MASTER’S PROGRAMMES IN ENGLISH IN LILLE, FRANCE

STUDY AT THE EUROPEAN SCHOOL OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Welcome to ESPOL, the European School of Political and Social Sciences.

Located in Lille, France, ESPOL offers a range of advanced interdisciplinary master’s programmes in political and social sciences, taught in English. Our study programmes are designed to help you understand and create solutions for some of today’s most pressing global challenges. A stone’s throw away from the European political hotspots, Brussels, London and Paris, and part of Lille Catholic University, France’s biggest private university, ESPOL attracts an intellectually vibrant community of European and international students.

Whether you are interested in European affairs, in food studies or in security studies, our programmes are organised around interactive courses in small groups, bridging theory and practice, and emphasising policy and decision-making from the local to the global level. Our career development modules, intensive language training, and compulsory professional internships pave the way for successful future academic and professional careers.

Our students are supervised by an experienced multilingual team of professors, who worked and have been trained at the world’s best universities. They work in close partnership with scholars, policy-makers, and practitioners from leading international organisations, universities and companies across the world, who regularly intervene as external speakers and invited lecturers in our courses.

At ESPOL we are committed to providing world-leading education, based on the latest developments in the political and social sciences. We train the political and societal actors of tomorrow’s global transformations.

We look forward to welcoming you!

BRENDAN COOLSAET
Director of Master’s Programmes
More than 30,000 students
5 faculties
5 schools
9 research centers
200 undergraduate and master's programmes
169 partner universities
100 student societies
Master’s in Global and European Politics

Europe and the EU in a changing world

The multidisciplinary master’s programme in Global and European Politics is an advanced postgraduate degree focusing on the political, social and philosophical dimensions underpinning the European Union, its governance, its place and role in world politics. In Europe, the supranational level is the stage at which some major political challenges play out: migrations and borders, environmental degradation and climate change, the reconfiguration of democracy and sovereignty, global inequalities or poverty among others.

Understanding these challenges and the ways in which they are to be addressed involves analysing the multi-level interaction between public actors (Member States, EU institutions, etc.) and private actors (companies, networks, NGOs, etc.) in Europe. These interactions are places of constant struggle for the redefinition of the rules of the game of both European and world politics.

This programme provides students with a thorough knowledge of the formal and informal rules of European affairs and of the conflicts that shape them. Students will acquire the necessary know-how and the conceptual tools to understand, analyse and act upon European politics. Drawing on the latest developments in EU studies, Public Policy, Economic Governance, and European History, among others, as well as in-depth methodological training, career development, and intensive language modules, the study programme will allow students to develop innovative policies for public and private sector in Europe, at local, national, and European level. This degree is designed for future professionals in European affairs.

Semester 1

Core courses
- European History
- Public Policy of the EU

Research courses
- Introduction to Research & Epistemology
- Political Science Research Methods
- +1 optional course
- +1 intensive language module
- +1 career development course

Semester 2*

Core courses
- European Governance
- Global Economic Governance

Research courses
- Statistics and the Political Sociology of Quantification
- Academic Writing Workshop
- +1 optional course
- +1 intensive language module
- +1 career development course

Semester 3

Core courses
- Politics of European Identity and Culture
- Foreign Policy of the EU

Research courses
- Statistics and the Political Sociology of Quantification
- Academic Writing Workshop
- +1 optional course
- +1 intensive language module

Semester 4

Core courses
- EU Regional Policy
- EU Environmental Policy
- +2 optional courses
- +1 intensive language module
- +1 professional internship

** ESPOL makes every effort to ensure that course information is accurate and up-to-date. However, courses, services and other matters may be subject to change.

* The second semester can also be completed in one of our 140 partner universities across the world.

** A state-certified Master’s Degree
Food and agriculture are fields in which major global challenges arise. While the global food system is providing more food than ever before in human history, hunger and famine continue to plague the Global South. Conversely, obesity and malnutrition are emerging in various regions, especially Western industrial societies and emerging countries. In 2050, the world’s population is projected to rise to 10 billion people; and they all need to eat. The various ecological and social problems of the today’s food system represent additional challenges.

