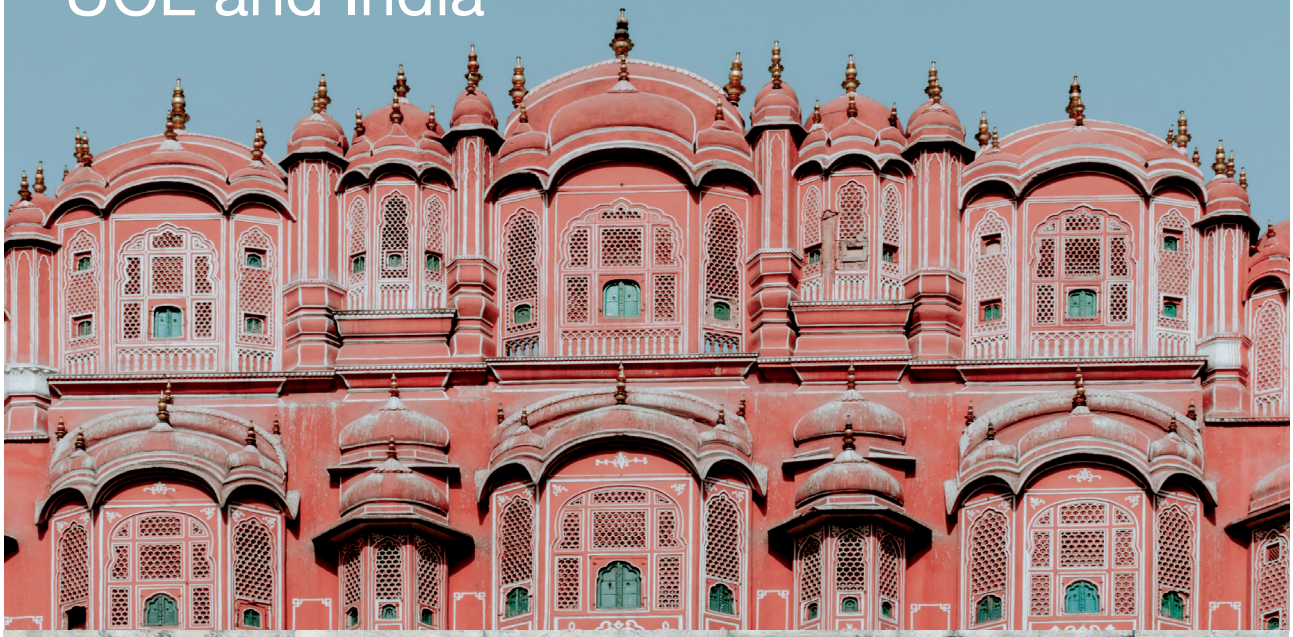
University College London

UCL

UCL and India



There are
1,016
Indian students currently enrolled at UCL (*2022-23)

UCL academics have co-authored **2,316** research publications with Indian partners between 2018 and 2022

There are 39 active research projects between UCL and India, worth over **£32m** in funding

The top three faculties for Indian students:

Engineering (25%)
Social & Historical Sciences (13%)
Built Environment (12%)

UCL has research collaborations with numerous Indian institutions, including IIT Delhi, AIIMS and IISc

UCL is made up of
34%
international staff

UCL is made up of
55%
international students

The top three programmes for Indian students:
MSc Management
BSc Economics
Law LLB

Top
UCL Portico, London

Right
River Ganges
View Of Ancient Varanasi

UCL and India

Founded in 1826, UCL was built to open up-higher education in England to those who had been excluded from it, and to change the way we create and share knowledge.

