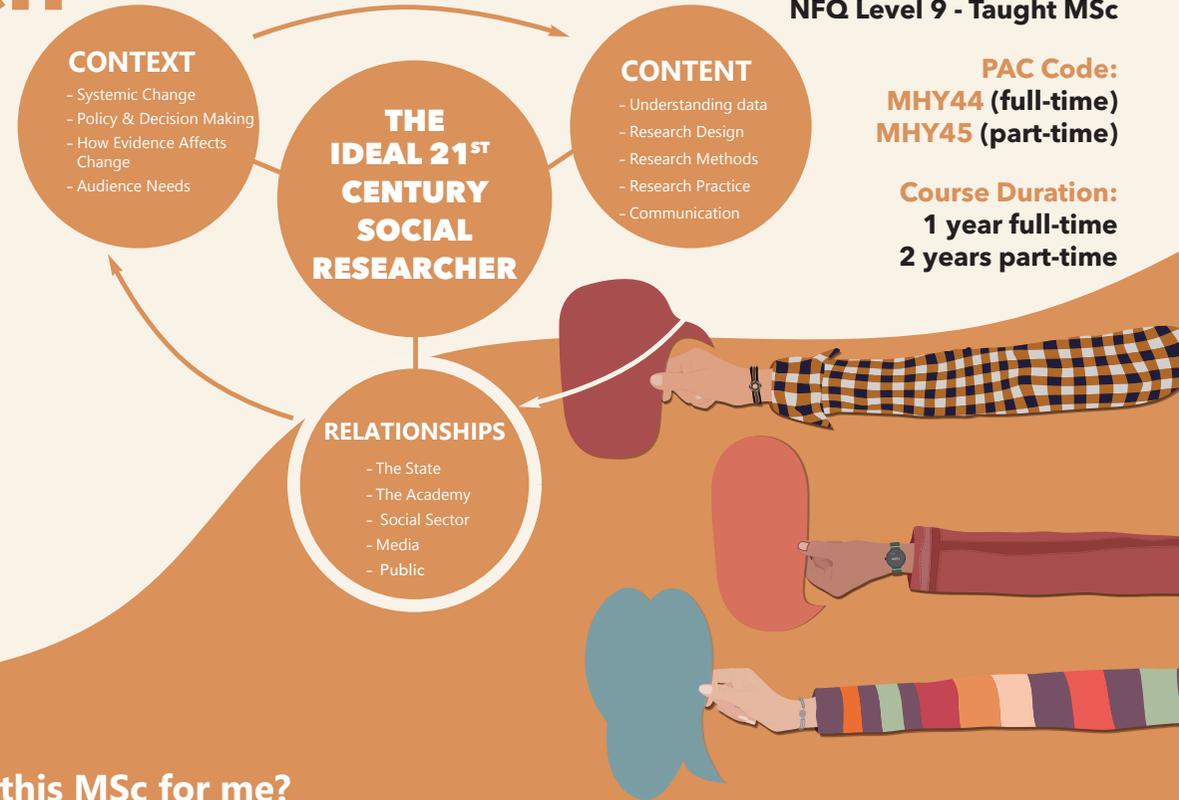


MSc in Social Research

What is the research methods MSc?

This innovative research methods taught MSc has a significant focus on the data and skills needed to become fluent and capable 21ST century social researchers of real world problems. MSc graduates will be able to work with formal and informal datasets, on important societal issues within and between academia, policy spheres and the social world.

Students will learn from Ireland's leading experts in these areas, drawing on the best current research methods. Practical learning will be further enhanced through the close collaboration the department has with leading civil society organisations.



Award Type:
NFIQ Level 9 - Taught MSc

PAC Code:
MHY44 (full-time)
MHY45 (part-time)

Course Duration:
1 year full-time
2 years part-time

Is this MSc for me?

Yes, if you are working with data or hoping to become a social researcher. It is recommended for recent graduates, people working in research in civil society, self-employed researchers and people looking to either make a career change or improve their skills.

What will I get from this MSc?

- **KNOWLEDGE** to understand the context, how data works in the social world and the theories of change informing social research.
- **SKILLS** to design and execute research projects, to communicate and use findings.
- **CAPACITY to develop** and manage research relationships and partnerships

In what format can I pursue this MSc?

- 1 year full-time or 2 years part-time.
- Autumn 2024 to Spring 2025 with 1 week-long burst with optional modules (1 in late January and 1 in mid-March).
- Every Thursday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 1 research/thesis report due end of July 2025.

What are the modules of the MSc?

90 credits for completion: 6 modules (60 credits), a career/report writing workshop and a final thesis/report (30 credits).

Compulsory modules

- Digital Methods (10 credits)
- Working With and Sourcing Data (10 credits)
- Principles of Social Science Research (10 credits)
- Quantitative and Qualitative Methods (20 credits)

One elective module

- Digital Societies (10 credits)
- Theorizing Transition/Political Economy (10 credits)
- Nature and Society (10 credits)
- Families and Generations (10 credits)
- Working Lives Transition (10 credits)
- Intimate Lives Transition (10 credits)

How will I be assessed?

It's a continuous assessment, so there are no exams, and 30% of the final grade depends on thesis or work-based research project.

What are my career options?

Having completed this MSc, you will have the necessary skills to be the 21ST century social researcher, and to acquire the methodological fluency to navigate between formal and informal datasets, the academic and non-academic worlds. This MSc enables you to be equipped to work as a qualified independent social researcher in private, public and social sector. It will also enable you to continue further academic studies.

APPLICATION DEADLINE 30th June 2024

Applications must be submitted through **PAC**.



Where does it take place?

On campus in the new Technology, Society and Innovation building at Maynooth University.

Are there any scholarship opportunities available to me?

Yes! Maynooth University provides 60 annual **scholarships** worth €2,000, available to all applicants who have a minimum 2:1 grade. To launch the MSc in Social Research the Department of Sociology are sponsoring 2 **inaugural partial fee scholarships** of €2000 each. Application details available at sociology.department@mu.ie

To learn more, you can contact Dr Eoin Flaherty (eoin.flaherty@mu.ie) or Dr Delma Byrne (delma.byrne@mu.ie) for an online or in person chat. We can also show you around our state-of-the-art TSI Building and introduce you to staff and postgraduate students.