## Programme Specification ARO 034a

### Section 1 Key Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awarding Body</th>
<th>University of Stirling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partner Institution</td>
<td>United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Name</td>
<td>MSc Human Rights and Diplomacy, taught in partnership with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award e.g. BSc (Hons), MA etc.</td>
<td>MSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
<td>Arts and Humanities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Division (if applicable)</td>
<td>Law and Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCAS Code (UG only)</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Programme Code</td>
<td>Tbc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mode of Study</td>
<td>Full Time X Part Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location/Method of Study</td>
<td>On Campus – UK X International X Where: at United Nations Headquarters in Geneva (all students Study Visit), plus internship possibilities in Geneva, New York or Vienna as well as at UN Offices in the host cities of UN regional economic commissions (Addis Ababa, Bangkok, Beirut, Nairobi, Roma, Santiago de Chile). Online (potentially at a later date) Blended (potentially at a later date)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admission Points</td>
<td>September X January X Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of Programme</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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<td>SCQF Level</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Credit Value</td>
<td>180</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECTS Credit Value</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark</td>
<td>n/a to subject benchmark as interdisciplinary, however, benchmarked against QAA Master’s Characteristics Statement 2015.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Body Accreditation</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Director</td>
<td>Katie Boyle (Law) and Rowan Cruft (Philosophy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisor of Studies</td>
<td>Tikus Little</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Section 2 Overview

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

This is the only Human Rights and Diplomacy programme in the world taught in partnership with the leading training body of the United Nations: the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). During this one-year Master’s, you will be taught both by top human rights researchers using academic work they have published, and by experienced human rights practitioners from the UN. The programme offers a unique combination of theory and practice: alongside modules introducing students to human rights law and politics, the UN human rights institutions, their history and their philosophical foundations, students will be given practical training from experienced UN personnel in transferrable diplomacy skills such as negotiating, drafting documents, and learning how to make a difference. The programme includes a study visit to Geneva for all students, to observe the Human Rights Council in session, and to engage with practitioners from the United Nations working on Human Rights matters. It also includes a series of intensive and highly interactive UNITAR-run workshops, from which participants will emerge confident to conduct complex negotiations, with enhanced leadership qualities, improved aptitudes for recording and summarising results of conferences and meetings as well as developed public speaking, crisis management and diplomatic skills. These will complement the solid academic base provided by modules in the law, philosophy and politics of human rights and diplomacy. For the final 3 months of the programme (and in some cases more), students will have the opportunity to apply to pursue an internship in one of the UN Agencies worldwide. This list includes, but is not limited to, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the World Health Organization, the International Labour Organization or the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva, the United Nations Development Programme or the UN Children’s Fund in New York, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome, or in one of the UN Regional Economic Commissions in Addis Ababa, Bangkok, Beirut, Geneva, Nairobi, Santiago de Chile. Alternative professional projects will be available locally to Stirling and nationally as part of the Stirling Human Rights Research Knowledge Exchange Network. Membership of the network includes bodies such as Arts Rights Justice Europe, the Scottish Human Rights Consortium, the Northern Ireland Human Rights Consortium, the Equality and Diversity Forum, Child Poverty Action Network, Sustain UK, Nourish Scotland, the Howard League for Penal Reform, the Campaign for Freedom of Information Scotland, Together, Alliance Scotland and Christian Aid. The possibility to write an academic dissertation will be available for students who want to pursue in-depth research.

Your pathway through the programme will begin with a focus on human rights law and institutions, their philosophical justification (including both the attractions and problems in the human rights concept), their historical development and their meaning in international relations. At the same time, UNITAR personnel will work with you from the start to help you decide early whether, and if so where, to apply for an internship. Over the summer, alongside the study visit for all students to Geneva, UNITAR staff will provide training in practical human rights negotiations. Then, in the autumn, you will pursue an international internship, a local professional project, or an academic dissertation. In case you wish to pursue an internship within the United Nations, UNITAR will work hand in hand with you to secure that internship in the United Nations in Geneva or worldwide, by first identifying and analysing your needs and expectations, and then assisting you effectively throughout the process; Stirling staff will work equally close with you to develop strong UK-based professional projects, or to develop your academic research dissertation in human rights and diplomacy.