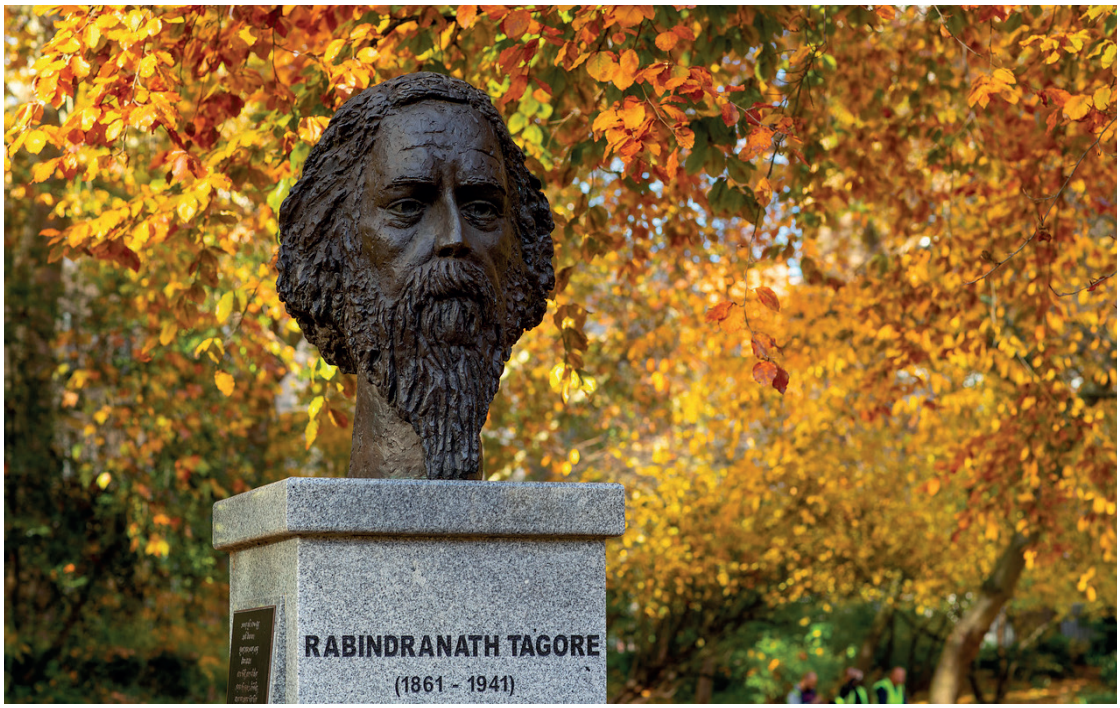
This spirit of openness still thrives today. Each year, UCL welcomes students and staff from across the world and now boasts a community made up of 55% international students and 34% international staff.

India has long formed an integral part of this global community. Today there are more than 1,000 Indian students studying at UCL, as well as many collaborations, across all disciplines, between UCL and partners in India.

It's thanks to this diverse community that UCL consistently contributes to some of the world's most pioneering research; tackles some of the world's most pressing challenges, and regularly places among the world's top-ranked universities.

To support and promote partnership activity, UCL has a South Asia network, a Centre for the Study of South Asia and the Indian Ocean World and a dedicated Global Strategic Academic Advisor (India), who plays a strategic role as a catalyst for UCL's engagement in the country. The current GSAA is Professor (Dr) Monica Lakhanpaul, expert in Integrated Community Child Health.

Consistently ranked within the top ten of the QS World University Rankings, UCL is a truly world-leading university, and in areas from health to engineering, the university's collaborations with India are helping to speed up the process of discovery.



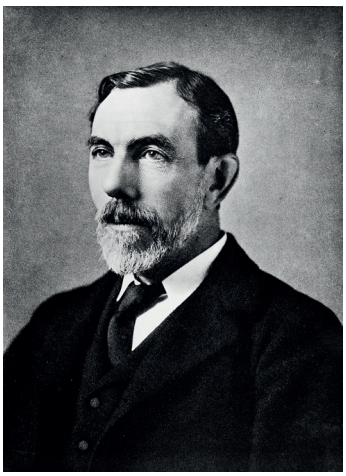
UCL and India: A historic relationship

UCL has a rich history of collaboration with India, one that stretches back as far as the 1800s.

Indian languages were taught at UCL from a very early stage in its history. Dadabhai Naoroji – popularly known as the 'Grand Old Man of India' – was a lecturer of Gujarati at UCL between 1856-65. He was the first Indian UK Member of Parliament, elected to London's Finsbury seat in 1892.

