



PLANNING YOUR CAREER

Whether you have a fixed aim for your future, or are eager to explore the vast range of options, UCL's friendly and professional Careers Service offers events, resources and personally tailored advice to help you find your path.

“UCL has a great reputation for producing high-calibre students who have excellent academic skills but are also very business aware.”

Graduate Recruitment Manager, BT

At UCL we recognise that undertaking a degree is a considerable investment for most, both in terms of time and money. Many students who take a degree do so in order to boost their career prospects. UCL therefore places a great deal of emphasis on the support students are given in realising their future ambitions, whether that is employment or further study, in the UK or abroad. If you are unsure about what you would like to do when you graduate, the team of professional advisers at UCL can discuss your options with you and when you are ready, help you apply.

UCL is frequently targeted by a vast range of employers who come to us as they value the academic achievement of our students combined with the array of skills developed through extracurricular activities and work experience. Every year about 300 organisations come onto campus to engage in events arranged by the Careers Service (see opposite for details). Attending these events enables students to talk to potential employers and find out exactly what they offer as well as tips on how to apply. Our two online jobs boards – UCL JobOnline and UCL International JobOnline host over 7,000 vacancies per year.

Each year, within six months of graduating around 90% of UCL undergraduate students enter either work or further study. This compares favourably to the national average and illustrates how highly sought after our students are. In fact UCL was ranked fourth in the country for employment prospects in the *Sunday Times University Guide 2010*. Most of the remaining students choose to take time out as a 'gap year' in order to travel or participate in another activity that interests them. The average starting salary of UCL graduates – at £23,155* – is also higher than the national average of £20,500*.

* All data taken from the 'Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education' survey undertaken by the Higher Education Statistics Authority (HESA), looking at destinations of UK/EU graduates in the 2009 cohort.

Subject-specific activities

Every academic department has a specialist careers adviser who works with the department to develop and run a bespoke programme of activities. This includes talks on career options, information about what previous students have gone on to do, and events to meet alumni and discuss their career path.

THE GRADUATE VIEW

Sara Giorgi

Senior Researcher, Brook Lyndhurst European Social and Political Studies BA, Graduated in 2004

“I'm fascinated by the crossroads between research and policy when it comes to sustainability issues and this is what we investigate at Brook Lyndhurst. My passion for sustainability issues can be traced back to the Politics and the Challenge of Globalisation course I took during my final year at UCL. I immediately was intrigued by the engagement and power of environmental social movements and their role in policy-making. At Brook Lyndhurst, I've worked on a number of projects that have explored pro-environmental behaviour change for both the Environment Agency and Defra, including a major synthesis review on household waste prevention. My time at UCL gave me a thirst for knowledge and enabled me to discover a real passion for research. I believe the inspirational staff, insightful courses and stimulating discussion with classmates all contributed to this.”





Individual careers consultations

All students are offered individual careers consultation sessions with an adviser. These can include gaining advice on career or further study options, CV or application form checks and practice interviews with feedback. Employers from a range of sectors also come to the Careers Service to offer application checks and mock interviews.

Vacancies and information

JobOnline and International JobOnline are UCL's job vacancy sites. These list graduate level work as well as internships and work experience placements for during and after your studies. We have comprehensive careers information about every career sector and every country and a number of resources aimed at further study, a funding database and information to help with applications.



If you are an international student, we have international careers advisers who manage a programme aimed at supporting you whether you wish to remain in the UK or return home when you leave UCL. The programme includes talks on topics such as 'Demystifying the UK Job Market' and 'CV Writing for International Students', and a series of webinars enabling you to interact with international recruiters without leaving campus!

UCL Careers Service is part of The Careers Group, University of London – giving you access to an increased range of events. For further information see www.careers.lon.ac.uk

You can find out more on our website, www.ucl.ac.uk/careers or social media channels:
www.facebook.com/uclcareers
<http://twitter.com/uclcareersblog>
<http://uclcareersservice.wordpress.com>
<http://vimeo.com/uclcareers>

A lifelong connection

By graduating from UCL you will join a group that includes the poet Robert Browning, artist Antony Gormley, the inventor Alexander Graham Bell, the athlete and Olympic gold-medallist Christine Ohuruogu and the band Coldplay.

When you graduate, and wherever you find yourself living and working you will become a part of UCL's global community; a community which currently has more than 130,000 alumni living in 180 different countries.

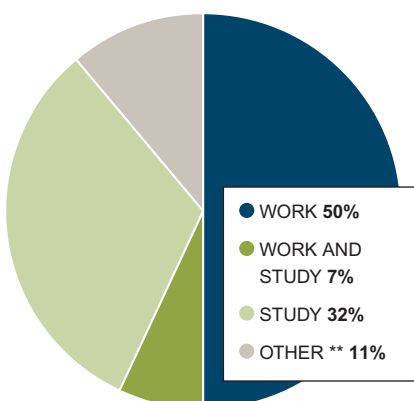
During your time at UCL you will have many opportunities to meet alumni and benefit from their experiences. A number of student clubs and societies undertake joint activities with alumni clubs, many alumni give informal careers advice to students and international alumni groups across the world open their activities to students with some hosting special 'send-off' and 'welcome back' events.

Becoming a member of the Alumni Network after you graduate gives you access to a wide range of excellent benefits. These include invitations to careers networking events, access to the global careers mentoring network, a free email address for life, a cutting-edge alumni magazine and continued access to the UCL Library and UCL Union.

By deciding to come to UCL you are joining an amazingly diverse and talented community of current and former students, not just for the duration of your degree programme, but for life.

To find out more visit
www.ucl.ac.uk/alumni
www.facebook.com/UCLconnect
<http://twitter.com/UCLAlumni>

Career destinations of graduates six months after graduation*



**** OTHER**

On this chart the heading 'Other' represents a grouping of activities in which personal circumstance or choice has influenced the graduate's immediate options. The grouping includes students who are:

- Due to start a job within the next month of the survey date
- Travelling (for example, taking a gap year)
- Looking after the home or family/ temporarily sick or unable to work
- Seeking work or further study
- Not employed but NOT looking for employment, further study or training
- Permanently unable to work or retired