Questions related to the organisation and regulation of our agri-food system are complex and include the production, distribution, accessibility, and consumption of food, as well as issues related to poverty, public health, animal welfare, science and technology, and trade. What would a sustainable food system look like, and how can it be achieved?

The master’s programme in Food Politics and Sustainable Development examines the ways in which public authorities (regional bodies, nation states, European institutions, UN agencies) and private actors (individuals, farming communities and organisations, transnational businesses, NGOs, etc.) shape and transform the agri-food system. While the production of food is initiated at local level, its distribution and consumption often have global implications. Understanding, analysing and acting upon these implications is key to sustainably govern and transform our food system in the future.

Because these questions require to cross political and technical knowledge, the master’s programme in Food Politics and Sustainable Development is organised in close collaboration with practitioners. It includes a partnership with ISA Lille, the renowned agronomy institute of Lille Catholic University; numerous interventions from agri-food professionals; and field trips to regional farms, food-related policy events, key food fairs such as the Paris International Agricultural Show, and food markets such as the Rungis Market, the biggest wholesale food market in the world.

This programme will enable students to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to master and design complex and innovative food policy solutions, and to occupy key professional positions in public and private organisations.

Semester 1
- **Core courses**
  - Agriculture and Rural Politics
  - European Food & Agricultural Policy
- **Research courses**
  - Introduction to Research & Epistemology
  - Political Science Research Methods
  - +1 optional course
  - +1 intensive language module
  - +1 career development module

Semester 2*
- **Core courses**
  - Political Economy of Natural Resources
  - Global Food Politics
- **Research courses**
  - Statistics and the Political Sociology of Quantification
  - Academic Writing Workshop
  - +1 optional course
  - +1 intensive language module
  - +1 career development module

Semester 3
- **Core courses**
  - Food and Sustainable Development: A project course
  - Food Controversies
  - + master’s dissertation
  - +1 intensive language module

Semester 4
- **Core courses**
  - Food, Agriculture and the Environment
  - Global Environmental Politics
  - +2 optional courses
  - +1 intensive language module
  - +1 professional internship

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** A state-certified Master’s Degree

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In addition to being an absolute priority for governments across the world, security has colonized our language as much as our everyday lives. Not a day goes by without politicians and media outlets mentioning yet another ‘security issue’. The master’s programme in International and Security Politics asks what this tells us about our contemporary world, and whether our world has really become more dangerous and uncertain than before.

At the intersection of international relations studies, security and defence studies, political theory, sociology and history, this programme provides a deep understanding of how security and international security transform both conceptually and practically in an increasingly interconnected and rapidly changing world. It does so by analysing the role of different actors in shaping and addressing security issues which develop beyond the single framework of action of States. The programme also seeks to provide students with the necessary skills and conceptual tools for analysing critically and addressing the social-political mechanisms driving security related issues (from transnational armed conflicts and violence to environmental and IT security), and the growing uncertainty attached to them.

This programme in International and Security Politics will enable students to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to diagnose security problems and design appropriate security policy solutions, and to occupy key professional positions in national administrations as well as international and non-governmental organizations. Students will not only benefit from the academic environment of the School, but also from the practical knowledge of security practitioners and experts within various seminars such as a joint seminar with the French Army Command (based in Lille) and the research seminars co-organized with the Collaborative Observatory on Terrorism, Antiterrorism and Violence (OCTAV).

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**Optional courses**

In semester 1, 2 and 4, you will be able to further tailor your degree to your interests by choosing from a broad offer of optional courses, such as:

- Defence Policy in Practice
- Global Environmental Politics
- Comparative Politics
- European Governance
- Digital Democracy
- Global Economic Governance
- International Development
- European History
- Global Justice

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**Core courses**

- Global History
- International Relations

**Research courses**

- Introduction to Research & Epistemology
- Political Science Research Methods
  - 1 optional course
  - 1 intensive language module
  - 1 career development course

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**Semester 2**

**Core courses**

- Theories of Security & Contemporary Challenges
- Armed Conflicts and Peacemaking

**Research courses**

- Statistics and the Political Sociology of Quantification
- Academic Writing Workshop
  - 1 optional course
  - 1 intensive language module
  - 1 career development course

