSIS from the University of East Anglia and is a former teaching fellow at Yale University and research officer at the University of Oxford. He has specialised in the dynamics of insurgency formation, rebel governance and state responses in Nigeria, Côte d’Ivoire, Mali and Niger. Since 2007, Yvan’s work has focused on Tuareg recurring rebellions in Niger and Mali and the rise of Jihadism in the Sahel. It pays close attention to the complex interactions between violent entrepreneurs, low-level combatants and civilian populations shaping the success or failure of irregular armed groups as well as the forms of violence they perpetrate.
Koppenfels with their home countries. This includes the political engagement of migrants in their home countries, whether in the understanding of migrant research interests also include the political participation of migrants in their host countries. Identities and Violent Mobilization: Evidence from Nigeria and Niger’ in Justino, Bruck and Verwimp, Conflict, Violence and Development (University Press, 2013); ‘Recruitment in Non-state Armed Groups’ in Brown and Langer, Handbook of Civil War and Fragile States (Elgar, 2013); ‘A Micro-level Perspective on the Dynamics of Conflict, Violence and Development’ (Oxford University Press, 2013); ‘Recruitment in Non-state Armed Groups’ in Brown and Ranger, Elgar Handbook of Civil War and Fragile States, (Edward Elgar, 2013); The Developmental Challenges of Mining and Oil (Palgrave, 2012; co-editor); Understanding Collective Political Violence (Palgrave, 2011; co-editor).

Dr Amanda Klekowski von Koppenfels
AB (Harvard), MAGES and PhD (Georgetown)
Dr Klekowski von Koppenfels’ broad interest is in the area of the interactions of migrants with their home countries. This includes the political engagement of migrants in their home countries, whether in an understanding of migrant transnational engagement or diaspora engagement. She also researches citizenship status, both acquisition and loss, and the implications of that status for migrants. Her research interests also include the political participation of migrants in their host countries. Current research explores these issues through a focus on US citizens as migrants. Prior to coming to BSIS, Dr Klekowski von Koppenfels was Research Officer at the International Organization for Migration in Geneva, where her research focus was on the trafficking of human beings for sexual exploitation. She has also taught in the Research Group for Migration at the Institute for Political Science at the University of Münster (Germany). She was Visiting Scholar at the Center for European Studies at Harvard University in 2012-13 and a Visiting Professor of Migration and Integration at the Department of Political Science, University of Vienna (Politics of Inclusion and Exclusion research group) in autumn 2009. She has consulted for the International Organization for Migration, among others.

Dr Klekowski von Koppenfels continues research on Aussiedler migration to Germany as well as maintaining an interest in the topic of human trafficking. She is also interested in the interaction between formal and substantive citizenship and the interaction between integration and transnationalism. She has conducted both qualitative and quantitative research. Key publications


Dr Sari Kuovo
PhD (Gothenburg)

She holds a doctorate in International Law from University of Gothenburg (Sweden), where she also worked as a lecturer. She has held visiting fellowships at the NATO Defense College (Italy), Kent Law School (UK), Abo Academy (Finland) and the Australian National University. Among her recent publications are edited collections on feminist or gender perspectives on international law (Hart, 2011 and Routledge 2013), co-edited with Zoe Pearson.

Key publications

Dr Nikolas M Rajkovic
LLB (York), LLM (CEU, Budapest), MRes, PhD (EUI, Florence)
Nikolas M Rajkovic is a lecturer at Kent Law School, and an Adjunct Professor at Kyung Hee University (South Korea). He is both a trained international law (IL) and international relations (IR) scholar. Dr Rajkovic’s research explores, both conceptually and empirically, how contemporary judicial practices are remaking the international rule of law beyond the incumbent inter-state system. In 2015, his work was awarded the University of Kent Faculty of Social Sciences Prize for Early Career Research.

Dr Rajkovic completed graduate studies in 2005 from the Central European University (Budapest), receiving the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award. He was awarded his PhD from the European University Institute (Florence) in 2009. Between 2011 and 2012, he completed the intensive residential programme at the Harvard Law School’s Institute for Global Law and Policy (IGLP). Since 2011, Dr Rajkovic has served as Management Committee member and later working group member of the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Action IS1003
Key publications


Professor Harm Schepel

Drs (Amsterdam), LLM (Oñati), PhD (EUI Florence)

Harm Schepel is Professor of Economic Law at Kent Law School and Director of Law programmes at the Brussels School of International Studies.

His research addresses the legal institutionalisation of capitalism on different levels of governance. The general area includes fields such as international trade and investment law; law and development; corporate governance; the law of the European internal market; comparative and European competition law; and the regulation of private governance regimes. He has held visiting research positions at the University of Amsterdam and Columbia Law School, and has taught, among other places, at the Catholic University of Portugal, the University of Palermo, Maastricht University, and the EUI Academy of European Law. He is an editor of the European Law Journal.

Professor Schepel holds a degree in International Legal Studies from the University of Amsterdam, and an LLM magna cum laude from the International Institute for the Sociology of Law in Oñati, Spain. His doctorate degree is from the European University Institute, Florence, where his dissertation was awarded the EUI Alumni Prize for the Institute’s best interdisciplinary thesis on comparative and European issues. His monograph The Constitution of Private Governance (Hart Publishing, 2005) was a runner-up for the 2005 Peter Birks Prize for Outstanding Legal Scholarship, awarded by the Society of Legal Scholars. Prior to joining Kent Law School in 2000, he was attached to the Zentrum für Europäische Rechtspolitik at the University of Bremen, Germany and held a Marie Curie Fellowship at the ULB’s Centre de Théorie Politique.

Key publications


Dr Jamie Shea

MA (Sussex), DPhil (Oxford)

Currently Deputy Assistant Secretary General, Emerging Security Challenges at NATO, Shea received a first-class honours degree from the University of Sussex in Modern History and French before reading for a doctorate at the University of Oxford, which he completed in 1981. His thesis was titled ‘European Intellectuals and the Great War 1914-1918’.

He started his career in NATO as Administrator in the Council Operations Section of the Executive Secretariat, then became Head of Youth programmes before moving on to head up External Relations Conferences and Seminars. In 1988, he became Assistant to the Secretary General for Special Projects where he was responsible for speechwriting and ghostwriting articles, press releases, book chapters and official communications as well as advising the Secretary General on political and military issues and on his public communications strategy.

In 1993, he became NATO spokesman and Deputy Director of Information and Press and then in 2003, he was appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary General for External Relations, Public Diplomacy Division. In September 2005, he was appointed Director of Policy Planning in the Private Office of the Secretary General, responsible for advising and assisting the Secretary General, senior NATO management and the Council in addressing strategic issues facing the Alliance.
NATO created its new Emerging Security Challenges Division in August 2010 to deal with a growing range of what the alliance calls ‘non-traditional risks and challenges’, including terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), cyber defence and energy security. Dr Shea leads the division, which will also provide NATO with a strategic analysis capability to monitor and anticipate international developments that could affect allied security.

