



Queen's University  
Belfast

## M LIBERAL ARTS



perspectives | possibilities | progress

SCHOOL OF  
ARTS, ENGLISH AND  
LANGUAGES

RUSSELL  
GROUP

# Why a Liberal Arts degree?



This is the degree you've been looking for. The one that will set you apart. With a MLibArts degree from Queen's University Belfast, you will become a member of an exclusive and increasingly important body of insightful graduates, sought after by employers and equipped to take on the challenges of our fast-paced and ever-changing world.

The MLibArts programme at Queen's is a novel and flexible four-year degree. It allows you to play to your strengths, aligning subject interests and specialism with highly developed personal and professional skills that will advance your careers and enrich your leadership potential. It is for students who are inquisitive and reflective, who are change-makers looking towards broader landscapes.

“TECHNOLOGY ALONE IS NOT ENOUGH...IT'S TECHNOLOGY MARRIED WITH LIBERAL ARTS, MARRIED WITH THE HUMANITIES, THAT YIELDS US THE RESULT THAT MAKES OUR HEARTS SING”

STEVE JOBS

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## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

**A-level:**  
AAA

**For students whose first language is not English:**  
An IELTS score of 6.5 with a minimum of 5.5 in

each test component or an equivalent acceptable qualification, details of which are available at: [Go.qub.ac.uk/EnglishLanguageReqs](http://Go.qub.ac.uk/EnglishLanguageReqs)



# Liberal Arts at Queen's

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The Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at Queen's is the heartbeat of Liberal Arts in Northern Ireland. Our focus is on opportunities that challenge and inspire, that equip you with the skills and knowledge to excel in the real world.

This unique programme integrates core modules on the arts and humanities. It shapes and changes contemporary society with thematic, interdisciplinary modules and a 'major' subject. Students can graduate with a pathway major in any one of the following: Economics, Anthropology, Drama, English, French, Film, History, International Studies, Irish, Music, Philosophy, Politics, Portuguese, Spanish, and Theology. You will also have the opportunity to take optional modules in these and other subjects which are taught at the Faculty.

What distinguishes this programme is the ownership it gives you. You will make a major contribution to shaping the content of your own degree. With academic guidance, you choose your pathway and your optional modules and you determine the focus of your dissertation and how you make the most of your study abroad.

## 60%

OF THE UK'S LEADERS HOLD ARTS, HUMANITIES OR SOCIAL SCIENCES DEGREES.



QUEEN'S IS RANKED IN THE TOP

## 1%

OF UNIVERSITIES IN THE WORLD

(QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2018/[WEBOMETRICS.INFO](http://WEBOMETRICS.INFO)).



QUEEN'S IS THE NINTH OLDEST UK UNIVERSITY, AND IS A MEMBER OF THE ELITE RUSSELL GROUP OF 24 UK LEADING RESEARCH-INTENSIVE UNIVERSITIES.

QUEEN'S IS RANKED

## 8<sup>TH</sup>

IN THE UK FOR STUDENT EXPERIENCE

(TIMES AND SUNDAY TIMES GOOD UNIVERSITY GUIDE 2017).

# Widening horizons

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Career and skills development gained from a liberal arts degree will widen your horizons

## PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

With leading regional, UK and international employers in both the public and private sectors, e.g. PwC.

## SEMESTER ABROAD

Study with partner institutions in the USA and Europe.

## MASTER YOUR LEADERSHIP

Exclusive access to Graduate School programme 'enhancing leadership and personal development skills'.

## MASTERS DEGREE MODULES

Advance opportunity to study postgraduate modules in the fourth year. Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary modules with curriculum flexibility.

## UNIQUE SPEAKER SERIES

Liberal Arts talks from local, UK and global industry leaders.





# Skills development

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Language Skills

Influence

Emotional Intelligence

Adaptability

Initiative and Innovation

Leadership

Digital Literacy

Collaborative Problem Solving

LIBERAL ARTS

Data Analysis

Analytical and Evaluative Skills

Intercultural Communication

Confidence

Self-awareness

Ethical Decision Making

Teamwork

Reflective Thinking

# Addressing the Big Themes

Our academics teaching the Liberal Arts include internationally-recognised experts on the major issues facing the modern world and global society, for example post-crisis finance, cultural identity, public health, conflict, culture and tourism, and ethical challenges facing society.

