

London /

From learning to literature, art to architecture, science to sport, history to pop culture and enterprise to governance, London has it all. As Samuel Johnson succinctly put it, "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford."



Writers such as Virginia Woolf (pictured) and E.M. Forster, artists such as Roger Fry and Vanessa Bell and the economist John Maynard Keynes, all lived and worked in Bloomsbury in the early twentieth century

At UCL, you don't just learn it, you can live it

The resources for learning you can enjoy in London are many and varied:

- // with its countless libraries, archives, cultural spaces and professional bodies, this is the perfect place to find context and support for your studies
- // London houses 385 public libraries and nearly a third of all the archives in the UK, from the world-famous British and Guildhall Libraries and British Newspaper Archives at Colindale to the National Collections at Kew
- // free lectures, workshops and exhibitions are offered by institutions like the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Royal Institution and the Wellcome Collection
- // History of Art students are often taught in galleries, directly in front of the works under discussion
- // Arts and Humanities students benefit from a wealth of cinemas and theatres

// Law and Politics students are near the UK's seat of government, and can observe debates in the Houses of Parliament or meetings of the London Assembly in City Hall

// Biological Sciences students have easy access to ZSL London Zoo, the Natural History Museum or the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew



Sir Isaac Newton statue in the nearby British Library courtyard, by UCL alumnus Eduardo Paolozzi

- // Medical students can take advantage of UCL's links with various clinical and research institutions, including the Institutes of Child Health, Neurology, Ophthalmology and the Ear Institute
- // London itself provides a living laboratory for students of geography, civil engineering and the built environment.

A treasure trove of history, culture and art

London offers you an unrivalled range of museums, galleries and collections and, what's more, many of them are free. For example:

- // world-famous art galleries like the National Gallery, Tate Modern and Tate Britain, as well as smaller modern art galleries such as the Whitechapel, Saatchi or White Cube
- // renowned museums including the British, Victoria and Albert (V&A), Natural History, Design and Science Museums, as well as lesser-known collections like the Hunterian Museum (surgical history), the Horniman Museum (anthropology), the Cartoon Museum and Dr Johnson's House
- // mixed performance and exhibition spaces such as the Barbican, the Institute of Contemporary Arts and the Southbank Centre
- // the Museum of London, Buckingham Palace, the Tower of London and walking tours around the neighbourhoods of Charles Dickens or Jack the Ripper.

London's National Gallery was designed by the architect William Wilkins, the same man who designed UCL's iconic Portico

The National Gallery houses over 2,300 paintings including works by Cézanne, Monet, van Gogh and Turner; entry is free





The vast collections of the British Museum are a short walk away from our Bloomsbury campus



Not just a tourist attraction: the Houses of Parliament are the centre of English politics and a valuable resource for students of law

London event calendar

There are events, celebrations and holidays throughout the year in London. Many of them are free.

January

New Year celebrations with fireworks on the River Thames

February

Chinese New Year parade with traditional dancing and fireworks / London Fashion Week / Six Nations Championship (Rugby)

March

The annual Boat Race on the Thames

April

The London Marathon

May

Chelsea Flower Show / FA Cup Final (Football) / Camden Crawl

June

Royal Academy Summer Exhibition / Trooping the Colour (Queen's Birthday Parade) / Wimbledon (Tennis)

July

Pride London Parade / Lovebox and Field Day Festivals in Victoria Park

August

Great British Beer Festival / Notting Hill Carnival / Summer opening of Parliament and Buckingham Palace

September

Open House London / London Fashion Week / Thames Festival

October

Divali celebrations / London Film Festival

November

Remembrance Sunday / Guy Fawkes Night / The Lord Mayor's Show

December

Christmas celebrations including the Trafalgar Square Christmas tree lighting ceremony / Spitalfields Winter Festival

250

London has 250 museums and galleries including a diverse range of specialist collections

All of London's a stage

// The world-famous West End offers a huge variety of plays and musicals. There are open-air theatres or the British Film Institute on the Southbank

// cinemas abound, from the big names at Leicester Square and the Prince Charles cinema which is well-known for cheap screenings, to the Renou for arthouse films and the National Film Theatre on the Southbank

// rock and pop venues include pubs and clubs in places like Camden and Shoreditch, gig circuit staples like the Roundhouse and O2 Academy Brixton and larger venues such as the O2 Arena and Wembley Stadium

// there are clubs for dancing, such as Fabric, Heaven and Cargo

// classical music and opera lovers can enjoy performances at the Royal Festival Hall, Royal Albert Hall, Kings Place, Barbican and Royal Opera House.



Living in London

**Cherish Rufaro Mutambara,
Third Year, History of Art BA**

London is such a diverse melting pot of a city. My studies have benefited immensely from exposure to the different cultures and free access to some of the best museums and galleries in the world (namely the Tate Modern and Tate Britain, V&A, and the British Museum where I have some of my tutorials and classes). Also there are many walking tours, and chances to appear as an audience member on television programmes.

I live a very full life and during my free time I attend concerts, watch live sports like the cricket test matches at Lord's and the Oval and attend tennis matches at Wimbledon. Studying in London means that I am able to take a quick trip to Paris on the Eurostar or fly to other European destinations with ease.