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**Semester 3**

**Core courses**

- Cyber Security
- War, Terrorism and Violence

- master’s dissertation
- 1 intensive language module

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**Semester 4**

**Core courses**

- Sovereignty and the State in International Relations
- Politics of International Law
  - 2 optional courses
  - 1 intensive language module
  - 1 professional internship

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** A state-certified Master’s Degree
The MA in Contemporary European Affairs is an innovative and ambitious two-year double-degree, organised conjointly by Liverpool Hope University and ESPOL. The programme, taught in English, aims to produce graduates with expert knowledge of how the EU operates, from both a British and a European perspective. It is designed to give students a strong basis of understanding of contemporary Europe from a multi-disciplinary perspective. Drawing on law, politics, economics and social policy, the programme’s goal is to train students who can aspire to steer future relations between post-Brexit Britain and EU Member States.

A key part of the programmatic plan is to provide a multi-cultural setting framework for learning, so students will enter employment comfortable with working in cosmopolitan surroundings. Students on this two-year double-degree programme will benefit from the experience of working in two different institutions, and will have access to language training, career development modules and internship options.

The first year is spent at Liverpool Hope, the second year takes place at ESPOL. Upon successful completion of the two years, you will receive two degrees: a Master’s in Contemporary European Affairs from Liverpool Hope and a Master’s in Global and European Politics from ESPOL. The programme includes an Integrated dissertation co-supervised by a professor from Liverpool Hope and from ESPOL.

**Optional courses**

Throughout the 4 semesters, you will be able to further tailor your degree to your interests by choosing from a broad offer of optional courses, such as:

- The European Union as a Global Actor
- European Human Rights Law
- Comparative Social Policy and Globalisation
- Contemporary European Macroeconomic Issues
- The Awkward Partner: Britain and Europe
- ...
Several field courses will be organized during your stay at ESPOL. During the first year, a 3-4 day trip will take you to Geneva, Switzerland, where you will have the opportunity to meet policy-makers from many agencies of the United Nations and international NGOs. In the second year, we will take you to the heart of European policy-making: Brussels, Belgium, where we will be visiting different European institutions. Finally, students in the Food Politics will benefit from additional study trips, including Rungis International Market, the largest wholesale market in the world, the Paris International Agricultural Show, as well as farm visits and local food initiatives.

Courses at ESPOL take you beyond the classroom by providing practical tools necessary for a rapid insertion into the professional world (career development modules, management, media training, etc.). Committed to supporting its students finding their way after graduation, the ESPOL master’s programmes are designed to help students get the best skills and career options. Different workshops and meetings with professionals are organized.

The masters’ last semester (2nd Year) involves a 3 month-long internship. As interns, ESPOL Master’s students held different positions, such as a project officer at the EU Delegation to the United Nations and others International Organizations in Geneva in the Migration- Humanitarian affairs, campaign manager with Foodwatch France, international development officer at the French Union for Renewable Energy, or as a project assistant for the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification among others. You may find all the details about internships on our website: www.espol-lille.eu/en/career/

The multidisciplinary and multilingual dimension of this degree reinforced my foreign language skills while providing me with conceptual and theoretical tools that have sharpened my ability to understand contemporary international issues and enable me to conduct in-depth analysis. On the strength of these skills, I joined the UNDSS (UN) office in Panama, where I am doing a training course as a junior analyst on the Latin America and Caribbean zone.

After my undergraduate education and working professionally I decided that the next logical step in my career would be to study in a world class institution such as ESPOL that offers not only diverse international perspectives but also provides a highly respected education.

**ESPOL STUDIO TRIPS:**
EXPERIENCE THE REGULATION AND CONSEQUENCES OF GLOBAL POLITICS YOURSELF

ESPOL does not only provide students with courses, but also with an exciting intellectual life: your professors are also researchers whose work benefit students. Conferences and seminars organized by ESPOL-LAB, the research lab at ESPOL, are available to our master’s students. For a glimpse into our research activities, have a look at the research section on our website: https://espol-lille.eu/research/

**EVERYDAY LIFE MATTERS TOO:**
ESPOL’S VIBRANT INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

ESPOL bachelor and master’s students are happy to welcome many international students every year, either in exchange or enrolled in our various programmes. ESPOL students are also eager to organize themselves and participate in the life of the community: different associations (sport, entertainment, politics, environment, etc) will help students fill their days, should they need to!