You will emerge from the programme with the intellectual rigour, in-depth critical thinking and practical skills necessary to understand, to question and to participate in current human rights practice. These will include specialized collaborative working skills fostered by UNITAR’s experienced practitioners training team, alongside expert knowledge delivered by an advanced team of interdisciplinary human rights...
researchers. Graduates of this programme will be the next generation of human rights leaders. Students on the programme will include recent graduates in any human-rights or diplomacy-related discipline including Law, Politics, Philosophy, History, Economics, Communications, Sociology, Literature, Geography and other disciplines. They will also include established professionals seeking new training. The modules are designed for entry-level graduates and do not presuppose prior knowledge. They are aimed at anyone with an intellectually curious, critical mind who wants to bring intellectual work to deliver practical on-the-ground results. One of the attractions of the programme is the chance it offers you to work alongside committed students from a wide range of backgrounds and the interdisciplinary nature of the learning environment will enhance your critical thinking skills and ability to engage across disciplines.

Exit pathways will lead to work either in industry – including the United Nations, International Organizations, your Government, NGOs and civil society– or to further academic research through a PhD building on the Masters. Regardless of which career you pursue after your studies you will be placed at the forefront of human rights leadership in diplomacy. Professor Alan Miller, UN Envoy to National Human Rights Institutions and experienced leader in both human rights and diplomacy globally noted that:

“undertaking this course will naturally be of great value for those pursuing diplomatic careers in national and international organisations engaging with human rights. More broadly embedding human rights and diplomacy as skills that can be employed across jobs and sectors in Scotland and further afield will be a huge contribution to any area of work in both the public and private sphere. Graduates of this course will be particularly well placed to take a lead on this.”

Key Features of the Programme
- The only Human Rights and Diplomacy programme in the world taught in partnership with the lead training entity of the United Nations, the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).
- Taught by top academic researchers and experienced UN human rights practitioners.
- Unique integrated combination of theory and practice.
- Study visit to Geneva for all students.
- Intensive diplomacy training by UNITAR experts for all students.
- Unique flexibility, with opportunity to apply for 3-month internships in the United Nations with support from UNITAR, or opportunity to pursue local projects with UK based human rights institutions and NGOs, or opportunity for traditional in-depth academic Master’s dissertation.
- The UN internships are exceptionally desirable and hard to get; UNITAR offers a unique way in.
- Strongly employable graduates.

PROGRAMME AIMS
At the end of this programme you will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding
- Explain, analyse and apply international human rights law in both theory and practice
- Engage in the theoretical framework of diplomacy, its history and the development of international relations
- Engage in debates in criticism and/or defence of the human rights concept
- Draft documents and possess the skills needed to negotiate their progress in a range of human rights institutions
- Find your way within the United Nations Institutions working on human rights matters and local NGOs
- Apply a wide range of theoretical and practical methods to human rights research, activism and politics

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?
On successful completion of this programme, you should be able to:
1. Explain, analyse, interpret and apply international human rights law and embed practical application in a broader critical and theoretical understanding of law in context.
2. Identify international human rights enforcement mechanisms (monitoring and adjudication) and critically analyse the enforcement of rights in different jurisdictional settings (international/ regional/ domestic)
3. Explain the principal philosophical grounds in favour of human rights, as both a moral and a legal concept.
4. Analyse and take a critical stance on the central philosophical problems with human rights, including concerns about ‘liberal imperialism’, about the purported individualism of human rights, and about the relation between human rights and state sovereignty.
5. Analyse and take a critical stance on the history and politics of human rights, including the history and politics of debates about their role.
6. Draft key / strategic documents and know the methods to pursue and options to take in order for them to progress within human rights institutions
7. Be able to work within the structure of the UN human rights institutions and UK human rights organisations.
8. Anticipate and respond to the concerns and pressures that a range of theoretical and practical positions pose for human rights research, activism and politics.
9. Negotiate and deploy related interpersonal diplomatic skills
10. Prepare and pursue your own internship, professional project or academic dissertation
11. Analyse and take a critical stance on the history and politics of human rights, including the history and politics of debates about their role.
12. Articulate analysis and knowledge base to a range of audiences, including both practitioners and academicians
13. Critically reflect on and evaluate your own performance as part of a working team
14. Communicate ideas to peers, tutors and a professional audience
15. Demonstrate autonomy, personal responsibility, and leadership in working as part of a team