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## Arts and Humanities in Contemporary Society

What role can the arts and humanities play in contemporary society? What social, economic and personal benefits do they bring? And how can and do the arts and humanities help society address the challenges and opportunities presented by economic, social, cultural and technological developments in the 21st century?

## Borders

Borders represent one of the big global issues. They are pivotal to economic development, social welfare and cultural identity, as well as ethno-national conflict, political surveillance, sovereignty and democracy. They rarely remain static and are constantly being challenged and re-shaped, with profound implications for border communities, for states and for societies more generally.

## Brexit

These are uncertain and precarious times, economically, socially and politically. With Northern Ireland at the epicentre of Brexit and its many cultural, political and social ramifications, Queen's is uniquely positioned to prepare future-ready leaders for understanding and addressing the challenges Brexit poses and the opportunities it creates for the UK, for the island of Ireland and for Europe.

## Creative Industries

Broadcasting, Film and Music Technology are among some of fastest growing creative sectors within the UK and Ireland. These vibrant and innovative industries are transforming the landscape of the UK economy and offer future graduates the opportunity to realise their creative talents in a booming commercial field. Queen's fuses exceptional academic talent with state-of-the-art technology to offer students a unique learning environment focused on connecting their passion to real world opportunity.

## Global Migration

Global uncertainty and the surge of migration raises cultural, economic and political questions, which are at the forefront of contemporary debates. Queen's has an outstanding reputation for its use of transnational and culturally-sensitive analysis in understanding how these issues have developed, how they have been tackled historically and how they might be resolved.

## Uses of the Past

How do societies use, understand and interpret the past? How can anthropology, English, history, philosophy, politics allow us to deal with legacies of the past, with the aftermath of conflict, and inform and ensure the development of society?

# About Belfast and Northern Ireland

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Belfast itself is a fun city on the current 'Must See' destination lists. Awash with enthusiasm, culture and that famous Irish friendliness, students can also explore:

HAPPIEST PLACE  
IN THE UK



(Office of National  
Statistics 2015)

GAME OF  
THRONES



film location and  
activity tours

FESTIVALS



TITANIC BELFAST MUSEUM

EUROPE'S  
LEADING  
TOURIST  
ATTRACTION



(World Travel Awards 2016)



THE SAFEST  
REGION IN  
THE UK

(British Crime Survey 2014)

MOST  
AFFORDABLE FOR  
STUDENTS



(NatWest Student Living  
Index 2015)

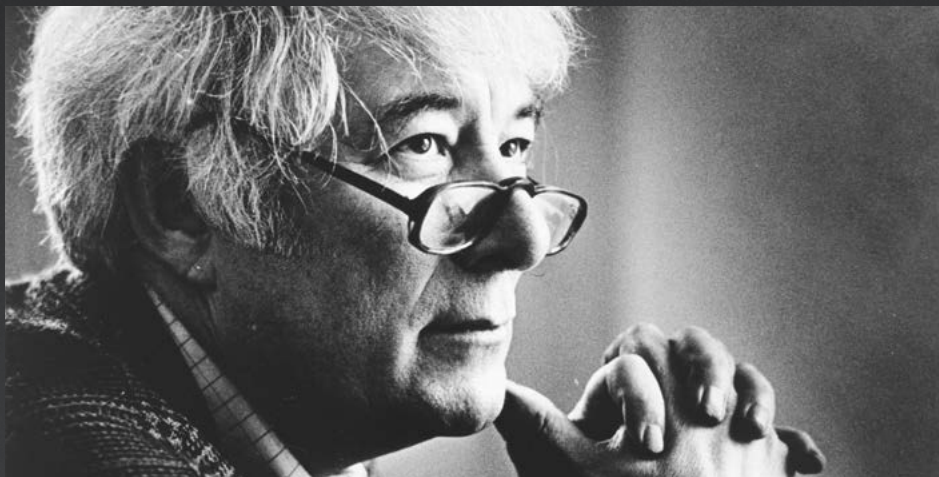
BELFAST, BEST UK CITY (Guardian Travel Awards 2016)



# Our Graduates

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Our graduates enjoy successful careers in publishing, public relations, advertising, journalism, broadcasting, law, theatre, management consultancy, diplomatic and embassy officials, tourism, policy analysts, charities and non-government organisations.



They include two Nobel Laureates – **Seamus Heaney** for poetry and **David Trimble** for his contribution to the Northern Ireland peace process.