Professor Roger Vickerman  
**MA (Cambridge), DPhil (Sussex), Dr h.c., AcSS, FRSA, FCILT**  
Educated at the universities of Cambridge and Sussex, and holder of an Honorary Doctorate from the Philipps-Universität, Marburg, Professor Vickerman is an Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport.

His research focuses on the relationship between transport (especially infrastructure), regional development and integration in the European Union. He is particularly known for his studies on major infrastructure projects, particularly the EU’s Trans-European Networks. He is currently working on questions relating to public-private partnerships, regulation in transport and the ex-post analysis of ERDF and Cohesion Fund expenditure on transport. He is a member of the Economic Advisory Panel to HS2 Ltd, which advises the UK government on the development of high-speed rail. He has served as a member of the Standing Advisory Committee on Trunk Road Assessment (SACTRA), as an adviser to Committees of both the House of Commons and House of Lords in the UK Parliament and acted as a consultant to the European Commission, various UK government departments, and regional and local government authorities.

**Key publications**

He is the author of six books (including the textbook *Principles of Transport Economics*, with Emile Quinet) and over 150 chapters, journal articles and reports. He sits on the editorial boards of several journals in both transport and regional science and is Editor-in-Chief of *Transport Policy*.

Professor Richard Whitman  
**BA (Oxford Brookes), MA (UEA), PhD (Westminster), AcSS**  
Professor Whitman is Director of the Global Europe Centre, an Associate Fellow at Chatham House (formerly known as the Royal Institute of International Affairs) and an Academic Fellow at the European Policy Centre. He regularly writes and researches for think tanks and his most recent publication for Chatham House is *A Diplomatic Entrepreneur: Making the Most of the European External Action Service* (2011).

He was Professor of Politics at the University of Bath (2006-2011), Senior Fellow, Europe (April 2006-April 2007) and Head of the European Programme at Chatham House (April 2004 to April 2006). Prior to arrival at Chatham House, he was Professor of European Studies at the University of Westminster, where he was also Director of the Centre for the Study of Democracy from 2001-2003.

Richard Whitman is a contributor to leading journals, and has presented many papers and keynote addresses. His current research interests include the external relations and foreign, security and defence policies of the EU and the governance and future priorities of the EU.

He is on the editorial boards of *European Security* and *Studia Diplomatica*. Professor Whitman is a regular media commentator, working with print and broadcast media at home and overseas. He has been interviewed widely on Europe and European integration. Recent coverage has included BBC radio and television, CNN, Bloomberg, CNBC, Newsweek, Reuters, the *International Herald Tribune* and *The Wall Street Journal*.

Professor Whitman was elected an Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences in October 2007 and from 2009-2012 the elected Chair of the University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES).
STUDYING AT THE BRUSSELS SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

In this section

34 / About the Brussels School of International Studies
35 / Studying in Brussels
36 / Structure of the academic year
38 / Incoming student support services
39 / Moving to Brussels
40 / Career opportunities
ABOUT THE BRUSSELS SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Kent is the only UK university with a campus in Brussels. The University’s Brussels School of International Studies (BSIS) is a specialist postgraduate school offering interdisciplinary teaching and research opportunities in the area of international affairs.

Interdisciplinary study
Drawing on the expertise of the University of Kent’s School of Politics and International Relations, School of Social Policy, Sociology, and Social Research, Kent Law School, School of Economics and School of History, BSIS offers a truly interdisciplinary approach to international studies. Not only does each taught degree pathway contain a wide choice of modules among its required subjects, but programmes also provide the opportunity to enrol on optional modules extending across such disciplines as political science, law, sociology, history and economics.

You also have the option to choose a single taught programme of study or combine this degree with a secondary area of specialisation, enabling you to study one subject in the context of another.

For more information about the academic schools that offer programmes in Brussels, see p17.

International profile
The variety of programmes available at BSIS, ranging from international migration and conflict studies to law and international relations, is complemented by the diversity of the student body, with some 220 students drawn from over 45 countries. This lends an enormous amount of perspective and richness to the student experience.

We also have excellent links with many organisations based in Brussels, which greatly enhances the teaching on our courses and your opportunities for research, internships and future employment (see p40).

Expert teaching
The University of Kent particularly prides itself on rigorous teaching, informed by world-class research. This tradition continues in Brussels and is enhanced by the specialised and interdisciplinary nature of the studies offered here.

In addition to Kent’s permanent faculty members, BSIS is able to exploit its ideal position in the ‘capital of Europe’ by employing practitioners working at the cutting edge of their respective fields to share their up-to-the-minute perspective, knowledge and expertise with our students.

Modern city campus
The University has its own purpose-designed campus close to the centre of Brussels. Facilities include academic offices, a student common room, a range of seminar rooms and lecture spaces, as well as access to IT facilities, reference books and a journals collection. We offer students 24-hour secure access to the site and dedicated private work spaces.

The premises are located close to the campuses of our partner universities, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) and the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB). BSIS students have full access to all the facilities on these campuses, including libraries, public computers, bars, cafés and sports facilities (see pp42-44 for more details).

University of Kent
The University of Kent was granted its Royal Charter in 1965 and has subsequently achieved prominence as one of Britain’s most innovative and research-intensive universities, with particular strengths in (among many other subjects) international relations and law.

The University’s main campus is located in the historic city of Canterbury, easily reached from Brussels by train, and is organised around six ‘colleges’. If you are pursuing a postgraduate degree at the University, you will automatically become a member of Woolf College, Kent’s postgraduate-only college. BSIS students also benefit from the support of the Graduate School, which is dedicated to enhancing postgraduate activity at Kent. The Graduate School co-ordinates a comprehensive programme of transferable skills training and provides many opportunities for postgraduate students from all Kent’s locations to meet and socialise.

Brussels students have full use of the facilities in Kent – including the outstanding Templeman Library – and many choose to travel there to make use of Kent’s facilities for their research, for conferences and also for our annual football (soccer) match between the two campuses.

Accreditation
All degrees and certificates awarded for study on any programme at BSIS are awarded by the University of Kent and are conferred by the University at its normal Congregation ceremonies held in Canterbury Cathedral.

The delivery of programmes, both in the UK and at the University of Kent campus in Brussels, remains subject to routine audits by the UK Quality Assurance Agency to ensure the highest national and international standards.

Master’s degrees obtained from Kent are suitable for entry to the PhD programmes in the UK or the US (provided the candidate has performed to an appropriate level). The Master’s degrees obtained at BSIS are of the highest standard, comparable to any obtained in the US or UK.
One of the main advantages for any student at the University of Kent’s Brussels School of International Studies is the ability to study in Brussels, the ‘capital of Europe’. The campus is located close to the heart of Brussels, the political and diplomatic power centre of the continent.

Access to international institutions

Brussels is not only home to the European institutions – including the European Commission, European Council and European Parliament – but it also hosts NATO, the Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Powers of Europe (in nearby Mons), nearly 700 multinational corporations and over 1,000 international organisations. These institutions make Brussels the hub of one of the largest and most diverse diplomatic communities in the world, and ensure that the Brussels policy environment and political culture is enriched by a profusion of NGOs, think tanks, interest groups and the world’s largest international press corps.