Sir William Ramsay, UCL Professor of Inorganic Chemistry between 1887-1913, won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1904. In 1900, he visited India on a trip sponsored by Jamsetji Tata to consult on the formation of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru. Ramsay conducted extensive research and the resulting report was instrumental to the choice of location for the IISc.

His co-worker, Professor Morris William Travers FRS, and then Sir Alfred Gibbs Bourne, both UCL Alumni, went on to become the institute's first and second directors.



Top
Poet and musician Rabindranath Tagore studied law at UCL in 1880

Above
Sir William Ramsay, first director of the Indian Institute of Science, won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1904

Augustus De Morgan was born in Madurai, India. At just 22, he became UCL's first Professor of Mathematics, shortly after the university's formation. Today, the headquarters of the London Mathematical Society is called De Morgan House and the student society of UCL's Mathematics Department is called the Augustus De Morgan Society.

Professor Otto Koenigsberger, UCL's first Professor of Planning, was Director for the Indian Ministry of Housing from 1948-1951 in the Nehru Government.

Top
Augustus De Morgan was UCL's first Professor of Mathematics

Below
Baroness Shreela Flather studied Law at UCL in 1955. Image: Chris McAndrew.

Bottom right
Dadabhai Naoroji was a lecturer of Gujarati at UCL

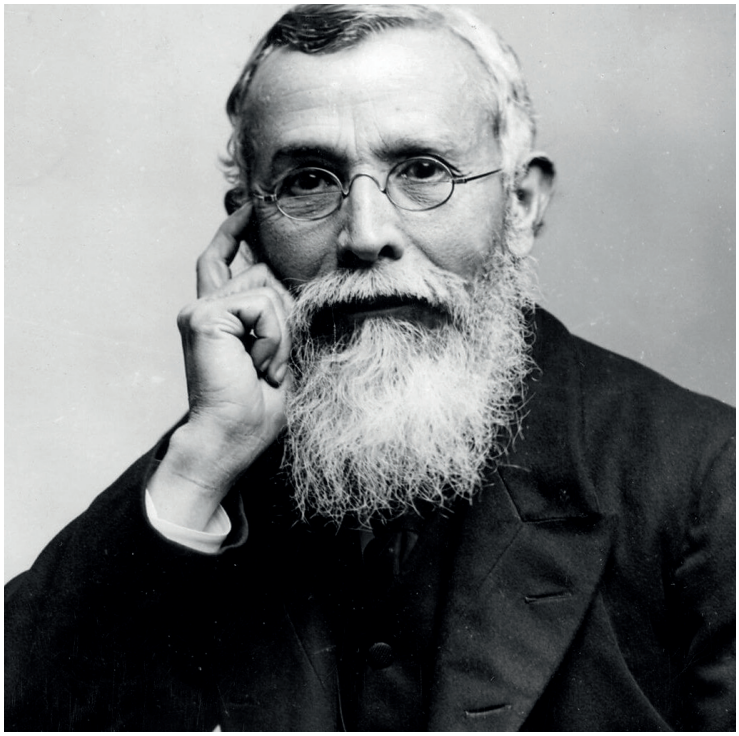
He was instrumental in designing settlements for refugees displaced by partition and migrating from Pakistan. He also designed the town plan for Bhubaneswar in Odisha and - with the vision of J.R.D. Tata - Jamshedpur in Jharkhand.

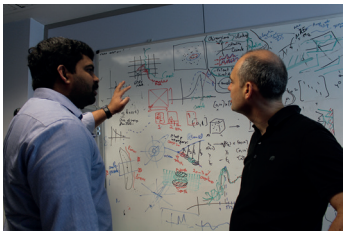
UCL counts a number of notable Indian figures among its alumni, including the acclaimed Bengali poet and musician Rabindranath Tagore, who studied law at UCL in 1880. Romesh Chunder Dutt was another UCL student and later lecturer of Indian History who completed a seminal piece of work on economic nationalism. He also translated the Ramayana and Mahabharata. He served as President of the Indian National Congress in 1899.

