



18 July 2012

Dear MSc Offer-Holder,

### **WELCOME TO UCL's DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

We are writing to welcome you to the MSc in Economics and MSc in Economic Policy programmes at UCL's Department of Economics. We are looking forward to meeting you at the start of the 2012/13 session, which begins on Monday 24 September. This letter provides you with an overview of the academic arrangements for the first weeks of the programme and about the preparatory work that you will need to have completed before you arrive.

### **MSc Economics and MSc Economic Policy Welcome Meeting**

The MSc programmes begin with a welcome meeting at 9.30am on Monday 24 September, at the UCL Bloomsbury campus, the precise location of which will follow. We will be running the meeting as directors of the two MSc programmes. It is very important that you attend this meeting because we will introduce you to some of the key academic and administrative staff involved in the programme. We will also give you information about how the programme is organised and about important information sources at UCL.

### **Induction Programme**

In addition to the MSc Welcome Meeting to the Economics Department, the first two weeks of the academic session include College enrolment formalities organised by UCL Student Registry, a session run by the UCL Economics subject librarian introducing you to the economics resources available in UCL libraries, and an introduction to UCL's Graduate School. Dates and times for these sessions will be on the timetable that we will provide you with closer to the start of the new academic session.

### **International Student Orientation**

UCL will run an International Student Orientation programme from Thursday, 20 to Friday, 21 September. If you are an international student (i.e. not normally resident in the UK), we recommend that you register for and attend this very useful orientation:

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/international-students/when-you-are-at-ucl/isop>

### **ECONG100 Mathematics & Statistics Refresher Course**

An intensive course in maths and stats takes place from Monday, 24 September to Thursday, 04 October. It is run by the Economics Department and designed to help reinforce your knowledge of the maths and stats "toolkit" needed for the MSc programmes. Attendance is mandatory. The final exam is held in the third week of the programme, the week of Monday, 08 October. The marks in this exam will count towards your degree. For students who fail at this attempt, tutorial classes are provided during Term 1, and the re-sit opportunity will take place during the Term 3 final exam period in May-June 2013.

Before the refresher course begins, you are expected to already have a thorough and active working knowledge of mathematics and statistics (i.e. be able to solve the exercises) at the level of the chapters of the textbooks recommended on the Maths & Stats course syllabus (to gain access, log in to the Moodle course page as a guest and agree to the site policy):

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/economics/graduate/course-list/econg100>

Exercises, as well as a link to a self-assessment test, are on the syllabus; view these exercises as the minimum preparation needed! Without this preparation, you are likely to struggle with the Maths & Stats Refresher course and with the core courses on the MSc programmes.

Lectures for the Term 1 core courses begin in the third week of the programme. The timetable will be available at some point in August. Expect to have lectures and/or tutorial classes on your timetable every day of the week, Monday to Friday.

### **Further Information**

This letter is about the academic arrangements run by the Department of Economics. Further information about the MSc in Economics and MSc in Economic Policy programmes can be found on the department's website:

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/economics/graduate>

To find answers to your questions about the programme, please thoroughly read the MSc Administration Moodle page first and contact the Economics Department's Graduate Studies Administrator for MSc Programmes, Tina Fowler ([tina.fowler@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:tina.fowler@ucl.ac.uk)), only after having absorbed that information:

<https://moodle.ucl.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=6517>

A considerable amount of useful general information about joining UCL can be found on the UCL website. You will also receive information directly from the central UCL administration before joining the programme. If you have general (non-academic) questions, including questions about tuition fees, visas, accommodation, etc, you should research them on UCL's website:

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/new-students/>

We look forward to seeing you at UCL on Monday, 24 September.

Best wishes,

Wendy Carlin  
MSc. Economics Programme Director

Liam Graham  
MSc Economic Policy Programme Director