During your studies in Brussels, you interact with these international institutions through guest lectures, workshops, policy review committees, and specially arranged tours. In addition, we host seminars, conferences and high-level guest speakers, which draw on Brussels’ role as the policymaking centre of Europe and one of the world’s diplomatic focal points. These events, combined with those hosted by other institutions in Brussels, give you an unparalleled opportunity to explore both Europe and the wider foreign policy world.

In addition, current and former students have held internships and jobs at all major EU institutions, NATO, Hill and Knowlton, Ogilvy & Mather, Weber Shandwick and the American Chamber of Commerce in Brussels. Following their studies, our alumni have found employment in Brussels in international companies and organisations, such as the International Crisis Group, Care International, Europe Analytica, the EastWest Institute, the International Organization for Migration, the Centre for European Policy Studies and Corporate Social Responsibility Europe. For further information on internships and employment opportunities, see p40.

Excellent language-learning opportunities

The possibility of learning new languages during your postgraduate studies can be essential for building a future career in international affairs. In a cosmopolitan city such as Brussels, there are many opportunities for language learning. A private tutor offers French classes on the campus, which are organised according to student ability.

For more formal language classes, in French, Dutch or many other languages, you can choose to study at our partner institution the VUB, whose campus is next to ours. For more information, please visit https://my.vub.ac.be/en/acto/english-acto-home

As a community with many expatriates (about a third of the city’s total population), Brussels is filled with speakers of many languages and there are a number of private schools and agencies offering language courses.

Superb location

The Brussels campus is a 15-minute drive from the city centre and there are excellent metro, bus and tram links which make travel around the city easy. Brussels is also located close enough to many European cities to allow convenient travel for day and weekend excursions. Destinations such as London, Paris, Amsterdam and Cologne are all around two hours away by high-speed train.

Cultural capital

Brussels also offers a huge range of cultural sites and activities, including interesting architecture, music and film festivals, exhibitions ranging from contemporary art to medieval crafts, and a great number of cafés, restaurants and bars serving up both international and traditional Belgian fare. There is no shortage of places to sample the world-class chocolates and hundreds of varieties of beers for which Belgium is renowned. Brussels is also an excellent place to shop, offering everything from large gallery shopping centres to local weekly markets.

As well as being a regional, federal and European capital with its own offerings, such as museums (more than 80), galleries, theatres and exhibitions, Brussels is ideally positioned to reach Europe’s other popular cultural and historical landmarks.

We also organise annual field trips for our students to locations of historic and political importance, such as Waterloo, Normandy, the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in The Hague and the International Organization for Migration in Geneva.

“My time at BSIS was invaluable, giving me the opportunity to become involved in the areas that interested me. If you want to study international issues, doing so in Brussels gives you a clear advantage.”

Melika Zhar
British
MA International Relations
STRUCTURE OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR

The University operates the same teaching year in Brussels as it does on its main campus in Canterbury. It is comprised of two 12-week teaching terms and one six-week teaching term. Teaching term dates are therefore harmonised, which facilitates the movement of staff and students between the two locations.

Hours of study
All taught Master’s programmes consist of a total of 1,800 hours of study. Each module represents 180 hours of study. You have classroom contact with each of your teachers (in lecture/seminar format) for at least two hours a week for each course. A further 13 hours of private study is required for each module each week. You spend the balance of the hours attending a range of academic activities and working on your dissertation.

Mode of study
Full-time
The majority of students reading for the MA or LLM programmes at BSIS are full-time students. As a full-time student, your programme will last for 12 months, carrying a total of 90 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) credits. You select three modules per term from your programme’s pathway. You also attend the preparatory Fundamentals, Dissertation and Research lectures and seminars – these provide the necessary foundation and tools to enable you to construct a line of enquiry, create a research design, understand the different kinds of arguments you can make when writing a dissertation and discern the appropriate methodology and conceptual framework that flows from that choice of argument. This allows you to conduct independent research and scholarship at the level appropriate for a graduate school in all of the taught fields of study.

120 ECTS credit option (extended programme)
All taught Master’s programmes are also offered in a 120 ECTS credit format, which comprises nine taught modules plus a dissertation over 18 months.

The extended programme allows you to study your subject in greater detail, with the opportunity to choose a wider range of modules. You also have the chance to spend one term at the Canterbury campus. The programme is ideal for students who require extra credits or would like to have more time to pursue an internship.

For some programmes, a two-year Master’s with the first year spent in Brussels and the second year in Canterbury is also available (see under Mobility of study location on the opposite page). For further details, please contact Admissions at ukbaapplications@kent.ac.uk

Part-time
There is considerable flexibility in teaching arrangements to accommodate the needs of students who wish to combine employment or other commitments with a part-time degree programme. Part-time students complete the normal curriculum of six modules over a period of 24 months, in a sequence to be arranged in consultation with their programme convenor. Fundamentals, Dissertation and Research is taken during the second year of study; the dissertation is submitted at the end of this second year, which permits part-time students two summer recesses in which to complete it.

As most modules consist of a one-hour lecture and a one-hour seminar each week, in addition to the reading and preparation which is done on

Term dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>Mon 26 Sep – Fri 16 Dec 2016</td>
<td>Mon 16 Jan – Fri 7 Apr 2017</td>
<td>Mon 8 May – Fri 16 Jun 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
an individual basis, part-time students are able to consolidate substantially the amount of time they spend on campus. Many of the University’s modules are offered in the evenings, with a one-hour lecture followed by a one-hour seminar, enabling part-time students who are studying and working concurrently to fit the programme conveniently into their schedules.

Date of entry

Taught programmes

Both full-time and part-time students may begin the MA and LLM programmes in either September or January. Although the majority of students begin their programmes in September, some students may wish to take a few months away from their studies between the completion of their undergraduate degree and the commencement of postgraduate studies, in which case beginning in January is a practical alternative. Part-time students may also find it convenient to have the opportunity to begin in January.

Applicants considering a January start should note, however, that both the rhythm of the academic year and the overall duration of the programme is different from that of students who opt to begin in September. However, students who begin in January have more opportunity to undertake an internship over the summer recess without pressure of other programme commitments.

For students who begin in September, the 12-month programme is organised as shown in Table 1, above. Part-time students beginning in September would follow the programme outlined in Table 2, above.

By contrast, for a student who begins in January, the programme extends to 18 months in order to accommodate the examination cycle. You must sit the examinations as a precondition for being permitted to progress to the dissertation. The programme for January entry is shown in Table 3, above.

If you choose to begin the programme in January, you should also note that for purposes of some scholarships and loan schemes, the period of registration will be from January to June, followed by an unregistered period from June to September, followed by a second period of registration from September to April. Applicants should note that the months in which they are unregistered may be unsupported by their financial aid.

Research programmes

Research students may begin their programme at the start of any month by mutual agreement.

