Campus and facilities

UCL’s Bloomsbury 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.

Academic resources

Study spaces
We have some lovely 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 most recently opened space is in the iconic Art Deco Senate House which has appeared in numerous films and television programmes.

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 from our store outside London, and viewed in our Special Collections, and we regularly display rare items in our annual exhibitions and research sessions. A number of our libraries are open throughout the night.

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.

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 more than 3,000 films and TV documentaries. SAC materials can also be accessed from home, via the SAC website
// online language exercises
// satellite television
// a language laboratory
// resource books, journals and newspapers.

UCL has a policy of keeping Wednesday afternoons free of teaching, so you can take advantage of the social and sporting activities on offer!

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 early 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 two shops on UCL’s Bloomsbury campus. Open throughout the day and into the night, many have computers and Wi-Fi access.

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.
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 multi-purpose 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 around 70 sports and dance clubs. These include everything you might expect as well as some activities you may not, such as Capoeira, Kickboxing, Water Polo, Dodgeball, Ice Hockey, Mountaineering and Ultimate Frisbee. www.uclu.org/clubs-societies

Campus and facilities

Cloe Afori, Third Year, Arts and Sciences BASc

The fact that UCL has so many libraries itself, and is within walking distance of other intercollegiate and national libraries, is very beneficial for my studies, because it gives me the chance to be in different environments and concentrate accordingly. UCL also has an impressive range of teaching collections in museums which are very interesting and provide a wealth of knowledge which corresponds to many of my modules. In addition, UCL’s Centre for Languages & International Education provides books, tapes, online resources and language tutors and is dedicated to advancing students' language abilities. This has been greatly beneficial as learning a language is a compulsory element of the Arts and Sciences programme.

Museums

UCL Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology
One of the world’s greatest collections of Egyptian and Sudanese archaeology

UCL Grant Museum of Zoology
The only remaining university zoological museum in London, founded in 1828

UCL Art Museum
More than 10,000 fine art objects, including prints and drawings by Old Master artists

Collections

UCL Institute of Archaeology Collections
Fine teaching and reference collections, including prehistoric ceramics, stone artefacts, and Classical Greek and Roman ceramics

UCL Geology Collections
Includes rock, mineral and fossil samples collected over the last 175 years

UCL Ethnography Collections
An enormous variety of objects, textiles and artefacts from all over the world

UCL Science and Galton Collections
Scientific apparatus, equipment and memorabilia belonging to various scientists, including Sir Francis Galton FRS (1822–1911)
www.ucl.ac.uk/museums