

# Teaching and learning /

*As well as world-leading teaching and facilities, we add an extra dimension to your study by providing you with skills and perspectives that will benefit you for life.*

## Which degree is right for you?

Depending on what you decide to study (see right), your degree programme at UCL will be classified as follows:

**Single-subject Honours degrees** (e.g. History BA, Physics BSc), are those where most of the programme you study will be within that subject area.

**Combined-studies Honours degrees** are those in which two specific subject areas are studied. Programmes with 'and' in their title, for example Mathematics and Physics BSc, mean your course load will be split 50/50 between the two subjects. Programmes including 'with' in their title, for example Chemistry with Management Studies BSc, mean that about one quarter of your course load will be in the minor subject area.

An **Interdisciplinary degree** (e.g. Arts and Sciences BASc), is one where you take a combination of courses from different departments or faculties that together build up to a degree programme.

## Three years or four?

Many science and engineering departments offer their programmes as a three-year BSc or BEng, or a four-year MSci or MEng. The programme content is generally the same for the first three years, with the extra year spent on more advanced or specialist courses including an additional research project. A four-year degree may also qualify you for accreditation from a professional body or chartered status.

## How your study is structured

The academic year begins in September and is divided into three terms. Most of your teaching will take place in terms one and two, with most of term three set aside for revision and examinations.

Your degree programme will be made up of individual courses. Each course carries a certain amount of credit, or 'course-unit' value (known as CU). You are expected to complete four CU each year, which will usually mean taking up to eight courses. During your first year, one of your courses may be in a language, if you haven't met our modern language requirement (see page 30).

## Term dates 2014–15

TERM ONE	Start: Monday, 22 September 2014 End: Friday, 12 December 2014
TERM TWO	Start: Monday, 12 January 2015 End: Friday, 27 March 2015
TERM THREE	Start: Monday, 27 April 2015 End: Friday, 12 June 2015

For more about the structure of individual degree programmes see the subject entries in this Prospectus or go to:

 [www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus)

## Assessment, examinations and degree classification

You will usually be assessed at the end of each year, on every course that you have taken during that year. Assessment may be continuous (in the form of essays, assignments and laboratory practicals), carried out by examination, or by a combination of these.

Degrees at UCL are classified into first, second (upper and lower) and third-class Honours.

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**Clare Elwell, Professor of Medical Physics, teaches undergraduate courses in Essential Medical Physics and Optics in Medicine**



UCL has more professors than any other UK university – and the highest number of female professors

# 1:10

At 1:10, UCL has the lowest staff-to-student ratio of any public UK university



Institute of Archaeology students constructing a wooden shelter on the Experimental Archaeology course



UCL's Global Citizenship programme offers students the chance to enhance their studies by working on global problems



Geography students on a week-long residential fieldclass in Mallorca, as part of the Methods in Physical Geography course

## UCL undergraduate degrees

### Bachelor of:

Arts (BA)

Arts and Sciences (BASc)

Engineering (BEng)

Fine Art (BFA)

Laws (LLB)

Medicine and Surgery (MBBS)

(a duration of six years and also providing for the award of an integrated BSc degree)

Science (BSc)

Science (Economics) BSc (Econ)

### Master in:

Science (MSci)

### Master of:

Engineering (MEng)

Pharmacy (MPharm)



### Internships

#### Laura Mariotti, Third Year, Biochemistry BSc

I really enjoy practical sessions in the laboratory because they give us an opportunity to apply all the techniques learned in class. The labs are very spacious and postgrads are always around to help you out. In the second year, the courses are much more specific. You can feel that the lecturers are experts in their subjects and they enjoy teaching you.

In my second year, we were given the opportunity to apply to summer internships in different areas of research and in different institutions. I therefore applied and got a placement in the Department of Structural Biology at Birkbeck University. My Personal Tutor from UCL and my supervisors helped me to fill in the summer vacation studentship application to provide funding for the placement. I received the funding and I was also awarded the Eisenthal Prize for the application which I'm really happy about. I'm very proud of studying at UCL!