Mobility of study location

The harmonised structure of the teaching year means that students reading for either the MA in International Relations, the MA in International Conflict and Security, or the LLM in Human Rights Law (the three programmes which are also offered at the Canterbury campus) may choose to spend a term in Canterbury. Likewise, a student from Canterbury may choose to spend a term in Brussels while, for example, pursuing an internship.

Students enrolled on the extended programme have the opportunity to spend an entire year in Brussels and then spend a term studying at the Canterbury campus. The option to spend a term in Canterbury is also available on most of our degree programmes.

For further information regarding mobility of study location, please contact Admissions at ukbapplications@kent.ac.uk
We recognise that preparing for postgraduate study in another country – as is the case for the great majority of our students – can be both exciting and daunting. With this in mind, we provide incoming students with many support services and resources in order to answer questions, address concerns and make the transition to Brussels and your studies with us as smooth as possible.

Incoming student list-serve
The incoming student list-serve is an automatic electronic mailing list, created for each incoming class in order to disseminate useful information, facilitate contact between students and provide a forum for asking general questions. Information on accommodation, student visas, health insurance, enrolment, Orientation Week and many other topics useful in preparing for the move to Brussels is sent regularly through the list-serve. Notices of flat-shares and apartments for rent in Brussels are also sent to incoming students through the list-serve. In addition, the list-serve enables you to introduce yourself to your future classmates in order to get to know them before the start of term and to arrange flat-shares.

Facebook group
Each year, we set up a closed Facebook group for all new applicants to BSIS. The group provides a good opportunity to learn more about Brussels, get to know your classmates ahead of the new term and start your accommodation search. You will receive an invite to join the group once you have been made an offer of a place to study at BSIS.

BSIS Survival Guide
The BSIS Survival Guide has been created by the BSIS Graduate Union (BGU) (see p46) and Admissions staff to provide as much information as possible to assist you in the relocation process and to help you settle in Brussels as quickly as possible. The Guide is available to download several months before the start of your studies to give you time to consult it while preparing for the move to Brussels.

The Guide is highly practical and informative, covering such topics as health insurance, the search for accommodation, transport in Brussels, registration at the local commune, medical facilities and banking. It also includes campus maps of our two partner universities, the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and the Université Libre de Bruxelles, as well as English translations of the most commonly used terms when searching for accommodation.

Suggested reading list
To allow you to familiarise yourself with the essential texts for any programme of international studies, a suggested reading list is sent to you in the months before the term begins, also through the list-serve. The list contains core readings in the fields of international relations and international law, which are relevant to all of the programmes offered at BSIS, some of which may also be part of the syllabus of certain modules.

This list proves especially useful if you have not studied international relations as part of your undergraduate degree, or if it has been several years since you studied the subject.

Current Student Liaison Programme
It is often helpful for postgraduate study to gain the perspective of a current BSIS student. The Current Student Liaison Programme connects you with current students who have gone through the process and have volunteered to share tips and insight. Incoming students have often found it useful to correspond with someone following their programme, someone with a similar undergraduate degree, or someone from their home country.

Orientation Week
To help you settle in Brussels as quickly as possible and prepare you for academic study at the University, a programme of administrative, academic, practical and social orientation events is held the week before the start of term. Participation in Orientation Week enables you to start the academic year smoothly and effectively, and provides you with the required practical and academic tools to begin your programme in the best conditions.
MOVING TO BRUSSELS

The majority of students studying at the Brussels School of International Studies come from outside Belgium. While studying abroad - and especially studying international affairs abroad - provides a unique and horizon-broadening experience, we recognise that the prospect of taking care of practical issues such as visas, accommodation and transport can be a little daunting.

Below, you will find information on several key practical issues that international students should consider when planning for their studies with us.

Visas and residency
If you are not a resident of the EU or of a Schengen country, you will require a visa to study in Belgium. There are several exceptions to this requirement (ie dual nationality, diplomatic passport etc). Prospective students who are unsure if they will require a visa are asked to check with their local Belgian consulate or embassy. American students should be aware that a visa application will require an FBI background check; as this will add extra time to the process, it is important to apply early. Visa-related and other useful information can be found on Belgium’s Federal Public Service website at: http://diplomatie.belgium.be/en During the application process, the admissions team will provide detailed help with the practicalities of the visa application process, but the Belgian Embassy is the best first point of contact.

Accommodation
Brussels offers many options for students looking to secure low-cost accommodation and is one of the most affordable capitals in Western Europe. One element that makes the search for housing easier is the flexibility of the Brussels housing market. As there are many students and people working as stagiaires at the European Parliament, NATO and other institutions, there are usually people leaving their apartments who are looking for others to take over their leases.

The prices tend to be reasonable due to this large availability. Studio apartments with all charges included (water, electricity, gas, tenant charges) can be found for around €550-750 per month, and a one-bedroom all-included for around €650-850 per month. Most students choose to share an apartment and this will cost approximately €350-450 per month, including utilities. Notices of available apartments, many of which are being vacated by outgoing BSIS students, are also sent through the list-serve, or online via the secure Facebook group, which is set up each year for incoming students (see opposite page), or via our housing blog, which includes a long list of options with trusted landlords.

You can usually locate an apartment within a few days of arrival. One of the best ways to do so is to walk around a neighbourhood that you like and write the phone numbers of listings posted on doors of buildings. This is quite a common practice in Belgium, and students find that the majority of people speak at least some English. The University of Kent’s facilities in Brussels are conveniently located close to the student district between the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and the Université Libre de Bruxelles campuses, much of the housing within a short walking distance of the University is designed for students in layout and price.

Transport links
Brussels has an excellent public transport system, which makes it easy to get around the city quickly. Buses, trams and metros run on a regular schedule and are generally very reliable.

To ride the bus, tram or metro, you need to purchase a ticket. Single ‘jump’ tickets can be purchased on any bus or tram. When riding the metro, you can purchase a single ‘jump’ ticket in the station where you take the metro, either from the ticket windows or from the automated machines (which have an English language option). Monthly and annual passes can also be purchased at a reduced cost.

Brussels also offers connections to many European destinations via the Eurostar, Thalys, TGV and InterCity Express (ICE) train services. Students wanting a weekend outside Brussels can take advantage of these connecting services to travel to Bruges, Paris, Amsterdam and Cologne, among others.

Air travel in and out of Brussels also makes travel easy. Most international flights go through Brussels-National at Zaventem, easily accessible by the Airport-Express bus or by one of the trains that stop in Gare Centrale and Gare du Midi (both of which are on a metro line). Low-cost carriers have made Brussels South Charleroi Airport a hub. Ryanair, for example, offers direct flights from Charleroi to cities such as Dublin, Stockholm, Venice and Barcelona.

