Campus and facilities

UCL’s central London campus has various resources to make your studies enjoyable and effective as well as enabling you to make the most of your free time. All you need to fulfil your potential is here, right at the heart of one of the world’s great capital cities.

Entertainment resources

UCL Bloomsbury Theatre
Student productions normally take place in the Bloomsbury Theatre, a professionally equipped theatre owned and run by UCL which hosts professional and student performances alike. The Bloomsbury is currently undergoing renovation and is due to reopen in the autumn of 2018, however, students may use the Bloomsbury Theatre Studio, a smaller space on the same site. We are also supporting student societies in finding alternative venues for performances while the Bloomsbury is closed.

Music
From DJ-ing with our own student radio station, Rare FM, to performing with the Chamber Music Club or University College Opera, or joining one of UCL Students’ Union (UCLU)’s many music societies, we’ve something for every taste. Bookable rehearsal rooms are available on campus and in some residences.

Bars, cafés and shops
UCLU runs four bars, four cafés and a newly-refurbished shop on UCL’s Bloomsbury campus. Open throughout the day and into the night, many have computers and Wi-Fi access. Value for money is a top priority for these outlets and the profits made from them go back into funding student activities.

Contemplation room
UCL is a secular institution and, while we recognise the rights of individuals to hold their own religious beliefs, we do not provide facilities for religious worship. Therefore, we have a space on the campus set aside for private meditation and prayer.

Academic resources

Study spaces
We have some impressive spaces both in and beyond our libraries for studying and collaborating, and we’re constantly upgrading them to suit the needs of our students. Our recently opened space in the iconic Art Deco Senate House has appeared in numerous films and television programmes.

www.ucl.ac.uk/library/sites

UCL Library
Having been open for nearly 200 years we’ve acquired millions of books and tens of thousands of journals, and these can be found across our 18 specialist libraries. These days, we also offer a large range of online resources which can be accessed from anywhere in the world. More historic and valuable material can be requested and viewed in our Special Collections reading room, and we regularly display rare items in our annual exhibitions and research sessions. A number of our libraries are open throughout the night.

www.ucl.ac.uk/library

UCL Museums and Collections
As well as being open to the public, UCL’s diverse museums and collections (see list on the right) are often used as teaching resources.

www.ucl.ac.uk/museums

UCL Centre for Languages & International Education (CLIE)
Our comprehensive centre offers courses for credit in Arabic, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin, Portuguese and Spanish at up to seven levels. English for Academic Purposes, Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) and British Sign Language courses are also available. We also run courses for students planning to study and work abroad, courses for those who do not meet UCL’s modern language requirement (see page 31) and in-sessional English language courses for international students.

To learn a language to enhance your studies, you can take an evening class in one of 17 languages, though these are not credited to your degree programme.

Facilities include:
// a Self-Access Centre (SAC) with computer workstations connected to an online video library with over 3,000 films and TV documentaries. These can also be accessed from home via the SAC website
// online language learning exercises
// satellite television
// course books and resource books, journals and newspapers.

www.ucl.ac.uk/clie

The Materials Library at the Institute of Making, located on campus, hosts free workshops for UCL staff and students

UCL has a policy of keeping Wednesday afternoons free of teaching, so you can take advantage of the social and sporting activities on offer.
Sport and leisure
Whether you’re a team sports player, interested in keeping fit or just looking for a chance to socialise and have fun, there are plenty of opportunities at UCL.

// UCL Sports Grounds are located in Shenley in Hertfordshire and include full-size football pitches, rugby and lacrosse pitches, mini football pitches, all-weather netball plus a pavilion. There is a free and convenient bus service on match days.

// Somers Town Sports Centre is located north of the Bloomsbury campus and provides basketball, badminton, volleyball and table tennis facilities.

// Old Cranleighans in Surrey provides hockey pitches for our Men’s and Women’s Hockey Teams.

// Bloomsbury Fitness is UCLU’s very own health and fitness club, which includes a full complement of fitness equipment as well as squash courts and a multipurpose space. www.uclu.org/bf

// The University of London’s Student Central houses a 33-metre swimming pool that’s right next door to our Bloomsbury campus.

// UCLU runs over 60 sports and dance clubs. These include everything you might expect as well as some activities you may not, such as Kickboxing, Water Polo, Dodgeball, Ice Hockey, Mountaineering and more. www.uclu.org/clubs-societies

Campus and facilities
Anastasia Vikhanova, Third Year, Psychology BSc
It’s hard to say what I enjoy the most at UCL. I’m a President of the UCLU Russian Society and an active member of the UCL French and Spanish and Latin American Societies – I love learning languages and the Spanish society organises trips, which is awesome! I also used to be a Transition Mentor for UCL, and now I am a Senior Transition Mentor.
Outside of UCL activities, I am currently working in a school for girls, helping with a psychology club. I am also applying for a volunteering position in a crime victim support centre. If I get a spare hour or so, I love going out with friends – there are so many things that you can do in London!