A student imaging the vasculature of her palm using a novel photoacoustic scanning system developed at UCL

## The UCL graduate

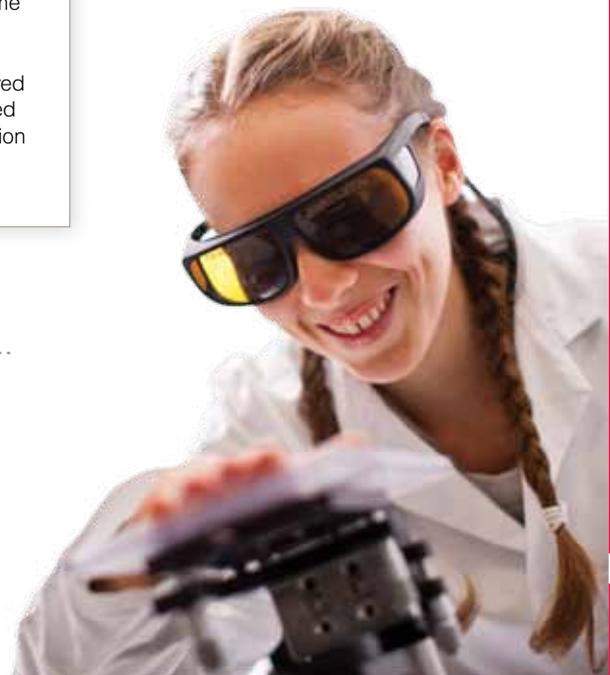
Being at UCL is about more than your core studies. Our graduates are:

- // critical and creative thinkers
- // ambitious but also idealistic and committed to ethical behaviour
- // aware of the intellectual and social value of cultural difference
- // entrepreneurial with the ability to innovate
- // willing to assume leadership roles: in the family, community and workplace
- // highly employable and ready to embrace professional mobility.

Some of these qualities will be developed as part of your degree; some you will gain through living and studying alongside students and staff from across the world.

The UCL Global Citizenship programme offers more opportunities for development. Drawing on UCL's world-leading research, the programme allows you the chance to tackle global problems with students from other disciplines in your first year, and to take part in enterprise, volunteering and employability activities in subsequent years.

 [www.ucl.ac.uk/global-citizenship](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/global-citizenship)



## Teaching and learning / cont.

### Extending your experience into the working world

Many of our degrees, especially those in the Faculties of the Built Environment, Engineering Sciences, Laws and the Medical School, include teaching from practising professionals. These degrees also provide you with work placement and/or sandwich year opportunities, which allow you to experience life in the working world. As a result, you will gain valuable insights into your future career and vital work experience. Some degrees will also lead to accreditation or part-accreditation from a professional body, or lead to chartered status in the case of Engineering degrees.

### Year in Industry opportunities

The Year in Industry initiative organises relevant work placements for young people to spend a year out before or during their university degree. You will receive a salary, as well as gaining professional skills and an understanding of how your academic studies translate to the workplace.

Many of our departments encourage participation in the scheme and are happy to defer your admission for a year while you participate.

 [www.yini.org.uk](http://www.yini.org.uk)

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**Mechanical Engineering students working on the latest Formula Student car, in the workshop**

### Empowering you with study and life skills

Integral to your learning is the development of skills which will serve you well during your degree and beyond graduation. These include research skills (such as sourcing, sifting and analysing information), communication skills, collaborating with others on projects, time management, motivational and leadership skills as well as social and cultural awareness.

We also offer formal training in IT and Writing in Academic Contexts, plus the opportunity to learn a language. As well as traditional ways of learning, we provide you with a wide range of teaching resources and the tools to undertake independent study.