Intellectual, Practical and Transferable Skills and other graduate attributes you will possess by the end of the programme:

- An open-minded, critical outlook that is both morally and legally well-informed
- Negotiating and drafting skills useable in an international context with multiple committed stakeholders
- Networking and communication skills necessary to developing robust academic and practical contributions

Values and Attitudes:

- Critically reflective commitment to addressing the problems that human rights attempt to tackle, and the problems human rights themselves generate
- Self-starting ability to find a role within human rights institutions and organisations
- Strong team player embedded in a human rights based approach to working with others
- Integrity in tackling the challenges of human rights diplomacy
- An ethical approach to study and research

HOW WILL I LEARN?

For the legal, political and philosophical parts of the programme, your teachers will be top academic researchers: in pursuing their modules, you will be encouraged both to learn the latest legal, political and philosophical positions, and to develop your own analyses. The optional modules allow you to explore human rights and diplomacy within broader settings. For the practical training, your teachers will be experienced UN practitioners who will use simulation exercises, role play and case studies to help you gain negotiating skills. All teaching will involve a mixture of group work, with the exception of the one-to-one
discussions and training used to help students decide whether (and where) to apply for an internship, and the similar focused discussions for those who opt for the academic dissertation.

Students taking the internship or professional project will have both a Stirling and a UNITAR mentor. Detailed preparation and guidance – including assistance applying, and preparation for interviews – will be offered in advance of the internships and projects, as part of the Preparation for Independent Work module. Students taking the dissertation will have a primary supervisor with expertise in the student’s chosen specialism.

The Approaches to Human Rights module will introduce students to a very wide range of approaches to human rights, and will also involve sessions aimed at allowing students to share their own varied human rights and/or academic experiences, including allowing students from a professional background to compare their views with those of recent graduates. Student feedback will be strongly encouraged throughout the course of the programme, and a dedicated Student-Staff Feedback Committee will meet regularly for this purpose.

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessment and Assessment Criteria
Academic modules will be assessed by coursework and some graded groupwork. Modules focused on practice and skills will similarly be assessed by reflective coursework and practical assessment. A range of assessments will be used and will measure achievement of learning outcomes. The assessment criteria will be set out in advance of each assignment. The internship and academic project will be assessed partly by means of a post-project self-reflective report written by the student, and partly by reports on the student’s performance offered by the internship/project provider.

Feedback on Assessment
You will receive feedback on coursework within 3 weeks of completion of the assessment. Feedback is usually provided electronically on formal coursework. Feedback and Guidance sessions with teaching staff are available on all modules. These provide regular opportunities to discuss feedback further. More information about feedback on assessment can be found here; [http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/assessment/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/assessment/)

Assessment Regulations
If you would like to know more about the way in which assessment works at the University of Stirling, please see the full version of the assessment regulations at: [Postgraduate – Taught](http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/assessment/)

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Outline Programme Structure
The list below shows compulsory and option modules for this programme. Option modules are revised over time and, in some cases, will be dependent upon pre-requisite and/or co-requisites being taken. More information about these requirements can be found in the relevant Module Descriptors. The options available each year can be subject to change due to student demand and availability of teaching staff.

- Where an “Option list” is specified, you have a choice of which module to take at this point in the degree programme and these choices are listed below
- For year 1 and 2 where “Any Module” is used it means that you can choose from all modules available to the year group and you can see the full list available by following these links: [Postgraduate](http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/assessment/)
Year 1

Total year 1 credit value = 180
Compulsory credits = 100
Option credits = 20 from a choice of 6 standard options, plus 60 from a choice of 3 internship, project or dissertation options.