Living costs
In planning for study in Brussels, it is useful to have a guide to approximate living costs. Luckily, Brussels is still a relatively easy city to live in on a budget. You should be able to live within the limits set out in the table below, but some students may spend more or less than indicated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation (including utilities)</td>
<td>€81.00</td>
<td>€196.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study costs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and materials</td>
<td>€5.00</td>
<td>€20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>€35.00</td>
<td>€65.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothes (essential replacements)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and laundry</td>
<td>€6.00</td>
<td>€25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal items (including toiletries)</td>
<td>€5.00</td>
<td>€15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socialising costs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socialising (including sport)</td>
<td>€25.00</td>
<td>€70.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>€7.00</td>
<td>€20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel (local)</td>
<td>€0.00</td>
<td>€10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unexpected costs (including health or dental care)</td>
<td>€10.00</td>
<td>€20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>€174.00</td>
<td>€441.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“BSIS staff’s genuine interest in my personal progress as an applicant and as an incoming student made me feel welcome and confirmed my decision to attend. I now see that the effort and accessibility that I first experienced via email is real, live and ongoing.”

Sarah Sommer
German
MA International Relations
At the University of Kent, we are committed to enhancing the employability of all our students, equipping you with the right skills to successfully enter the competitive world of work.

The location of our Brussels campus in ‘the capital of Europe’, our multidisciplinary approach, our standard of academic excellence and the unparalleled internationalism of our student body provide you with a unique educational and life experience, opening up numerous career paths within the international arena.

Graduate destinations

Kent has an excellent record for employment: over 96% of our postgraduate students who graduated in 2014 found a job or further study opportunity within six months. Graduates of the Brussels School of International Studies enjoy a very high success rate in pursuing their chosen careers shortly after graduation. Some who undertake internships during their studies are offered contracts immediately after graduation and opt to remain in Brussels. Others have joined their home country’s diplomatic service, entered international organisations, or have chosen to undertake a ‘stage’ at the European Commission, or another EU institution.

Many of our students, however, venture further afield. Recent BSIS graduates, for example, have helped to set up elections in Afghanistan; others have monitored elections in Iraq, throughout the Balkans and in Africa. A large number of BSIS graduates have either joined or have themselves started NGOs and charities focused on these or other regions. Others have returned home well-equipped to pursue careers in international commerce, finance, government and law.

For all these reasons, the BSIS alumni base extends from the United Nations to BP; from the US Department of Homeland Security to the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) at The Hague, spanning a variety of activities and professions. Recent graduates have found careers in organisations such as Greenpeace, Oxfam, NATO, the UK Foreign Office and the European Parliament.

Benefits of advanced study

Employers recognise that a postgraduate qualification demonstrates a wide range of skills. During your studies at BSIS, you acquire a high level of academic knowledge and specialist skills within your subject area. We also help you to develop general skills that are essential to the world of postgraduate employment, such as the ability to adapt to challenges, analyse complex real-world problems and develop original ideas.

By studying in Brussels’ richly international environment, you are able to enhance your cultural awareness as well as acquire additional language skills, which are invaluable assets for many employers.

Transferable skills training

Transferable skills are those which, once learned, can be used in different contexts. They include IT and information management skills, interpersonal skills, teamwork and leadership skills, and an understanding of business and commerce.

An increasing number of employers have identified the importance of these skills as a complement to academic knowledge. At BSIS, we help you to gain these skills through your academic studies and also through participation in University-wide initiatives, such as Kent Graduate School’s Researcher Development Programme (see p26).

Internships in Brussels

We have fostered excellent relations with the Brussels community, which creates many opportunities for students to pursue internships. Through agreements with prestigious employers, the University is able to offer around 20-30 high-quality internships per year that are dedicated exclusively to our Brussels students. In addition, BSIS students and alumni comprise a tightly knit network through which internship opportunities pass frequently.

Some of these internships are paid (non-EU students have the right in Belgium to apply for a work permit allowing them to work 20 hours a week) and others are voluntary. These internships offer great exposure, the chance to build a network and the opportunity to collect primary material for your dissertation.

Careers advice

The School has a dedicated careers adviser who provides advice and coaching services to students through workshops, seminars and individual meetings. Working with our careers adviser during the academic year will maximise your potential to identify and obtain employment after graduation, in Brussels or elsewhere.

Many of the organisations and their human resources personnel here in Brussels are familiar with the University, which can be beneficial in the application process. There is also a large number of alumni still in Brussels, who often send notices of positions through the list-serve network to which all current BSIS students are subscribed.

The BSIS Alumni Network

BSIS students and alumni have created a lively and thriving network that communicates on many levels to keep alumni in touch with each other, with the University, with current students and with developments in the many fields of international affairs studied at the School. This work includes co-ordinating reunions and receptions throughout the world (with a particularly active chapter in Washington, DC), maintaining a website and running an active email list of opportunities and ideas.

Building on this success, the Alumni Forum has been established, which meets four times a year to bring together alumni and students to discuss current affairs. Alumni have also agreed to be contacted by students to share their experiences in their respective fields and to help where possible with internships and employment.

Further information

For more information on the careers help we provide at the University of Kent, visit our Employability web page at www.kent.ac.uk/employability

Kyle Ash
American
LLM International Law with International Relations, now Senior Legislative Representative, Greenpeace USA

‘BSIS is a perfect place to start a career if you want the right combination of academic rigour and professional opportunity. My network at the School helped me get a ‘stage’ with the European Environmental Bureau and I now work in Washington, DC on global warming policy for an Amsterdam-based NGO – I wouldn’t have secured this position were it not for my experience at BSIS.’
ACADEMIC FACILITIES AND LEARNING RESOURCES

For anyone pursuing an advanced degree in one of the many fields of international affairs or international law, the opportunities for academic development and achievement in Brussels are unparalleled.

By studying here – the headquarters of the European Union, NATO and SHAPE, as well as hundreds of NGOs – you have access to numerous archives, scholars, experts, practitioners and conferences that thrive among the institutions of this city. As a student at our Brussels centre, you have access to at least ten nearby general and specialist university, government and private libraries suitable for postgraduate study. All of these libraries have substantial holdings in English, and an up-to-date research guide on making use of them is provided when you register for your degree. This guide also details the extensive online services to which you have access via Kent and our partner universities, the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) and the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB).

University library facilities

Our Brussels students have the same access as students of the VUB and ULB to facilities on the main VUB/ULB campuses. Although these Brussels universities share a large campus area, they are distinct universities, so there are two libraries, two computing centres and two of most other student services. The University of Kent has special agreements with these universities, so our students in Brussels have access to all of these facilities.

The ULB Library catalogue, CIBLE, can be consulted online at www.bib.ulb.ac.be. The ULB Library consists of four main libraries and a number of specialised libraries around the campus. The libraries of most interest are the law library, the library for human sciences and the library at the Institute for European Studies. Approximately two million books and journals are housed in these libraries.

The VUB Library catalogue is available online at www.vub.ac.be/BIBLIO/index_en.html. The Library contains some 400,000 volumes. Most of these can be found at the central library; the remainder is decentralised in various departments and faculties around the university.

Other libraries and research resources

If you are unable to travel to the library where the resources you require are stored, the inter-library loan systems of the VUB and ULB libraries give you the opportunity to have resources delivered for a short time to the campus. However, there are many libraries relevant to international relations only a short metro-ride from our Brussels campus. Among these are: the Central Library of the European Commission, the Library of the Embassy of the United States of America and the Library of the Catholic University of Brussels. You can also make use of the Royal Library and the Library of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belgium, both easily accessible in central Brussels.

