UCL

University College London (UCL) is one of the world’s leading multi-disciplinary universities, currently ranked seventh in the world (QS World University Rankings 2016/17). Established in 1826 in order to open up education in England for the first time to students of any race, class or religion, UCL’s founding principles of academic excellence and research aimed at addressing real-world problems continue to inform the university’s ethos to this day.

Over 38,000 students from 150 countries study at UCL. Our research extends to the far corners of the globe, and our numerous links and collaborations with leading institutions and organisations help enhance our status as London’s Global University.

HEART OF THE GULF

UCL, in partnership with Qatar Foundation, has created UCL Qatar, a department of UCL offering innovative postgraduate degree programmes in the areas of library and museum studies. Our campus is located in Education City, Doha – home to a number of the world’s most distinguished academic institutions.

We are a young department that has come a long way in a short space of time. Since opening our doors in August 2012, we’ve enrolled more than 230 postgraduate students from over 40 countries. We work hard to embed a global perspective in all our teaching and research.

Our degree programmes are challenging, creative and designed to nurture the leaders of tomorrow. At UCL Qatar, we hope you’ll find a friendly and cosmopolitan atmosphere in which to pursue your academic aspirations.
OUR CAMPUS

UCL Qatar is located in Doha’s Education City. Students at UCL Qatar benefit from truly exceptional facilities including:

- An expansive library housing a comprehensive and rapidly growing collection of archaeology, conservation and cultural heritage materials and literature
- Computer cluster rooms
- Ultra-modern lecture theatres and seminar rooms
- Student common room
- A large cafeteria

Georgetown University, Carnegie Mellon University, Northwestern University, Weill Cornell Medical College, Texas A&M University and HEC Paris.

Whether you are coming from Qatar or elsewhere in the world, we value the importance of the student experience. We hope that our students will enjoy an excellent range of opportunities to contribute to student life.

Education City is home to Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU), as well as a number of the world’s leading overseas universities, including Virginia Commonwealth University, Olympic-standard swimming pool, gymnasiums, football pitches, basketball and volleyball courts, plus numerous cafeterias and coffee shops.
PROGRAMMES

UCL Qatar specialises in cultural heritage studies and teaching at postgraduate level. Our degree programmes have particular focus on the Gulf and Middle East region, suiting candidates with a passion for the heritage of the Arab and Islamic worlds.

Each degree programme includes significant practical elements and opportunities for placements in museums, galleries or libraries, giving students a sought-after qualification from one of the world’s leading universities, and directly transferrable skills to be a leader in their chosen career.

MASTER’S DEGREE PROGRAMMES:
• Library and Information Studies MA
• Museum and Gallery Practice MA
LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES MA

AVAILABILITY:
Full-time 1 year
Part-time 2 years

OVERVIEW:
UCL Qatar’s Library and Information Studies MA is identical to the programme offered at UCL’s Department of Information Studies in London – the UK’s premier facility for the teaching of library and information studies and has become the first degree programme of its kind in the region to be formally accredited by CILIP: the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals. Our programme comprises an additional focus on Qatar and the regional context in which students will operate as professionals, through case studies and work placement opportunities. Students are given a thorough grounding in the key theoretical and practical skills required to work as a leading library or information professional and will develop a broad skill-set with particular focus on library and information management, collection building, cataloguing and classification.

COURSE STRUCTURE:
This MA has a total value of 180 credits. Students take six compulsory modules (90 credits), two optional modules (30 credits) and a dissertation (60 credits).

Compulsory Modules:
• Knowledge Organisation and Access
• Collection Management
• Information Sources and Retrieval
• Introduction to Management
• Principles of Computing and Information Technology
• Professional Awareness
• Dissertation

Optional Modules:
The full list of optional modules will be made available to students at the start of the academic year. Examples of previous optional modules have included:

• Interdisciplinary Methods for the Study of Cultural Heritage
• Introduction to Archives and Preservation
• Library Systems and Data Management
• Islamic Manuscripts
• Digital Resources in the Humanities
• The Book in the World
• Information Literacy
• Services to Children and Young People
Dissertation:
All students undertake an independent research project culminating in a dissertation of 12,000 words.

Placement:
All students will undertake a two-week professional placement within a library in Qatar or overseas.

KEY FEATURE
One of the key features of the MA in Library and Information Studies at UCL Qatar is the Professional Awareness core module. The module allows students to undertake a placement locally in Qatar or internationally. This module gives students the opportunity to observe and learn first-hand the various operations carried out by professional librarians. For those with experience in the library sector, the placement gives students the opportunity to observe and learn new methods, procedures and experience new environments.