Compulsory Modules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human Rights Practice</td>
<td>HUMAR01</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Rights Theory</td>
<td>HUMAR02</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approaches to Human Rights</td>
<td>HUMAR03</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Spring-Summer</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skills for the International Human Rights Institutions</td>
<td>HUMAR04</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation for Independent Work (including Geneva Study Visit)</td>
<td>HUMAR05</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>11</td>
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</table>

Option Modules – you may choose one of the following modules to take

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>SCQF Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ONE chosen from a range that will typically include: [NB. These options* are indicative and subject to change.]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanitarian Studies*</td>
<td>ICCPP24</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Negotiation*</td>
<td>ICCPP26</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate Change, Human Security, and Resource Conflicts*</td>
<td>ICCP10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conflict and Co-Existence: Migration and Refugee Movements*</td>
<td>ICCP25</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>ONE of:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internship at a UN institution</td>
<td>HUMAR06</td>
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<td>Autumn</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional project with UK human rights body</td>
<td>HUMAR07</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic dissertation</td>
<td>HUMAR08</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>11</td>
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</table>

Note that asterisked modules already run for other programmes- these options are subject to change depending on module delivery in Spring 2020 and will be updated as module availability is determined.

READING LIST

Required and Recommended Reading for the Programme

You will find any of the books on the following lists useful preparatory reading before you start the programme. More reading will be recommended (and available in the University library) when you begin the programme.

Law

Philosophy

Politics

Diplomacy
Andrew Cooper, Jorge Heine, Ramesh Thakur (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Modern Diplomacy* (Oxford, 2013)

History

UNITAR
-Please acquaint yourself with UNITAR’s role and history by exploring its website, www.unitar.org.

Additional Reading
Andrew Clapham’s *A Very Short Introduction to Human Rights* (2nd edition, OUP 2015) offers an excellent introduction to International Human Rights Law: the context in which it developed, an overview of institutions, and the most interesting debates of recent years. You may want to read this booklet before the semester begins.

If you want to immerse yourself in the atmosphere and learn about the actors that were instrumental in the early days of the human rights movement read Mary Ann Glendon, *A World Made New. Eleanor Roosevelt and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (Random House 2001 available as pdf), and Jay Winter and Antoine Prost, *René Cassin and Human Rights. From the great War to the Universal Declaration* (CUP, 2013).


Section 3 Student Support

**SUPPORT FOR STUDENT LEARNING**

**Induction**
You will receive an induction during the first days of your programme. This includes a range of social events, information sessions and activities to help you orientate yourself at Stirling and access the
services available to you. These are opportunities to meet staff and other students from across the university, in the Faculty and on the programme.

An introduction to key staff from Stirling and UNITAR staff will happen at the first meeting, and the HUMAR03 Approaches to Human Rights module will draw in a range of UNITAR staff to have early skype or in-person discussions about internship options; in this module, local NGO participants will also discuss the professional project option.

As a Stirling student, you will be encouraged to interact across the Faculty, both through postgraduate discussion groups in law, philosophy, history and politics, plus through participation in the fortnightly interdisciplinary Political Philosophy Group.

Study Skills Support
Student Learning Services (SLS) are committed to providing comprehensive guidance on all aspects of effective and efficient learning. The ultimate aim of the service is to enable you to make the most of your academic studies at the University and for you to become an independent, successful learner during your time at the University of Stirling. This is facilitated through collaborative work with experienced tutors and by offering a variety of courses, workshops and tutorials.

All students, whatever stage of their academic studies, are welcome to use Student Learning Services. However the service may be particularly beneficial:

- In the earlier stages of your study.
- If you are making the transition from college to Higher Education.
- If you have been out of education for some time.

What SLS are able to do:

- Advise you on academic skills relevant to your studies at University.
- Help you consolidate your previous learning and develop new learning strategies.
- Advise on action-plans to potentially improve grades.
- Suggest practical solutions if you feel overwhelmed by assignment work.
- Help you gain confidence in the transition to Higher Education.

More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/student-learning-services/

STEER
STEER is a University-wide peer support scheme linking in returning student "Captains" with new undergraduate or taught post-graduate "Crew" during their first year at Stirling.