You are encouraged to join local think tanks such as the Royal Institute for International Relations of Belgium, Friends of Europe, the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) and BRUEGEL, and regularly attend their meetings to complement your research.

You can also take advantage of specialised libraries in Canterbury and London (easily reached by train) for research work, or for the preparation of your dissertation. As a student at BSIS, you are registered as a student of the University of Kent, which gives you access to the facilities at the main campus in Canterbury where the Templeman Library has strong holdings in the area of politics and international relations and mediation.

There are many regional and specialist libraries in London and other centres which all members of the School of Politics and International Relations can use, subject to conditions, such as the Chatham House library at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London. The School has produced a library guide that provides both a full introduction to international relations resources at the University’s main library and a near comprehensive list of library resources in London for students of international relations.

There is also a modest number of books held on our Brussels premises to augment the books that can be found in the local libraries, the catalogue of which is available online.

Electronic information services

As a student on the Brussels campus, you have a personal password identifier that enables you to have remote access from Brussels to many of the online information services available through the Templeman Library gateway. There is an extensive and rapidly increasing range of electronic sources available to students, including online databases (Web of Science, Social Science Citation Index, "I've found the electronic and physical scholarly resources available in Brussels to be world-class.”

Milo Jones
American
PhD International Relations

You also have access to the Electronic Law Library, which is an award-winning portal constructed by the law librarian at the University of Kent. It offers:
- full-text access to articles of some 1,000 law journals
- Justis, which contains law reports, including reports on human rights
- Butterworths, which includes Halsbury’s Law Direct, Legislation Direct, All England Direct and Law Direct
- LexisNexis, which contains UK case law and legislation, and a full-text journal retrieval system
- Westlaw, which contains UK case law and legislation
- Lawtel, which includes Human Rights Interactive, full-text legislation, case law and transcripts
- Current Legal Information for current law databases and a journals index
- Index to Legal Periodicals
- Zetoc, which provides online search of contents pages of some 20,000 journals held in the British Library
- Clover Newspaper Index, with an index to articles published in newspapers since 1987.

Computing facilities

Once you have enrolled online, you will receive a Kent login and computing account to be used as part of Kent’s webmail system. You have access to several computers on our campus premises, which allow you to check your email between lectures, and there is a high-speed Wi-Fi service throughout the building.

To provide sufficient computer access for all, you have full access to the public computers and printers on the VUB and ULB campuses, which comprises hundreds of desktop computers (Mac and PC), terminals and workstations. The VUBnet, for instance, uses Cray, Sun and Silicon Graphics processors, with fibre-optic links and ethernet cabling to provide very fast internet access. Some computer rooms are open 24 hours a day.

Further information

For more information on the facilities at BSIS, see www.kent.ac.uk/brussels

For more information on the VUB and ULB, including their extensive learning resources, go to www.vub.ac.be or www.ulb.ac.be

“The resources available both at the School and at the nearby partner universities proved excellent tools for my studies and for enhancing my skills in academic research.”

Daniel Trup
British
LLM International Law with International Relations, now works for the Special Prosecutors Office of Kosovo
LEISURE FACILITIES AND SUPPORT SERVICES

As a student of the Brussels School of International Studies (BSIS), you benefit from access to a range of cultural activities, leisure and sports facilities, and personal support services during your time in Brussels.

Arts and culture
Cultural activities on the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) and the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) campus include: art workshops; a student orchestra and choir; concerts; films; exhibitions; theatre; literary and poetry readings; and numerous student organisations. In addition, the city of Brussels has an active arts scene, including concerts, exhibitions and drama.

Sports facilities
The extensive sports facilities on the VUB campus include: a 25-metre swimming pool; a football pitch, rugby pitch and athletics track; sports halls for indoor soccer, basketball, badminton and tennis; a martial arts hall, squash courts and a climbing wall.

There is also a fitness centre on the VUB campus, which offers a discount to BSIS students. Its facilities include a modern gym and cardio area, relaxation areas, a solarium and a dance studio.

Advice and support
University is a place of study, but it should also be a place where you feel at home. BSIS staff provide ongoing advice and support during your studies as well as useful information on accommodation, student visas, enrolment, orientation and practical tips on preparing for your arrival in Brussels.

All new students are encouraged to attend an Orientation Week before their studies begin. See pp38-39 for more information.

Students in Brussels also have access to a wide range of additional support services available at the VUB and ULB.

Health centre
Both the VUB and ULB have a medical service on campus, providing preventive, emergency and general health care.

For more information about the VUB Medical Office, please see www.vub.ac.be/english/infofor/prospectivestudents/healthcentre.html

The ULB Medical Service can be contacted by telephone on 02 650 29 29.

Legal advice
Info-Droit ULB, the legal advice office of the ULB, can advise on a range of legal questions, from rental contracts to family allowances and taxation.

You can also contact FORSTIS (Foreign Student Help Service) at the International Relations and Mobility Office on the VUB campus for advice and information. See www.vub.ac.be/english/home/international.html

Student counselling
A Centre for Social, Legal and Relational Problems is available at the VUB, where psychologists and social workers are available to help students with social, personal and relational problems. The VUB can also provide counselling assistance. At the ULB Psych campus, you can get in touch with a psychologist, a psychiatrist and a social worker.

Disability support
Disability support is provided by the University of Kent’s Student Support and Wellbeing teams, based on the Canterbury campus, in co-ordination with the VUB’s services. For more information, contact accessibility@kent.ac.uk

“"The staff in Brussels are always available if you have any concerns or problems. That’s a very big plus for the School.””

Claudia Nocente
Italian
MA International Conflict and Security
In addition to your academic work, there are many opportunities for you to get involved in student activities outside the classroom.

On the following pages, there are details of some of the many initiatives that have been founded by past students of the Brussels School of International Studies and that still thrive today.

Guest lectures
BSIS invites practitioners from the Brussels community to give guest lectures several times a month. These lectures are an important part of the programme for several reasons. Events of international significance occur throughout the academic year that could not possibly have been anticipated in advance and so are not included in the teaching curriculum. Guest lectures offer a forum in which these events can be discussed. A range of different politicians, diplomats, journalists and others are able to discuss in depth a wide range of specialist issues, often illuminating issues with much greater clarity than the media.

The insights of such practitioners often help staff to identify for students those features of international relations which are embedded within current events, forging an excellent link between theory and practice.