**LEARNING FROM THE BEST:**
ESPOL-LAB CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

The ESPOL Master’s programmes have been selected to take part in a «zero-paper» experiment. Lille Catholic University will gradually reduce waste of used paper and encourage the use of electronic devices and cloud sharing practices.

**BEYOND THE CLASSROOM:**
PROFESSIONAL TRAINING COURSES AND INTERNSHIPS

A COMMITMENT TOWARDS THE ENVIRONMENT: A “ZERO PAPER” EXPERIMENT

Martin Brun,
ALUMNI Master in international security policy
Your university life

FINANCIAL AID
Master’s students can apply for a scholarship once they are accepted to join ESPOL. If you fulfill the eligibility criteria, you will be automatically considered. For more information please contact: espol@univ-catholille.fr
Tel: +33 (0)3 20 15 97 70
www.aeu.asso.fr

HEALTHCARE
The University clinic, the Centre Polyvalent de Santé Universitaire (CPSU), is open all week and provides consultations in general practice and gynaecology, nursing care, sophrology workshops and psychological counselling.

SPORT
A gymnasium is reserved for students of the Lille Catholic University or associated schools. It is open 6 days a week, programming various group activities as well as providing free access to the gym and its equipment.

CATERING
A university restaurant is open for lunch and dinner in the heart of the campus. It offers a variety of healthy menus at affordable prices.

AN ADMINISTRATION AT YOUR DISPOSAL
A team of 8 people is on hand to help you to get your new student life off to a good start; it will remain by your side throughout your studies at ESPOL.

ACCOMMODATION
The university’s accommodation service, the Association d’Entraide Universitaire (AEU), gives students access to a range of 21 university residences, with over 1,200 rooms (prices ranging from €205 to €420 per month).
For more information: AEU reception at 47 bd Vauban 59000 Lille
Tel: +33 (0)3 20 15 97 70
www.aeu.asso.fr

TUITION FEES
Tuition fees at ESPOL vary according to the following criteria: household income; household composition; and a needs-based evaluation index.
Tuition fees for the Master’s programmes range from 2940€ to 9220€.
You can get an estimate of your tuition fees on the following website:
https://simulationscolarite.univ-catholille.fr
Admission and contact

HOW TO APPLY?

1. Choose your preferred Master programme*
2. Review the eligibility and admission criteria
3. Create your account on https://espaceadmission.univ-catholille.fr/
4. Select your preferred program on the admission platform
5. Take a language test (or provide results from a recent test; see below)
6. Ask 2 former professors for reference letters, make sure to do this early enough to ensure your referees have enough time to reply
7. Upload the requested documents to the admission platform
8. Submit your application through the admission platform
9. When accepted, complete your registration on https://espaceadmission.univ-catholille.fr/

WHAT TO SUBMIT?

To be eligible for admission, students are required to submit:

- An undergraduate level degree (180 ECTS or equivalent) at the time of entry to ESPOL.
- In principle, the ESPOL masters are open to all disciplinary backgrounds but previous courses in political and social sciences will be appreciated. Additional classes can be imposed for students without political science background.
- A Master level degree for countries in which universities do not award undergraduate qualifications;
- A personal statement in English. Personal statements explain your interest in the study programmes and its aims.
- A CV in English.
- Official transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions previously attended (including exchange programmes).
- Proof of English language proficiency through one of the following completed tests (proof of registration for a test is not enough):
  - TOEFL – 80 iBT or 550 PBT or 60 PDF
  - IELTS Academic – 6.0
  - PTE Academic – 54
  - Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE) or Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) – grade C.
- A language test is not required for native English speakers or students with an undergraduate/graduate degree in English.
- Two academic references, in English or French.

Please do not add extra documents to your application beyond those listed above. Incomplete applications or applications received after 14 June 2020 (23:59 CEST) will not be considered.

WHEN TO APPLY?

Non-EU applicants admission procedure: starting 1st December through Campus France

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To do you have questions or do you need more information?
Please contact:
Oliwia BARAN
oliwia.baran@univ-catholille.fr
+33 3 59 56 79 76

Please visit www.espol-lille.fr/en/ for more information on the admission procedure