

INTERNATIONAL

RELATIONS AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES (MA)

Degree awarded: Master of Arts (MA)

Duration of study: 3 semesters (or 2 plus summer period)

Mode of study: Full time | Part time

ECTS credits: 90

Language of instruction: English | Greek

Mode of delivery: Online | On campus



**World
University
Rankings**
2024 TOP 600

PROGRAMME

PROFILE

OVERVIEW

The Master of Arts in International Relations of the University of Nicosia gives the opportunity for specialisation in the particular fields of International Relations and Eastern Mediterranean studies, both at a theoretical and at a practical level. It is mainly, but not exclusively, addressed to individuals who (intend to) work in fields relevant to the Eastern Mediterranean and international relations, focusing on security, energy, legal, political, social and economic aspects, both in the public and private sectors.

The programme aims to provide its graduates with additional qualifications and enhance their cognitive as well as their managerial capacities so as to enrich their career opportunities. Graduates of the programme also have the opportunity to pursue further studies at a PhD level.

CAREER PROSPECTS

The programme is directed towards holders of a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and/or Public Administration, European Studies, International Relations, Law, Governance or other relevant areas, and who intend to work in fields relevant to international affairs, politics and governance. In the public sector, graduates could pursue (or enhance their) careers in services under the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (diplomatic corps), Defence or Commerce, in international organisations such as the UN and the EU etc. In the private sector, multinational firms, academic institutions and research centres, and non-governmental organisations could offer remarkable career prospects.

KEY LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The programme aims to:

- Provide the students with deep understanding of the evolution of the international system in the 20th and 21st centuries as well as the new regional environment in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East
- The broadening of the understanding of political science and of its implementation in a comparative regional and international context
- Provide an in-depth knowledge and abilities for theory application and critical evaluation to complex regional issues such as:
 - Conflict and inter-state disputes in the Eastern Mediterranean and the broader Middle East
 - Law of the Sea and legal repercussions of offshore energy discoveries in the Eastern Mediterranean
 - Energy geopolitics of the Eastern Mediterranean
 - EU policies in the Mediterranean context
 - Religion and politics in the broader Middle East
 - Sub-state actors, non-state actors and asymmetric threats
- Provide the ability to self-reflect and critically assess the theoretical and research tradition pertaining to a series of relevant fields

Upon successful completion of this programme, the students should be able to:

- Independently identify, analyse and evaluate complex issues relating to International Relations and Eastern Mediterranean Studies by using a variety of theoretical approaches and methodological tools
- Independently analyse and critically evaluate key developments and procedures within the fields of International Relations and Eastern Mediterranean Studies
- Effectively utilise research methods used in the field of Political Science, particularly in International Relations
- Critically analyse research within the field of study
- Develop research, theoretical, methodological and managerial skills that may enhance further research and professional efficiency



WHY STUDY INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES AT UNIC

- 1** Degrees taught in an EU country with close ties to the Middle East region
- 2** One of the leading departments in the region on International Relations
- 3** One of the leading departments in the world on Eastern Mediterranean issues
- 4** Was awarded a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence on EU Politics, and a Jean Monnet Chair in EU Integration by the European Commission
- 5** Publishes The Cyprus Review, the premier English-language peer review journal on original Cypriot related research
- 6** Publishes the Black Sea and Eastern Mediterranean Review, the only peer review journal with this regional focus, in cooperation with the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- 7** Established the pioneering think-tank and research unit "Cyprus Centre for European and International Affairs", which stimulates public debate in the wider region
- 8** Runs the Diplomatic Academy, which collaborates with institutions such as the European Parliament Office in Cyprus, and the Cyprus Ministry of Foreign Affairs



PROGRAMME PROFILE

STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

The MA in International Relations and Eastern Mediterranean Studies is structured around three academic semesters. In each semester participants are required to take 30 ECTS, completing 90 ECTS after 3 semesters of full-time tuition. 60ECTS are completed through Core Requirements (Semester 1 and Semester 2). 30ECTS are completed through Electives (Semester 3).