A guest lecture committee works in conjunction with BSIS administration to select speakers for presentations. These lectures are an excellent way of hearing the perspectives of those working in the field on current issues. BSIS is proud and grateful to have hosted, among many others:

- Howard Chase (former Director of European Government Affairs, BP)
- Lord Hannay of Chiswick (former UK Ambassador to UN)
- Ambassador Vladimir Chizhov (Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the European Union)
- Senator Alain Destexhe (Vice President of the Committee on Foreign Affairs)
- Gareth Evans (President Emeritus of the International Crisis Group)
- Professor Igor Ivanov (former Russian Foreign Minister)
- General Sir Mike Jackson (former Head of the British Army)
- Judith Kumin (Representative of the UNHCR in Brussels)
- Edward Mortimer (formerly of the Executive Office of UN Secretary-General)
- Mehmet Ogutcu (former Director of International Communications, BG Holding Group)
- Ambassador Vladimir Rakhmann (Deputy Secretary General, Energy Charter Secretariat)
- Dmitry Rogozin (Deputy Prime Minister of Russia)
- Dr Jamie Shea (Deputy Assistant Secretary General, Emerging Security Challenges Division, NATO)
- Ambassador Oda Helen Stentnes (Permanent Representative of Norway to the European Union)
- Aidan White (former Secretary General of the International Federation of Journalists)
- Sir David Warren (former UK Ambassador to Japan)
- Ambassador Kostiantyn Yelisieiev (Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the European Union).

Brussels Journal of International Studies
The Brussels Journal of International Studies is run by the students and the faculty, and was founded in 2003. Its mandate is to establish a platform for discussion in the field of international studies for students, alumni and associates of BSIS.

Published articles are in-depth, high-quality contributions to the disciplines of all programmes offered at BSIS. Submissions are open to all current and graduate students of BSIS, as well as scholars related to the School.

The diversity of the BSIS scholars and their topics is reflected in the journal. Edited by current students who are selected each year by the Board of Editors, the journal is published annually in an electronic version and is available at www.kent.ac.uk/brussels/journal.html

“...
International Justice forum

International Justice (IJ) is a research-oriented working group that focuses on the concept of justice and the application of justice within the international arena. It was formed to study both the theoretical concept of justice and how the concept of justice is utilised within the international system by both state and non-state players.

Members of the international justice group examine theory, delving into case studies such as: German genocides and the Nuremberg Trials, Rwanda and Burundi history and the interrelated genocides, atrocities and truth commissions in Cambodia, the Japanese American migration history and the Second World War internments, as well as concepts such as environmental justice, child soldiers, and the North-South divide. Planned events include viewings of documentaries, such as Ghosts of Rwanda, S21: The Khmer Rouge Killing Machine and Auschwitz – Inside the Nazi State. There are also organised field trips – for example, IJ has visited Auschwitz and The Hague in recent years.

BSIS Graduate Union (BGU)

The BSIS Graduate Union (BGU) is a self-governing body of student members whose aim is to promote the interests and welfare of students at BSIS and to represent the interests and concerns of its members to the academic and administrative staff. Through the BGU, you have access to a wide range of benefits, including guest lectures, discounts, social and athletic events, networking events and more.

Representatives are elected at the start of each term, with positions rotating so that some new representatives are elected in September and some in January. The elected body of the BGU consists of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Social Secretary, Sports Representative, Welfare Officer and one representative from each BSIS programme.

Migration Studies Forum

The mission of the Migration Studies Forum is to take the topic of international migration outside the classroom. Members have attended events held at the European Commission, the UN, the Centre for European Policy Studies and the Cervantes Cultural Centre. The Migration Studies Forum has also organised a visit to the offices of the International Organization for Migration in order to discuss several key programmes with staff there. The Forum is open to any student interested in international migration.

Strategic Affairs Forum

The Strategic Affairs Forum is a discussion group for a broad range of issues, such as geopolitics, terrorism, military matters and global economic issues, among others. Our goal is to have lively discussion on relevant issues that have a long-term impact on global events.

The Forum is not restrictive and all students interested in the discussion topics are welcome to participate. At the end of each meeting, there is a small social event, so that discussion can continue and other topics can be addressed.

“For me, studying at BSIS was very rewarding and has prepared me well for the challenges that I currently face in my career. I am now working as a foreign service officer for Citizenship and Immigration Canada and am awaiting notification of my first international posting.”

Hugo Genest
Canadian
MA International Conflict and Security
FEES AND FUNDING

In this section / Tuition fees and financial support
TUITION FEES AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The annual tuition fees for 2015/16 are listed below. Brussels School of International Studies programmes are charged in euros rather than sterling and there is only one fee regardless of student origin.

Fees are correct for 2015/16 and represent the cost of one year of study only; fees for 2016/17 will increase year on year by no more than RPI +3% in each academic year of study except where regulated. Where fees are regulated (such as by the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills or Research Councils UK), they will be increased by an amount up to the permitted increase. For the most up-to-date information on tuition fees, see www.kent.ac.uk/brussels/studying/fees

Payment of tuition fees
BSIS students have several options for payment. Tuition fees paid in full at registration attract a 2% discount. BSIS also makes available two structured tuition fee payment plans, which are interest-free and allow students to spread their fee payments over the duration of their studies. Students sign up for a selected payment plan and hand this plan to the BSIS Finance Officer during Orientation Week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Fee (£)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taught programmes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>16,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>8,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research programmes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>8,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>4,330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that the Two Capitals and the extended programmes (two years) are subject to a different fee structure. For further information, please contact Admissions on ukbapplications@kent.ac.uk

University of Kent, Brussels scholarships
Each year, BSIS awards over €130,000 worth of scholarships to its postgraduate taught (MA/LLM) and research (PhD) students. In each case, the Scholarship Board is looking for the very best and brightest students, but also those who show the greatest potential. For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/brussels/studying/fees/scholarships.html
Financial support

General schemes administered by the University of Kent are outlined below. Please note that students are eligible to apply for US Federal and Canadian Government Student Loans, Fulbright and Jean Monnet Scholarships, and a variety of EU state education funding initiatives. BSIS is also a participating member of the Erasmus Exchange Scheme. In addition, students legally registered in Belgium are eligible for a work permit allowing them to work for up to 20 hours a week.

UK and EU students

Professional and Career Development Loans
Professional and Career Development Loans are commercial bank loans that students can use to help pay for work-related learning. To be eligible, you must be an applicant to an approved programme of study and have been resident in the UK for at least three years. For further information, see www.gov.uk/career-development-loans

US and Canadian students

US Federal and private loans
US students are eligible for Federal or private loans when attending the University of Kent. Candidates should contact our Foreign Loans Unit at foreignloans@kent.ac.uk before applying.

Fulbright Commission awards
The Fulbright Commission has awards available for US citizens who wish to undertake postgraduate study at the University of Kent. For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/scholarships/postgraduate/international/fulbright_commission.html

Canada Student Loans
Students from Canada may be interested to note that we accept Canada Student Loans. For further information, please contact our Foreign Loans Unit at foreignloans@kent.ac.uk

Students from developing countries
Overseas Bursary Committee
The Overseas Bursary Committee is normally able to offer one or more awards each year to overseas students who are unable to complete their education in their own countries because of religious, political, social or cultural persecution. For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/brussels/studying/fees/dev-countries.html

Additional sources of funding
Jean Monnet Scholarship Scheme
We have been welcoming students from Turkey on the Jean Monnet Scholarship Scheme for many years. The scholarship covers tuition fees and living costs, and is awarded competitively.

