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 2015). 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 across our main campus in London and Qatar. 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 and Qatar Museums, 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 at 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 190 postgraduate students from over 40 countries. We work hard to embed a global perspective in all our teaching.

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.

Students from each of the universities at Education City come together and interact in many ways. They collaborate in student activities and compete in cross-campus sports tournaments. The array of facilities available to UCL students at Education City includes a student bookstore, cinema, Olympic-standard swimming pool, gymnasiums, football pitches, basketball and volleyball courts, plus numerous cafeterias and coffee shops.

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.
PROGRAMMES

UCL Qatar specialises in cultural heritage studies and teaching is 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:
Subject to availability and demand, options may include:
• 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.

THE STUDENT VIEW

Amr El-Masry
Egypt

"UCL is ranked in the top three universities in the UK and top ten globally. It is also leading the way in education for library and information services professionals. As a Library System Specialist at Qatar National Library, completing this MA is giving me the opportunity to strengthen the theoretical and practical skills related to my role. I’m proud to be able to invest this knowledge by contributing to the development of a world class library for Qatar."
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 five compulsory modules (total 90 credits), two optional modules (total 30 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:
Subject to availability and demand, options may include:
• Materials vs Cultures
• The Digital Museum
• Debates in Contemporary Art Curation
• Collections Care and Management
• Preventative Conservation
• Community Archaeology
• Museum Theory and Practice: Identities, Politics and Power
• 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.

THE STUDENT VIEW

Fahad Al-Mana
Qatar

“I came to the heritage sector relatively recently. I’m employed by Qatar Museums. The MA is giving me an exceptionally valuable overview of the field of museums and heritage. The broad skillset I am developing will be invaluable to me in terms of further career development within the sector.”
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.

Our research informs our teaching and provides opportunities for our students to gain practical exposure within archaeology and cultural heritage, through site visits, laboratory analysis and library resources.

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 Student Affairs 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 can 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, in late August. Please refer to our website for the latest information regarding application deadlines.

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

Museum Studies:
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.

Library 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.
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

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

Library 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.

TUITION FEES

UCL charges a tuition fee which covers registration, tuition and supervision for each academic year that a student is enrolled. To obtain information on current tuition fee rates for each programme, please visit www.ucl.ac.uk/qatar/study/frequently-asked-questions
UCL Qatar is keen to make education accessible to all, and we are pleased to offer a substantial range of scholarships to successful candidates.

The UCL Qatar Award for Academic Excellence recognises outstanding achievement. This scholarship is awarded to two students on each degree programme per year, and includes the payment of full-tuition fees for the programme.

The UCL Qatar Award for Cultural Heritage 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 depending on the amount of applications received and the number of offers accepted by applicants.

All offer holders will automatically be sent a scholarship application form during the admissions process, and they are allowed to apply for either one or both of the scholarship schemes. Each candidate is issued with a deadline in which to submit their scholarship application, and they are normally notified of the outcome by the start of July, prior to the start of the course at the end of August.

Successful candidates are also able to apply for any additional UCL scholarship for which they meet the criteria. Further information is available at 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.

Our Student Affairs team contact all offer holders during the admissions cycle to provide full details on accommodation options, and to help students facilitate their applications for housing.