Amr El-Masry
MA Library and Information Studies Graduate 2014
Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., United States of America
MUSEUM AND GALLERY PRACTICE MA

AVAILABILITY:
Full-time 1 year
Part-time 2 years

OVERVIEW:
This MA at UCL Qatar equips students with the necessary theoretical and practical skills to assume a career as a leading museum professional within Qatar, the wider Gulf region or further afield.

The programme introduces the theories and practices of museology, emphasising their significance and relevance in the Gulf region and beyond. Key areas of museum studies to be taught include collections management, museum, gallery and site management, exhibition development, contemporary art debates, visual studies, education and emerging digital technologies. Students will develop critical thinking skills and core skills such as documentation and interpretation. Students also have the option to undertake a placement at a museum, gallery or cultural heritage organisation in Qatar, the region or internationally. Where they will gain a unique insight into the developing local and international museum sector.

COURSE STRUCTURE:
This MA has a total value of 180 credits. Students take four compulsory modules (total 75 credits), two optional modules (to a total of 45 credits) and a dissertation (60 credits).

Compulsory Modules:
• Exhibition Project
• Principles of Museum and Gallery Practice
• Museum Policies and Practices
• Interdisciplinary Methods for Heritage Research
• Dissertation

Optional Modules:
The full list of optional modules will be made available to students at the start of the academic year. Examples of previous optional modules have included:

• The Digital Museum
• Debates in Contemporary Art Curation
• Museum Theory and Practice: Identities, Politics and Power
• Museum Learning, Outreach and Public Engagement
• Placement I (1 month)
• Placement II (2 months)
• The Book and Society
Dissertation:
All students undertake an independent research project which culminates in a dissertation of 12,000 words.

KEY FEATURE
One of the key features of the MA in Museum and Gallery Practice at UCL Qatar is the ‘Exhibition Project’ core module. The module is central to the degree, giving students the practical experience of delivering a student led project, usually a public exhibition, to a professional standard. The module teaches key skills such as text writing, project management, team working skills, exhibition design, and evaluation whilst also putting into practice learning outcomes from other modules.

**Shifting Sands: A Journey of Qatar and its People**
MA Museum and Gallery Practice students 2015/16
In collaboration with the Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al Thani Museum
RESEARCH

As London’s research powerhouse, cutting-edge and innovative cross-disciplinary research is at the core of the UCL mission.

At UCL Qatar, research of the highest level is one of our key objectives. We aim to contribute to and strengthen Qatar’s research capacity, in keeping with Qatar Vision 2030.

To this end, we have developed and implemented research projects across the Arab World, with the assistance of external funding sources such as the Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF), and through collaborations with regional and international partners. Our flagship research projects include The Origins of Doha Project, as well as archaeological excavations in Sudan and Egypt.

Learn more at: www.ucl.ac.uk/qatar/research

PASTORAL CARE

The small student to staff ratio at UCL Qatar creates an environment where student learning is highly prioritised. Our students have many opportunities for academic collaborations and personalised guidance and support. Each student at UCL is allocated a Personal Tutor who is responsible for overseeing the student’s academic progress, personal and professional development, and general welfare. Under this system, students are able to build a relationship with at least one member of staff who gets to know them as an individual while also keeping an eye on their overall academic progress. Students can also visit the Student Services Office to speak with a member of the team about their personal welfare or other non-academic issues.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

UCL Qatar Community Engagement is committed to raising awareness and introducing individuals to new thoughts and ideas in the fields of cultural heritage, art and archaeology. We work within the local community, creating and running programmes, workshops and lectures throughout the year. These projects are supported by Qatar Foundation and Qatar Museums.

Our objectives are to offer interactive-based learning programmes in archaeology, conservation, library and information systems and museum practices to develop people’s awareness of and enthusiasm for cultural heritage.

Some of the projects we have delivered so far:

• **Archaeology Rocks**: Discovering archaeology through excavation

This was delivered to sixth grade students to help them understand the purpose of excavating and the role of an archaeologist. Working in sand to replicate a real-life excavation site, they acquired key skills of an archaeologist by excavating, organising a field, measuring, recording and documenting objects.

• **Art and Healing**: Hamad Medical Hospital, Paediatric Wards

UCL Qatar has delivered story telling sessions and worked in partnership with Qatar Museums to create a mural inspired by children’s drawings of Qatar’s desert heritage.

• **Adventures in Drawing**: Sheikh Faisal Museum

UCL Qatar regularly holds art workshops in museums aimed at encouraging the public to take a closer look at the artefacts on display.