There are also funding opportunities for students from Scandinavia, Germany and Italy, which can be found at www.kent.ac.uk/brussels/studying/fees/finance-aid.html

European Commission
The European Commission has launched a pilot project in which it offers scholarships for students from Russia and the European Neighbourhood countries intending to enrol for an MA programme on the European Union. For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/brussels/studying/fees/additional.html

Further information
For more up-to-date and detailed information on the financial awards listed here, see www.kent.ac.uk/scholarships/postgraduate

“It was a privilege to be awarded one of the BSIS scholarships, which enabled me to undertake my Master’s degree and subsequently experience all the fantastic opportunities the city of Brussels provides for politics students.”

Dario Sabbioni
Italian
MA Political Strategy and Communication
HOW TO APPLY

In this section

51 / Entry requirements and applications
53 / Come and visit us
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

Below, you will find information on entry requirements and application procedures for all our postgraduate degree programmes in Brussels.

Applying to the Brussels School of International Studies

You may apply for any of our taught or research degree programmes at www.kent.ac.uk/brussels/studying/admissions.

If you wish to pursue a secondary specialisation alongside your chosen taught degree, you should initially apply for a single programme of study in the area that interests you most. You will then have the opportunity to choose a secondary area of study through the modules you select once you have enrolled at BSIS.

If you are interested in taking part in the Two Capitals experience, you should initially apply for one of the following programmes: MA International Relations, MA International Conflict and Security, MA EU External Relations, MA International Development or MA International Political Economy. You are expected to have completed the taught modules of your chosen programme and have achieved an average of a Merit before applying for one of the exchanges as part of the Two Capitals programme. A decision on whether you may transfer to the Two Capitals programme will be made in May for those students who started their Master’s in the previous September and in February for those students who started in January.

There is no requirement to inform us of your interest in pursuing either the secondary specialisation option or the Two Capitals programme prior to joining the School.

Entry requirements

All applicants for the MA and LLM programmes at BSIS must possess a Bachelor’s degree or equivalent. Applicants to the PhD programmes must have at least a Master’s-level degree. The Bachelor’s degree should normally be at least equivalent to an upper second class honours degree (at least a 3.2 GPA under the American system). Applicants with degrees from other educational systems are asked to contact the School if they are unsure about the equivalence of their degree.

Suitable first degrees include: Anthropology, Economics, History, International Relations, Law, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology. We encourage diversity and the many insights into the disciplines that those with other academic backgrounds can bring. We also recognise that those with different specialisations often become involved in international affairs through the course of their careers and wish to gain insight and experience through academic study.

English language requirements

The University of Kent requires all non-native speakers of English to reach a minimum standard of proficiency in written and spoken English before beginning a postgraduate degree.

The minimum English language test scores are listed below:

- a British Council International English Language Test (IELTS) with a score of 6.5 overall, including 6.0 in reading and writing and 5.5 in listening and speaking.
- a Pearson Test of English (Academic) with a score of 62 overall (including 60 in all four subtests).

Please note that the minimum English language test scores for LLM programmes offered by Kent Law School in Brussels are slightly higher.

Only English language tests taken up to a maximum of two years prior to the date of registration will be accepted for admission to the University. Exceptions are sometimes made for students who have completed their undergraduate education entirely in English.

Application materials

There is no application fee. A complete application will consist of the following:

- The application form

You can apply for any of the programmes by completing the online application form at www.kent.ac.uk/brussels/studying/admissions. When applying, please be sure to select the Brussels campus, as the application is used for all programmes and campuses of the University of Kent.

An official university transcript

You do not need to wait until your final transcript is issued before applying to the University. The University recognises that making appropriate arrangements to study in a different country takes time and preparation, and we hope to provide you with an indication of your chances of acceptance as early as possible. You are therefore encouraged to send an unofficial copy of the transcript, showing the courses and grades awarded to date. This will give admissions staff an early indication of your abilities and, on this basis, we may decide to make a conditional offer to you; such an offer is conditional upon receipt of the official transcript with an acceptable result (see under Entry requirements, left).

Two letters of reference

For online applications, email addresses of referees must be provided as referees will be asked to submit references via our secure website. References must be originals and must be in English. Photocopies and translations will be accepted only if they have been certified as true copies by the issuing authority or by a certified translator. Referees listed on applications made online will receive an automated email requesting a reference. Email addresses must be official.

Letters of reference should be from those who have known you in an academic capacity and are familiar with your academic abilities. Ideally, a reference letter will discuss: how well and in what capacity the referee knows you; a statement on your academic performance and how this reflects your potential; your ability to work with others, particularly in a multicultural environment; and your potential to make a contribution to international affairs.

The University recognises that many applicants are mid-career professionals for whom it may be some years since they studied at a university and that such applicants may experience difficulties in obtaining academic references. In such cases, letters of reference from employers may be accepted, provided the referees are supervisors or others in positions more senior than you.

Evidence of English language ability

Where English is not your normal working or mother tongue, evidence of competence in written and spoken English must be included (see under Entry requirements, left, for acceptable evidence).

Research proposal

If you are applying for a PhD programme, it is strongly recommended that you contact BSIS in the first instance so that you have an opportunity to discuss your study plans with a member of academic staff.

You should then submit a brief research proposal of approximately 3,000 words, outlining the research project you wish to undertake. The topic of the proposal is assessed for its content and its merit, but also within the context of the supervisory skills available within the University. While there is a wide range of expertise available, it is sometimes the case that an applicant’s proposal falls outside the range of specific subject knowledge in the University, or that the member of staff with expertise in the applicant’s chosen research field has already taken on the maximum number of PhD candidates he or she may supervise.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF
One of the best things about BSIS is the easy access to staff – their friendliness and accessibility are major pluses to studying here.”

Chris Heim
American
MA International Relations
COMING AND VISIT US

If you are able to travel to Brussels, we encourage you to visit our campus. Our staff members are happy to meet with you, give you a tour of the facilities, answer any queries you may have and, when possible, arrange a meeting with a member of academic staff.

By road
BSIS is situated at Boulevard Louis Schmitt 2a on the corner of Waversesteenweg (Chausée de Wavre).

By tram
Take the 7 or 25 and alight at the Arsenal stop, from which BSIS is situated across the road.

By metro
BSIS is a short walk from the Pétillon Metro station.

By bus
Take bus 34 from Porte de Namur or Trône and alight at the Etterbeek stop.

Map
www.kent.ac.uk/maps/brussels

The Brussels School of International Studies is a unique postgraduate centre in which students from all over the world come to study advanced international affairs.

We welcome students from 45 countries across the globe and our staff represent 12 different nationalities, creating a truly international academic community. We take advantage of our location in Brussels, the diplomatic capital and policymaking centre of Europe and host city to the European Union, NATO and many other international organisations, and encourage our students to interact and make valuable connections with these institutions. The School is grounded in an interdisciplinary spirit, creating synergies between subjects in law, politics and international relations.

Our teaching philosophy is highly interactive, based on active participation, and I am delighted to welcome you to this vibrant postgraduate learning environment, where you will enter into debate and become a critical thinker, rather than a passive consumer of knowledge.

Dr Tom Casier
Academic Director, Brussels School of International Studies