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# YEAR-1 STUDENT BOOKLET

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## Your first three weeks at UCL

Welcome to the Economics Department of University College London! Starting your university degree should be an exciting time and the start of an adventure. It should not be 'just another box to tick' on your CV, if you truly want to make the most of your years with us. This short leaflet provides you, as a new year-1 student, all the information you will need to navigate your next few weeks, including the first three weeks at UCL.



The first thing to do as a student is to make sure to do what you need to do, when you need to do it. That is why we have included clear instructions in this leaflet on what you need to do and when to do it. All other things can be dealt with at the appropriate time during your years at UCL.

### What to do now (early September) before coming to UCL

Before the official start of your induction on Monday 23rd September you will get four communications from us, including the one containing this leaflet! All future communications will go to your UCL Email. To get access to that you will need to pre-enrol via the following link: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/new-students/>

We recommend storing this page in your 'favourites'!

If you have any questions about your email or IT services at UCL, please contact UCL's Information Services Division: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/isd/students>

We recommend storing this page in your 'favourites'!

## What about Student Societies?

The next email you will get from us will deal with the Economist's Society closely affiliated to our Department. More information about that, what they offer and how to sign-up in the next email! No need to worry about that now. All year 1 students are automatically members in our Departmental Society.

## Have you heard about the First Year Challenge?

The First Year Challenge is an exciting and creative element of the induction week and the early weeks of your core Economics modules!



It is a group effort that combines the Academic with the Social and Fun. Full information will come to you by email around 18 September, leaving you plenty of time to get familiar with it. Many students consider the First Year Challenge a highlight of their first term!

## Can I choose the Modules I will study?

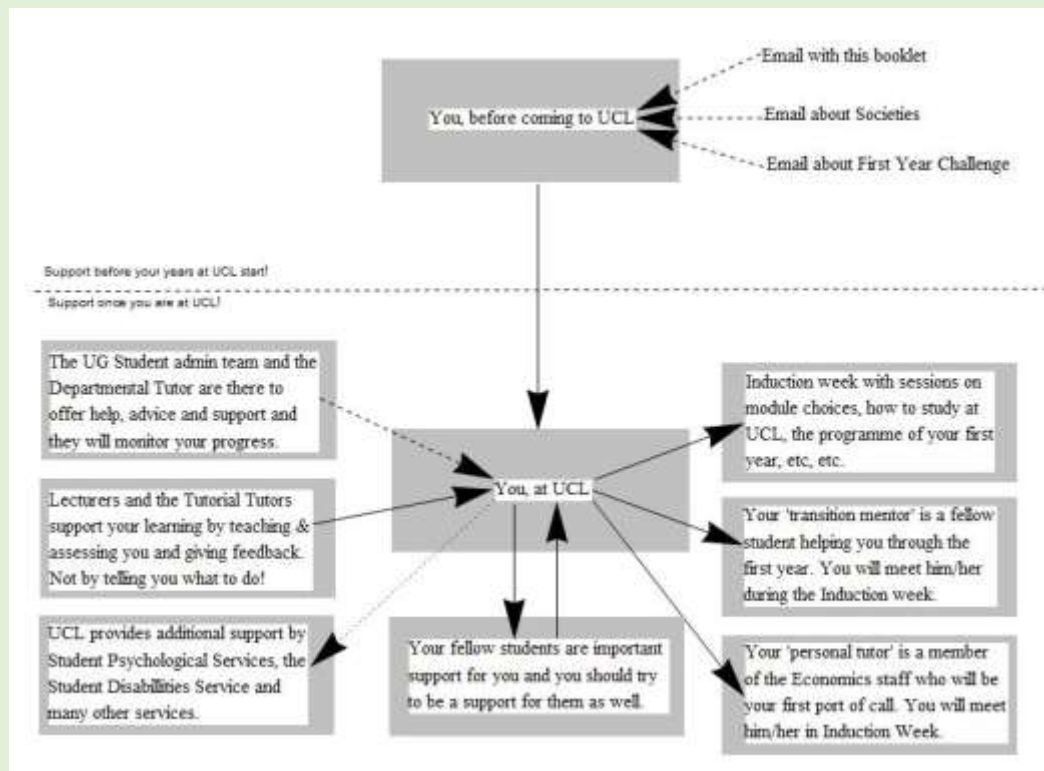
As a year 1 student you can choose up to two modules from a wide range of offerings. Your other modules are mandatory and require no choice.

Compulsory Modules (totalling 90 credits)			
Module code	Module name	Term 1	Term 2
ECON0002	Economics	30 credits	
ECON0010	Mathematics for Economics	30 credits	
ECON0005	Statistical Methods in Economics	15 credits	
ECON0004	Applied Economics		15 credits
<b>You can choose 30 credits from the list of Economics Optional Modules Year 1 and/or the list of Economics Electives Modules Year 1.</b>			
You are automatically enrolled on the Economics Skills Lab Moodle page. You can also engage with the optional not-for-credit Skills for Research-Based Learning in Economics Module (ECON0094), more info about this later.			