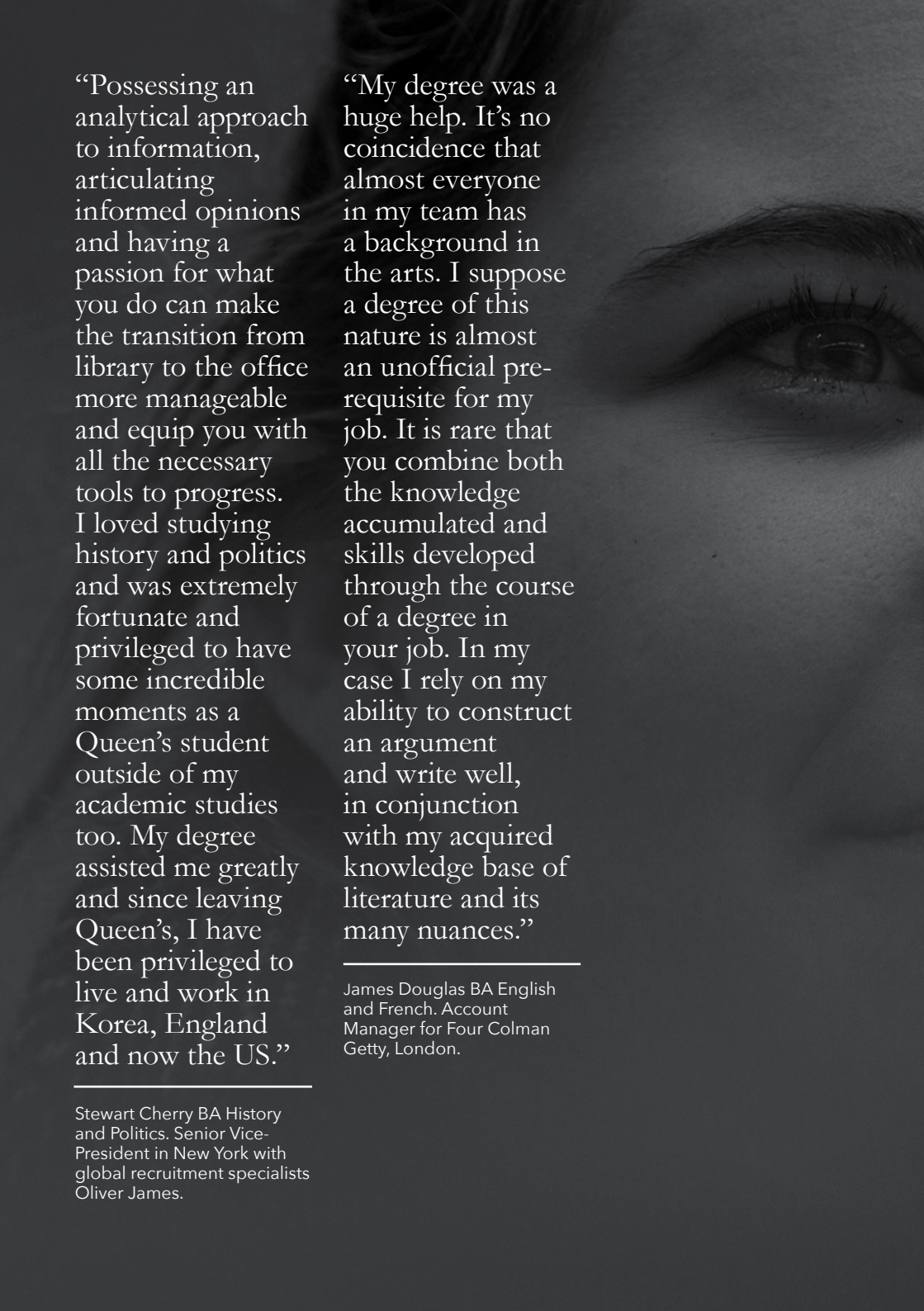
Other notable alumni include **Mike Brown** (Commissioner of Transport for London); **Stephen Rea** (actor); **Lucia McAnespie** (actor RADA-trained), **Paul Muldoon** (academic and poet), **Cat Barter** (actor and singer trained in Royal Academy of Music); **Anne Kelly** (journalist and writer); **Des Kennedy** (theatre director, Royal Court Theatre); **Annie Mac** (radio presenter); **Stephen Agnew** (Green Party Leader); **Marcella Walsh** (singer Scottish Opera).