The scheme aims to help you make the most of your time at the University, help new students - the Crew - settle in and realise the opportunities available to them. You can find out more information here: https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/steer/

Stirling Graduate School
For Research Postgraduate Students the Stirling Graduate School as well as your own faculty will provide support. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/graduateschool/current-pg-students/skills-development/

Academic and Pastoral Support
Adviser of Studies: Advisers have an important role to play in enhancing your academic and personal development and are essential to ensuring you make the most of your time at university. Advisers provide a personalised point of contact for you to discuss academic concerns or queries within the academic community. The general purpose of the role is to provide more in-depth advice on the
academic options available to you and on the academic policies and regulations within the University. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/advisers/

**Personal Tutor:** The role of a personal tutor is to help you feel part of the University community. They are a specific and consistent source of guidance, information and support for you throughout your studies. The tutor should be the your first formal point of contact for general academic guidance and pastoral support. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/tse/personal-tutor/

**Support and Wellbeing:** At university you may face non-academic issues where you need some expert help or guidance. There are lots of ways we can help you in your day-to-day life at University. Student Support Services provide a range of high-quality services to assist you during the course of your studies, help prepare you for life after graduation. We aim to enhance the student experience and help you to get the most out of your time at University. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/support-and-wellbeing/

**Student Union:** you can also access support through the Students’ Union, more information can be found here: https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/representation/studentsupport/

For this programme, students who have successfully applied for one of the international internships or local professional projects will also have a named contact available all the time in Stirling and another in UNITAR in order to be able rapidly to raise any concerns or questions about their professional work, about settling into the relevant new city, and about any other issues that might arise.

**Accessibility and Inclusion (A&I)**
A&I are committed to offering a service which is welcoming and supportive of the needs of all students. Our service takes into account the full range of needs you may have, in a wide variety of circumstances including - physical and mobility difficulties, sensory impairments, specific learning difficulties including dyslexia and autistic spectrum disorder as well as medical conditions and mental health difficulties. A&I can also support you if you have short-term, temporary impairments or other difficulties as a result of an accident, injury, illness or surgery. More information can be found here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/student-support/accessibility-&-inclusion-service/

For students who have successfully gained a place on one of the international internships, their host (a UN Agency or Regional Economic Commission) will have their own policies on Accessibility and Inclusion to ensure a welcoming environment to work. The Geneva Study Trip (part of the Preparation for Independent Work module) includes travel that cannot be guaranteed accessible to all, and we have designed the module to ensure that those unable to travel will be able to participate by skype and in other tailored ways, to make sure you are a full member of the cohort and through these alternative participation methods gain fully from the module.

**Learning Resources**
You can find out more about the resources available to support your learning here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/learning-support/

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### Section 4 Programme Evaluation and Enhancement

**METHODS FOR EVALUATING AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING**

**Module Evaluation**
Module evaluations are carried out each year and are an important way of getting student feedback on the modules we teach. We aim to evaluate every module we teach in every semester. You can find out more here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/registry/studentinformation/moduleevaluation/
Programme Review
Programmes are reviewed annually and on a 5 yearly cycle. You can get involved in a variety of different ways; by completing module evaluations, becoming a course representative and attending Student Staff Consultative Committees, or participating in the review process itself. You can find out more here: http://www.stir.ac.uk/academicpolicy/handbook/review-and-monitoring/

External Examiner(s) (To be added following Stage 2 approval)
Name of External Examiner:
Institution:
Please add as required.

Section 5 My Future

WHAT KIND OF CAREER MIGHT I GO ON TO?
The programme has a strong focus on employability. Students who successfully undertake an internship or professional project will gain hands-on experience of human rights diplomacy, backed up by the academic theoretical and legal knowledge developed in the spring and summer modules. Students will also be well placed to pursue an academic career by continuing onto PhD or commensurate research career possibilities, a route that will be further supported by undertaking the traditional academic dissertation.

