



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Your choice of where to study, the educational experience you have, and the friends you meet at university will have a significant impact on your future life. By choosing UCL you would be opting not only for one of the world's top universities, but for an institution with a distinct ethos and mission in which teaching and learning is informed by the global context in which we operate.



Learning and living

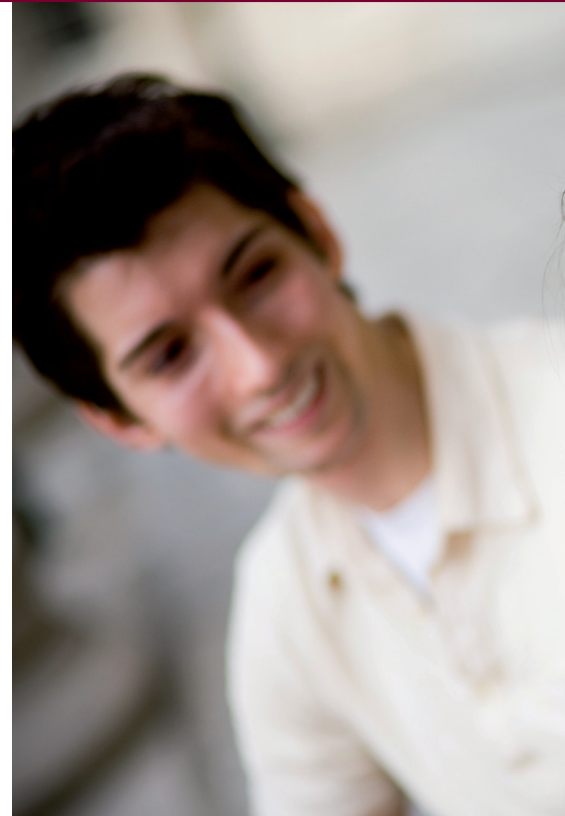
Around 35% of our student community comes from outside the UK, and we strive to create a climate in which all students are educated for global citizenship and leadership.

We firmly believe that you will benefit from the educational experience we offer, and we value highly the ideas, perspectives and contributions you can bring. We encourage you to draw from your time with us not only stimulation and achievement from your academic degree, but all the benefits of involvement in your university and local community. This may be through extracurricular academic activities in your department, social and sporting activities organised by the UCL Students' Union, numerous volunteering opportunities or perhaps acting as a Student Ambassador representing UCL to other prospective students.

Our location in London provides access to the lively cultural buzz of the city as well as world-famous attractions. London also offers good transport links within the city, to the rest of the UK, and indeed to the rest of the world (see page 23).

Support before and after your arrival

Going to university and moving away from home, possibly for the first time, is a big step under any circumstances, and there are extra challenges in travelling to another country to do this. We aim to make the transition as smooth as possible for you and the UCL Student Centre provides information about visas and entry clearance, and also other practical advice to help you prepare for your time in the UK. In addition the Student Centre runs online pre-departure briefings for students before they travel to London. First-year



accommodation is guaranteed, and further information about UCL Student Residences can be found on page 16.

Our International Students' Orientation Programme, held immediately before the academic year begins in September, is designed to help you settle in and learn how to access the range of services and opportunities on offer. Social events in the programme allow you to make new friends. All international students starting at UCL are invited to attend the programme which is free of charge.

During your time as a student you will have access to all the academic and welfare support services described in this Prospectus. In addition, the Student Centre offers you help with issues such as opening a UK bank account and visa renewal, and our friendly staff will be happy to answer your questions or direct you to an appropriate source of help. The UCL Careers Service offers dedicated assistance for international students, whether seeking employment in their home country or considering working in the UK.



THE STUDENT VIEW

Hannes Ansorg
Economics BSc (Econ)
First year

“UCL is one of the best universities in the world; more importantly, however, is the fact that it really is London’s global university. The open culture, international scope of the studies and diversity of students and subjects made UCL the first choice for me in London, the UK and indeed, in Europe. As an international student the help I received from all students and members of staff in particular was extraordinary, especially in the first two weeks of term. During that time the International Students’ Orientation Programme gave a warm welcome and brought all overseas students together to share experiences and make their lives easier by becoming friends quickly.”



range of approved English language courses, including the one-year Diploma in English for Academic Purposes and shorter pre-session courses. Their website at www.ucl.ac.uk/language-centre gives further details.

Members of UCL staff regularly attend events overseas to provide information and advice about studying at UCL. You can find out if we will be visiting your part of the world at www.ucl.ac.uk/international under the heading ‘UCL Visits You’.

For more information please visit our website, www.ucl.ac.uk/international. You can also stay in touch via our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/uclinternational and follow us on Twitter at http://twitter.com/UCL_IntOffice

University Preparatory Certificates: Foundation Courses for International Students at the UCL Language Centre

UCL offers intensive one-year foundation courses to prepare international students for a variety of degree programmes at UCL.

The University Preparatory Certificates (UPCs) are for international students of high academic potential who are aiming to gain access to undergraduate degree programmes at UCL and other top UK universities and whose education systems in their own countries do not offer qualifications suitable for direct admission.

These intensive and challenging courses combine the study of two academic subjects usually studied with Academic English. All lectures, seminars, tutorials (and practical laboratory sessions for Science and Engineering students) are delivered by UCL staff within the university.

UPC students are registered as UCL students and have access to all the academic, welfare, social and cultural resources UCL has to offer.

UPC students are supported with their UCAS application and our aim is to ensure that on completing the course, students are confident to embrace the challenges of university study in the UK.

Each year, an average of 50% of UCL UPC students continue studying at UCL as undergraduates. In 2010 60% of UPC students started UCL degree programmes. Forty per cent of former UPC students graduating in 2008 and 2009 received a first-class Bachelor’s degree from UCL. Overall, in 2010 72% of UPC students progressed to the UK’s leading universities.

For more information see our website: www.ucl.ac.uk/upc

Application

Competition for places on UCL degree programmes is strong, and you will be expected to have a qualification of the same standard as a UK applicant. In addition to A levels and the International Baccalaureate we accept a range of international qualifications. You will find further details on page 166 and by following Country Information links from our website www.ucl.ac.uk/international. If qualifications in your home country do not meet this equivalence it is possible that you may meet our entry qualifications by successful completion of a foundation year – see the University Preparatory Certificates information on this page.

English language

If your education has not been conducted in the English language you will be expected to demonstrate evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency. Details of acceptable qualifications and the standard required are given on page 168. The UCL Language Centre offers a