• **Qatari Heritage Under the Microscope**: Various Qatari schools

This project worked with young people who learnt about Qatar’s natural heritage and created art works based on microscopic images taken by a scanning electron microscope.

Our students play an important role in our work, with numerous opportunities to volunteer and participate throughout the year.
APPLYING TO UCL QATAR

Applications can be submitted online by visiting www.ucl.ac.uk/qatar and following the ‘Apply Now’ link. There is an application fee of £GBP 75, which must be paid online upon submission.

Application instructions and support can be found at www.ucl.ac.uk/qatar/study/degree-programmes/apply-now

UCL Qatar has one annual intake of students. For 2017 the first day of the academic year is Sunday 10 September 2017.

As part of the application process candidates must complete their personal details, provide two references and a transcript from their Bachelor’s degree studies. In addition, candidates must complete a personal statement outlining their motivation and suitability for the programme to which they have applied. Our admissions team are always pleased to offer guidance and assistance to prospective students: admissions.qatar@ucl.ac.uk

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

MA Library and Information Studies:
A minimum of a Second Class Bachelor’s degree from a UK university, a GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0 from a recognised international university, or a further qualification of an equivalent standard. Substantial work experience in a library role will be considered.

MA Museum and Gallery Practice:
A minimum of an Upper Second Class Bachelor’s degree from a UK university, a GPA of 3.3 out of 4.0 from a recognised international university, or a further qualification of an equivalent standard. Substantial work experience in a relevant discipline (for example, in a museum or the cultural heritage sector) will be considered.
ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Candidates whose first language is not English are normally required to complete a recognised English qualification. The test that we recommend is IELTS.

Please be aware that UCL no longer accepts TOEFL. A list of all of the qualifications that UCL accepts as meeting its English language requirements can be found at: www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/life/international

MA Library and Information Studies:
An IELTS score of 6.5 overall is required, with a minimum score of at least 6.0 in each of the four subtests.

MA Museum and Gallery Practice:
An IELTS score of 7.0 overall is required, with a minimum score of at least 6.0 in each of the four subtests.

TUITION FEES

UCL charges a tuition fee which covers registration, tuition and supervision for each Master’s degree. The tuition fees for the 2017 academic year are:

MA Library and Information Studies – 99,900 Qatari Riyals (QAR)

MA Museum and Gallery Practice – 99,900 Qatari Riyals (QAR)
UCL Qatar is keen to make education accessible to all, and we are pleased to offer a substantial range of funding opportunities to successful candidates.

UCL Qatar offers three different funding opportunities:

The **UCL Qatar Scholarship for Academic Excellence** recognises outstanding achievement. This scholarship is awarded to a student(s) who demonstrates in their application exceptional academic achievement. This scholarship covers the payment of full tuition fees for the programme.

The **UCL Qatar Award** is awarded to students demonstrating excellence, potential and financial need. The award can include the payment of full or partial tuition fees for the programme, accommodation in a single study room within a shared apartment in HBKU Housing, and a stipend to help with living costs in exceptional circumstances. The number of awards varies per year.

**Financial aid** is given to applicants requiring assistance to study at UCL Qatar. Financial aid can include the payment of full or partial tuition fees for the programme, accommodation in a single study room within a shared apartment in HBKU Housing, and a stipend to help with living costs in exceptional circumstances. The amount of financial aid varies per year.

Offer holders will be sent a funding application form if they nominate in their Master’s application that they will be financing their studies via ‘Studentship/Scholarship’. The deadline to submit the funding application form is 1 June 2017.

Successful candidates can also apply for any additional UCL scholarships for which they meet the criteria. Further information is available at [www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships)
**ACCOMMODATION**

On-campus accommodation is available to all UCL students who require it, for the duration of their studies. HBKU Housing and Residence Life provide newly-built, state of the art accommodation halls located in the heart of Education City. Occupied by undergraduate and graduate students from across all of Education City's university departments, and with dedicated wings for graduate students, residents enjoy modern amenities including ensuite bathrooms, flat screen televisions and free WiFi internet throughout. Each hall offers communal lounges, laundry rooms, study areas and computer cluster facilities. The apartments are fully-equipped with basic furnishings and bed linen.

Studio, one-bedroom or two-bedroom shared apartments are available, offering the opportunity to live amongst peers from around the world and create lasting friendships. There are separate halls for male and female students.

The Student Services Office will contact all offer holders during the admissions cycle to provide full details on accommodation options, and to help students facilitate their applications for housing.