Do not register optional module choices on UCL's systems before you have had your introductory sessions on Monday 23rd September! The Induction week sessions are vital to understanding your options, learning how to select them, how to follow the correct process for choosing electives and how to get help when you're stuck or can't make up your mind.

## What support will I get from UCL and the Department?

The Department of Economics and UCL support you as an undergraduate student in many ways. The flow chart below gives you a quick overview.



The Induction Week will be the moment where you will be personally introduced to your **Transition Mentor**, a senior fellow student who will help you settle into your new environment, to your **Personal Tutor**, a UCL Economics staff member that will be your first port of call, and to the **UG Admin staff** and the **Departmental Tutor** who will be following your engagement with the degree programme, and will have an open ear for practical or pastoral questions and queries.

## Who is my Personal Tutor?

We will assign you to a Personal Tutor (PT) early September and inform you who (s)he is by email around 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. Your first meeting with your PT will be a group meeting scheduled by us for the Induction Week. If you want to have a personal 1-1 meeting with your PT to discuss private matters you wish to share, then do this in the first few weeks of term 1; it can save you complications or delays in support later in the year.

## What are the Tutorial Tutors?

Tutorial Tutors guide you through the material, assignments, class discussions of a module and they will also be giving you feedback on coursework. You will meet your term 1 Tutorial Tutors

during your tutorials in the first 2 or 3 weeks of term 1. Some you will see every week, some every second week. Typically you will see them in one, sometimes more than one, module. Your Tutorial Tutors will hold regular office hours and we strongly recommend you to use those from the very first weeks onwards. Get into the habit of using office hours in the first few weeks of term 1; it can save you complications or delays in support later in the year.

### What other Support does UCL offer me?

UCL has many offices that are there to help you with difficulties of all kinds, including (mental) health, logistics and many more. Useful keywords to search the UCL website for are: UCL Student Support and Wellbeing, The Student Centre, Student Disability Services, Student Psychological Services, International Student Support and Welfare, Study Abroad Support, Accommodations, Financial Support, Out-of-hours Support and Information Helpline (Care First), Crisis Support – immediate help, Departmental Equal Opportunity Liaison Officers (DEOLOs), Harassment and Bullying.

### What can the Student Disability Office do for me?

Student Disability Services provide support for students with learning difficulties, disabilities and long-term health conditions which might impact on your studies at UCL. They can advise you, but also us, on adjustments to your learning environment, loan out specialist equipment and provide one-to-one tutoring and support in case you are dealing with specific learning difficulties, and arrange for additional time in exams for example. For more information visit:

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/disability>

We recommend storing this page in your 'favourites'!

## How you learn at UCL Economics

Almost all students in the UCL Economics degree will at some point experience that 'their way of learning' that delivered them such excellent school results no longer does so. If you experience that early on while for your friends everything is still fine, there is no need to worry! Just make sure that you discuss it with the Departmental Tutor or your Personal Tutor and ask them for advice.

You can make the most of your degree if you come to UCL with an open mind about what 'learning' really means. We train Economists to analyse and answer questions to which there often is not 'one correct answer' or only answers about which people disagree. As an Economist you will rarely be confronted with questions to which you can simply google or 'look up' the answer. As a result our teaching and training of skills will usually avoid 'giving you answers' and rather focus on 'giving clues or hints'.

Perhaps the most important thing you can do in your degree is this: Ask questions! Ask your fellow students, your Tutorial Tutors and your Lecturers! Ask questions in tutorials, in office hours and, yes, perhaps also during lectures! You will not only be doing yourself a service, but also the others. If you get into the habit of asking questions in the first few weeks of Term 1, you will benefit from it during all years.

## What next?

This leaflet is not intended to be a complete guide to your first year. So in Induction Week and the weeks following that we will point you to other sources of important information at the times where it is useful to consult that information. Studying at UCL can be daunting in terms of how much information you could take in. Our goal is to help you sort out which information to consult when.

### Term 1

In Induction week we will familiarise you with a few important 'Moodle pages' that help you access the right information at the right time. Try to leave 'later problems to later times' and only deal with those that need to be dealt with now.

### Assessment

In term 1 your lecturers will inform you in time about what is expected and how best to prepare. The Departmental Tutor will also offer such sessions well in time for you to make the most of your preparations.

### Feedback

Feedback at University will be very different from what you are used to. After two or three weeks you will start getting feedback on your course-work and -participation. The Departmental Tutor will do a session around that time to discuss how to best make use of this feedback.

### First things first

But these are all things that we will guide you through when you've settled in and started your degree. For now the first thing is to make sure you pre-enrol at: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/new-students/> and to get your Email working for our future communications!

We are looking forward to meeting you at the start of Induction Week 2019!