### Innovative teaching and learning

UCL is committed to improving teaching by supporting innovation and excellence. Every year, the best staff are recognised with Provost's Teaching Awards, and we invest in technologies which promote interactive and engaging classroom learning using voting, group activities and the latest multimedia facilities to stimulate discussion and debate.

Our online learning environment enables you to access class materials, communicate with fellow students and tutors, review your lectures, access study resources and check your work for potential plagiarism.

 [www.ucl.ac.uk/teaching-learning](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/teaching-learning)

### Entrepreneurship and enterprise

UCL Advances, our centre for entrepreneurship, is unique in the UK Higher Education sector and offers you:

// training that covers all aspects of how to start your own business or to help prepare you to enter the job market

// a two-week summer programme of workshops teaching business skills

// the opportunity to gain direct experience of small business consultancy by joining a student-led short-term consultancy project

// the chance to spend eight weeks with a small to medium sized enterprise gaining a first-hand look into how to start and run a business in London

// The London Entrepreneurs' Challenge, one of the largest business plan competitions in the country, with over 400 students participating each year

// three-day Enterprise Boot Camps, run each summer, to introduce participants to the fundamentals of the modern business world

// networking events.

 [www.ucl.ac.uk/advances](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/advances)

UCL's Department of Management Science and Innovation offers additional optional courses in innovation management that can be taken by any UCL student.



Learning at UCL takes place both inside and outside the classroom, with plenty of opportunities to take a more "hands on" approach

25%

Currently around 25% of UCL's undergraduates spend a period of time studying abroad



#### Entrepreneurship

##### **Anish Vinayak, Third Year, History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Science BSc**

I won a UCL Bright Ideas Award in 2012 for my business idea HelpYouApply. After submitting a business plan and presenting my idea to a judging panel, I was awarded £5,000 by UCL to start my business. HelpYouApply assists students applying to spring insight weeks, internships, graduate schemes and year placements. UCL has the biggest entrepreneur incentive programme in England and will give any student the help and guidance they need in order to start their own business.

#### Undergraduate summer research placements

Some UCL departments in the Faculties of Engineering Sciences, Life Sciences and Mathematical and Physical Sciences offer you undergraduate summer research placements. These provide a great opportunity for you to discover how research is undertaken in universities and to make a real contribution to a research field. You could also learn more about a topic which could lead to exciting opportunities in your undergraduate research project or a PhD degree. During the placement you will join a research team working on a specific project in your department over the summer vacation. Bursaries are normally available.

#### Get an international perspective

Study Abroad is an exciting and rewarding opportunity; a unique experience which counts towards your degree programme and gives you the chance to learn life skills not taught in the lecture theatre. This opportunity extends beyond the 100 UCL degree programmes that include Study Abroad as an integral part of the curriculum.

UCL has over 260 international partners, including many of the world's most prestigious universities. Our European links are mostly supported by the Erasmus programme.

 [www.britishcouncil.org/erasmus](http://www.britishcouncil.org/erasmus)

Financial support is available (see page 36) and you will also be supported by a network of Departmental Study Abroad Tutors, Peer Advisers and the UCL Study Abroad Team. These will provide you with information and the knowledge of their first-hand experience, as well as academic support before, during and after your placement.

The UCL Centre for Languages & International Education provides linguistic support if you are not studying a language as part of your degree.

 [www.ucl.ac.uk/studyabroad](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/studyabroad)



#### Study Abroad

##### **Hannah Lawrence, Fourth Year, Law with Another Legal System (Australia) LLB**

I decided to study Law as I wanted to develop a deep understanding of the legal rules and principles that affect individuals on a daily basis. UCL students can also benefit from the wide array of study abroad opportunities available. I spent the third year of my degree studying at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. This greatly enriched my studies as it gave me the opportunity to look at Law from an international perspective, as well as experience life at another university. Being in Sydney for an entire year meant that I could settle into living there and enjoy all that the city, and its wider surroundings, had to offer. It was a year that I will never forget.

#### Study abroad

With over 260 international partners, you'll have access to a truly global network