During Semester 3, participants have to complete either a Thesis (MIR-696DE) or three elective courses. Students who are admitted in fall (September) have the option to complete their degree in two semesters plus a summer period, assuming that they will take a Thesis that will be completed in summer (or September/October).

A minimum cumulative grade point average (CPA) of 2.0 is required. Thus, although a “D-” is a PASS grade, in order to achieve a CPA of 2.0 an average grade of “C” is required.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAMME

The MA in International Relations is administered by the Department of Politics and Governance, which is part of the School of Law at the University of Nicosia. The Dean of the School of Law is Prof. Achilles C. Emilianides, a practising advocate who specialises in Public, Private and Commercial Law. The Head of the Department of Politics and Governance is Prof. Andreas Theophanous, who specialises in Political Economy and Public Policy. The coordination of the programme is managed by Dr Michalis Kontos, who is an Assistant Professor.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Students satisfy the English requirements if their first degree was taught in English. Otherwise, they would need to present a minimum TOEFL score of 550 and above, or Computer-based TOEFL score of 213 and above, or Internet-based TOEFL (iBT) score 79-80 and above, or GCSE (or GCE) English Language “O” Level of “C” or above or IELTS of 6.5 and above or Cambridge Exams (First Certificate with Grade B and above, as well as Proficiency with Grade C and above or a score placement at the ENGL-100 level of the University English Placement Test. The University offers English courses at various levels to help students reach the required standard for admission to a graduate programme.



The minimum general requirement for admission to the post-graduate degree programme is a Bachelor’s Degree from a recognised university.

In addition to the above, applicants must also satisfy the following requirements/submit the following documents:

- A CV of the prospective student
- Two recommendation letters
- A personal statement by the prospective student expressing his/her interest in following the programme
- Proficient knowledge of English (see above)
- Knowledge of more than one foreign language will be considered an advantage



ACADEMIC PATH

Code	Course Title	ECTS
Major Requirements		60
MIR-500DE	Theory of International Relations	10
MIR-515DE	Eastern Mediterranean History and Politics	10
MIR-520DE	International Political Economy	10
MIR-535DE	Law of the Sea and International Law	10
MIR-545DE	Eastern Mediterranean Energy Geopolitics	10
MIR-695DE	Thesis I/Research Methodology	10
Elective Courses		30
MIR-551DE	Politics in the Middle East	10
MIR-612DE	Case Studies in Conflict Analysis	10
MIR-616DE	Case Studies in Political Sociology	10
MIR-627DE	Greek-Turkish Relations and Cyprus	10
MIR-655DE	The EU and the South-Eastern Mediterranean	10
MIR-660DE	Special Topics	10
MIR-688DE	Terrorism and other forms of Asymmetric Threats	10
MIR-696DE	Thesis II	20
Total		90

ALUMNI TESTIMONIALS



My journey at UNIC has truly been the most fulfilling and enriching educational experience I have ever had, paving my path towards success. The degree provided me with all the necessary tools for my careers goals. The position of the Commercial Counsellor of the Republic of Cyprus to the Islamic Republic of Iran is far beyond anything I have ever imagined!

Sabina I. Tofan
Commercial Counsellor of the Republic of Cyprus
to the Islamic Republic of Iran
MA International Relations, Class of 2018
Cyprus



[Click here to watch the testimonial](#)

Umer Fasie Bashir
MA International Relations and Eastern Mediterranean Studies
Class of 2024
Pakistan

If I were to describe my experience and journey at UNIC I would say it was exceptional! My studies provided me with the necessary tools to achieve my career goals. The supportive faculty and rigorous curriculum equipped me with a comprehensive knowledge base and critical thinking skills. The opportunities for experiential learning and community engagement further enhanced my academic growth. I am grateful for the transformative education and personal growth I experienced at UNIC, which prepared me for success in my chosen fields.

Maria Lubat
LLB Law, Class of 2019
MA International Relations and Eastern Mediterranean Studies,
Class of 2023
Greece/Palestine



[Click here to watch the testimonial](#)

Rafaela Georgiou
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations
English Language & Literature, Class of 2014
MA International Relations and European Studies, Class of 2016
Cyprus



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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