UCL's Chamber Music Society perform a number of concerts throughout the year



Whatever kind of music you're into, you'll find it in London

London / cont.



Whether you choose to watch one of London's 14 professional football teams or prefer to take a run in Regent's Park, there is plenty of opportunity for both watching and participating in sport

Participate or spectate

Play or watch your favourite sport? Spend your leisure time at a leisurely pace? Whatever you love to do, London spoils you for choice. Why don't you try:

- // Premier League football
- // cricket at the Oval or Lord's
- // rugby at Twickenham
- // the London Marathon, run every April
- // tennis at Wimbledon
- // one of London's many green spaces, from local parks and gardens to world-famous sites including:
 - Regent's Park, near UCL, which houses ZSL London Zoo, an open-air theatre and various sports facilities
 - Hyde Park, site of the Serpentine lake, the Serpentine art gallery and Kensington Palace
 - Kew Gardens, an important centre of botanical research.

Why this city is top of so many shopping lists

Whether you're shopping for essentials such as food and clothes; love seeking out unusual or unique gifts and bargains, or just enjoy shopping as a leisure activity, London is a retail therapy paradise. As well as familiar high-street names and the famous department stores on Oxford Street, you'll discover a wealth of specialist traders, markets and shops to suit every budget. Borough Market is famous for fine, fresh food; the markets at Camden and Spitalfields offer clothing, jewellery and arts and crafts, and you'll find just about everything in the West End, from clothes and comics to make-up and musical instruments.



Living in London

Louise Yang, Second Year, Natural Sciences MSci

In my spare time, I enjoy going to the theatre, art galleries, museums and all the current exhibitions that London offers. UCL is in the museum mile, so is within a mile of many significant academic and cultural landmarks. The West End is only a short distance away, be it Oxford Street you're after, or the musicals and plays that are unrivalled anywhere else in the world. All these things enhance your university experience as there is always something exciting to do as well as there always being somewhere new to work! You can often find special deals and offers tailored specifically to students.

Final-year Biological Sciences students can undertake their research project at several organisations including the ZSL Institute of Zoology and the Natural History Museum

Natural History Museum

The museum is home to the largest and most important natural history collection in the world.

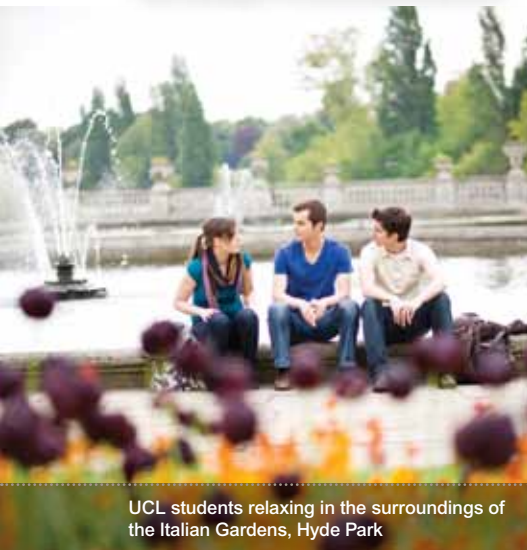




Oxford Street, at the heart of London's West End, is a world-famous shopping destination – minutes from UCL's Bloomsbury campus!



As the biggest capital city in Europe, London has over 130 foreign embassies, giving international students a home from home on their doorsteps. The food's pretty varied too!



UCL students relaxing in the surroundings of the Italian Gardens, Hyde Park

London Royal Parks

London contains eight Royal Parks including Richmond Park in the west, Greenwich Park (home to the Royal Observatory) in the south, Regent's Park in the north and Hyde Park in the centre.

Bushy Park

Green Park

Greenwich Park

Hyde Park

St. James's Park

Kensington Gardens

Regent's Park

Richmond Park

30%

30% (475sq km) of London's surface area is parkland, including eight Royal Parks

Getting around London and beyond

// London's public transport system is the easiest way to get around, with underground ('Tube'), train and bus networks. As a student, you are eligible for 30% off all adult travelcards and bus passes valid for a week or more.

 www.tfl.gov.uk




Many discounts are available to students including the Student Oyster card

// Cycling and walking are cheap and healthy. Use London's network of cycle routes plus the Cycle Hire scheme.

 www.tfl.gov.uk/cycling

// London has excellent transport links to the rest of the UK, Europe and beyond

// UCL is within walking distance of several major transport hubs, including the Eurostar terminal at St Pancras International, and King's Cross and Euston stations.

 www.nationalrail.co.uk

 www.eurostar.com

London's iconic red bus, the Routemaster, operates on Heritage bus routes 9 and 15



Living in London

Joe Mason, Second Year, History BA

London is an unparalleled place to study. Academically, you have access to the best resources in Europe. You're minutes from the British Library, a Tube ride from the National Archives (at Kew) and 60 minutes from one of the world's busiest airports. Culturally it's fantastic. Only London students pop down to the Tate Modern on a Friday night, or grab £5 tickets to the National Theatre midweek. There's an infinite amount of stuff to do in London. The food is incredible, too, and you can pick up free curry every day near campus.