Work in the UN institutions or in NGOs are clear options for graduates of this programme, and the networked development of the internship or professional project you apply for will be coordinated by UNITAR and Stirling staff together as a strong route into such employment. Likewise, graduates of the programme will be well placed for employment in the private sector. There is an increasing focus on business and human rights and companies seeking to align with international best practice, including compliance with the Sustainable Development Goals and international human rights obligations. Graduates in both human rights and diplomacy will be best placed as future leaders in terms of emerging best practice.

Through this programme, you will become reflective practitioners with an in-depth knowledge of current issues and developments within human rights. You will display the attributes necessary to thrive in the work place, with highly developed communication, team-working and problem-solving skills gained through practical work informed by critical analysis and in-depth specialist knowledge.

"Undertaking this course will naturally be of great value for those pursuing diplomatic careers in national and international organisations engaging with human rights. More broadly speaking, embedding human rights and diplomacy as skills that can be employed across jobs and sectors in Scotland and further afield will be a huge contribution to any area of work in both the public and private sphere. Graduates of this course will be particularly well placed to take a lead on this." (Prof. Alan Miller, Chair of the First Minister’s Advisory Group on Human Rights Leadership and previously Chair of the Scottish Human Rights Commission and currently United Nations Envoy for National Human Rights Institutions)

Connected
The programme generates a networked involvement with the human rights institutions via UNITAR, drawing on the academic learning gained in Stirling and uniquely desirable global internship and professional project opportunities.

Innovative
The programme offers a unique interdisciplinary theory-meets-practice model, enabling you to bring an innovatively critical and informed approach to your human rights work.

Transformative
The programme will enable you to bring academic insights into practice and vice versa through the programme’s uniquely interconnected structure.
### WHAT STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

The Study Visit to Geneva to observe the Human Rights Council in session and engage with practitioners from the United Nations working on Human Rights matters is part of the compulsory core module on Preparation for Independent Work. UNITAR will coordinate this trip, and the travel and living costs are covered by the programme fee.

### WHAT PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

A unique opportunity with this programme is the possibility to apply for a minimum 3-month internship abroad in one of the UN institutions, and UNITAR will assist you in securing these internships. Further opportunities include a local 3-month professional project with a human rights institution or NGO. The opportunities are built into the heart of the programme, and will be assessed partly by means of a post-project report. Although the programme facilitates access to these opportunities it is primarily the responsibility of the student to secure the internships/professional projects.

### WHAT FURTHER STUDY OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO ME?

A PhD in the law, philosophy, diplomacy or politics of human rights is a good further option for those who wish to do more research in the area.

### WHAT OTHER INFORMATION DO I NEED TO KNOW?

**January-August:**
All teaching is based in Stirling, with international learning and networking opportunities for all on the Study Visit to Geneva, plus with UNITAR staff brought to Stirling for intensive training sessions in diplomatic practice. Living costs in Stirling are updated regularly here: [https://www.stir.ac.uk/study/fees-funding/cost-of-living-pg/](https://www.stir.ac.uk/study/fees-funding/cost-of-living-pg/)

**September-December:**
Those who pursue an internship will have living costs of c. £1600 per month for internships in Geneva, c. £1600 per month for internships in New York, and £1000 per month for internships in Rome – with variable costs for alternative internships. Those who pursue local Scottish or UK based projects or the academic dissertation will have living costs as outlined here: [https://www.stir.ac.uk/study/fees-funding/cost-of-living-pg/](https://www.stir.ac.uk/study/fees-funding/cost-of-living-pg/)

Students may wish to explore funding support through multiple potential financial support avenues, including but not limited to competitive funding grants such as those offered by the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) or Saltire Scholarships, awarded by the Scottish government in partnership with university (decided on a year by year basis) offering citizens from certain countries (Canada, China, India, Pakistan and the USA) up to £8,000 towards a year of full-time Masters study.

### Section 6 Admissions

**HOW DO I ENTER THE PROGRAMME?**

**Admissions Criteria**
A minimum of a second class honours degree (2.1 preferred) or equivalent. Applicants without these formal qualifications but with significant appropriate/relevant work/life experience are encouraged to apply.

English language ability at a minimum of IELTS level 7 (6.5 in each band)