



UCL Academic Manual 2021-22

Chapter 2: Qualifications and Credit Framework

Annex 2.1

BASc Qualification Descriptor

UCL interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences degrees (BASc, MASc) include an explicit combination of arts and sciences disciplines and are distinguished by their focus on integration and interdisciplinarity. The following descriptor has been developed as a reference point for UCL departments wishing to develop a BASc programme.

All programmes must meet the threshold standards defined in the UCL Academic Manual, Chapter 2: Qualifications and Credit Framework, including the threshold requirements in Section 4: Qualification Descriptors with regards to Academic Level, Credits, Learning Hours, Interim Qualifications and the nature of Bachelors with Honours Degree Level (6) study.

In order to utilise the Qualification Title of Bachelor of Arts and Sciences (BASc), programmes **must** include:

- 1) A core of interdisciplinary, research, analysis and scholarship modules.
- 2) A suite of explicitly interdisciplinary, thematic elective modules.
- 3) One or more themed pathways through the degree, with a range of elective or optional modules which allows students to choose an interdisciplinary diet across the arts and sciences.
- 4) A modern foreign language
- 5) An interdisciplinary research project or dissertation that promotes the integration of research across the arts and sciences.

These features **should** take the following forms in a standard 360-credit Bachelors with Honours Degree (amended pro rata for programmes with a higher credit weighting). Each year:

An interdisciplinary core totalling 60 credits, composed of:

- 1) Between 15 and 45 credits of compulsory, interdisciplinary research and scholarship modules.
- 2) A maximum of 30 credits of thematic, interdisciplinary, elective modules.
- 3) 15 credits of modern foreign language.

Pathway modules totalling 60 credits composed of:

- 4) An open or pre-determined range of elective or optional modules, which allows students to choose an interdisciplinary diet across the arts and sciences.

Subject to approval by UCL Education Committee or its nominee, a department may propose a programme with an alternative credit distribution, provided that it continues to meet the threshold requirements set out in the UCL Qualifications and Credit Framework.