“My university degree was extremely important in getting me to where I am today. In particular, my subject choices developed my communication skills, both written and oral, and my analytical skills, which have been essential in my career to date. My time at Queen’s gave me the confidence to hit the ground running when I entered the workplace after university.”

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Hannah Webb BA English. Student Recruitment Officer, PwC, Belfast.





“Possessing an analytical approach to information, articulating informed opinions and having a passion for what you do can make the transition from library to the office more manageable and equip you with all the necessary tools to progress. I loved studying history and politics and was extremely fortunate and privileged to have some incredible moments as a Queen’s student outside of my academic studies too. My degree assisted me greatly and since leaving Queen’s, I have been privileged to live and work in Korea, England and now the US.”

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Stewart Cherry BA History and Politics. Senior Vice-President in New York with global recruitment specialists Oliver James.

“My degree was a huge help. It’s no coincidence that almost everyone in my team has a background in the arts. I suppose a degree of this nature is almost an unofficial prerequisite for my job. It is rare that you combine both the knowledge accumulated and skills developed through the course of a degree in your job. In my case I rely on my ability to construct an argument and write well, in conjunction with my acquired knowledge base of literature and its many nuances.”

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James Douglas BA English and French. Account Manager for Four Colman Getty, London.

# Our World-Class Staff

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Our staff enjoy a well-deserved international reputation. They are advancing and expanding knowledge, helping to define attitudes to some of the great social issues of our time. Among them are:



**PROFESSOR JOHN GARRY**

Researching and teaching electoral and deliberative democracy. Leading a major study examining the politics of the post-Brexit Irish border.



**PROFESSOR LEE MCGOWAN**

An expert on the EU. A leading voice on how the Brexit process is unfolding and what the UK's withdrawal will mean for Northern Ireland in particular.



**DR. ROS SILVESTER**

Teaching and research interests in contemporary French and Chinese literature and Migration Studies.



**PROFESSOR DEBBIE LISLE**

A leading expert on borders, technology and security. She also researches and teaches on tourism, global politics, visual culture and the media.



**DR. HEATHER JOHNSON**

Researching and teaching on refugees, security and migration. Her work has taken her to refugee camps in Tanzania, the border between Spain and Morocco and to detention centres in Australia.



**DR. PHILIP MCGOWAN**

School of Arts, English and Languages - Senior Lecturer for English and Programme Director for M Liberal Arts Philip McGowan is President (2016-2020) of the European Association for American Studies and is the only non-US board member of the F. Scott Fitzgerald Society.



# Our World-Class Facilities

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**Queen's is committed to supporting outstanding students and staff, working in world-class facilities.**

## **McClay Library**

Illuminated by a multi-storey open atrium, the award-winning McClay Library includes IT training rooms, a Language Centre, Library and Computer support areas and a café, alongside the University's Special Collections and the C.S. Lewis Reading Room. Blending the best features of a traditional library with the latest technology, The McClay Library creates a truly 21st-century environment for students.



## **Queen's Film Theatre (QFT)**

The Queen's Film Theatre is a unique cultural venue with almost 50 years of experience of bringing a high quality film experience to Belfast audiences. The QFT is also a friendly, intimate cinema that values its audiences, as without their loyalty, support and interest in our programme, QFT would not be able to exist.

## **Film Studio**

The Film studio is located just off University Square, represents an investment and enhancement to existing facilities in Film Studies and The School of Creative Arts of over £1m in the last two years. Accessible through the Queen's Film Theatre, the studio is approximately 13m L x 12m W x 13m H and is sound insulated to broadcast



specifications. Students can work at any time free from the noise of the world outside.

## **SARC**

The Sonic Arts Research Centre is established in a purpose-built facility located alongside the engineering departments of Queen's University Belfast. SARC's centrepiece, the Sonic Laboratory, provides a unique space for cutting-edge initiatives in the creation and delivery of music and audio. The Sonic Laboratory's uniqueness is vested in the degree of flexibility it can provide for experiments in 3D sound diffusion and for groundbreaking compositional and performance work within a purpose-built, variable acoustic space.



FACULTY OF

# Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

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[www.qub.ac.uk/ael](http://www.qub.ac.uk/ael)



## **M Liberal Arts**

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