Baroness Shreela Flather studied Law at UCL in 1955 and was elevated to the peerage as Baroness Flather, of Windsor and Maidenhead in the Royal County of Berkshire, in June 1990. This made her the first Asian woman to receive this honour in Britain.

S. R. Ranganathan, considered the father of library science, documentation and information science in India, came to UCL in 1925. It was here that he found inspiration for some of his notable contributions to the field, including the first major faceted classification system, the colon classification, which is still widely used in libraries today.

Today, UCL continues to seek collaborators and students from India to join its diverse community.





Above
UCL is collaborating with the Indian Institute of Science in Bengaluru to use big data to try and predict tsunami movements

Top
UCL academics partnered with Save the Children, IIT Delhi and Jawaharlal Nehru University on the PANChSHEEEL project

UCL is a multidisciplinary university that consistently excels in research: it was rated second in the UK for research power in the latest Research Excellence Framework and it has accumulated no fewer than 30 Nobel Prize winners since the first prize was awarded in 1901.

At UCL, we believe that bringing together diverse perspectives, through combining different disciplines and experiences, accelerates the process of discovery.

Our staff collaborate with peers and partners across the world – including in India, where UCL has many collaborations stretching across all disciplines. These collaborations are partnerships of equivalence, with a focus on two-way learning. Our joint seed funding programmes with academic partners including IIT Delhi, AIIMS and IISc have supported more than 50 projects to date.

Here is just a snapshot of the academic collaboration between UCL and its partners in India…

Academic collaboration

Engineering and the built environment

Professor Caren Levy (Development Planning Unit), is working with the Indian Institute of Human Settlements on an ambitious research programme that brings together a global network of urban specialists to learn how to make planning inclusive.

Professor Jonathan Holmes (Geography) and IIT Delhi colleagues used joint seed funding to design, build and install devices to collect rainfall across the Indo-Gangetic Plain, to better understand the Indian summer monsoon and how climate change may impact its behaviour in future.

Health and medicine

Numerous UCL academics are working on health projects with Indian collaborators. During the pandemic, Indian multinational SecureMeters downloaded and obtained regulatory approval for the Ventura-CPAP breathing aid design created by UCL engineers and clinicians, including Professor Becky Shipley (Institute of Healthcare Engineering), helping to save thousands of lives locally.

Dr Sara Hillman (EGA Institute for Women's Health) has worked with the All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) to reduce the burden of low birth weights related to high altitude.

Professor Usha Menon (MRC Clinical Trials Unit at UCL) worked with the Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) in the Government of India, to develop a 'Clinical Trials Toolkit for India'. It provides practical advice on navigating the many regulations that govern clinical research and the design and conduct of clinical trials.

In Mumbai, Professor David Osrin (Institute for Global Health) has been collaborating with SNEHA (Society for Nutrition, Education and Health Action), a non-profit organisation in the Dharavi slums, to co-create solutions with local communities.

Science

Professor Serge Guillas (Statistical Science) is working with the Indian Institute of Science in Bengaluru to use big data to try and predict tsunami movements and protect Indian coastal towns.

Professor Giovanna Tinetti (Physics & Astronomy) has been collaborating with the Indian Institute of Astrophysics in Bengaluru, looking for exoplanets.

Top
Professor Christopher Pinney (Anthropology) was awarded the Padma Shri for his work in photography

Above
The Health, Education Engineering and Environment (HEEE) platform saw UCL academics, partners and communities co-design solutions to challenges

Top
UCL is collaborating with IIT Delhi and other Indian NGOs to help wheelchair users get around Indian cities.

Above
Academics at UCL's Institute of Healthcare Engineering are collaborating with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences on affordable healthcare technologies

UCL's Mullard Space Science Laboratory has been constructing its own CubeSats. ISRO, which launched more than 100 CubeSats in 2017, had UCL's CubeSat on board.

Arts and social sciences

Professor Christopher Pinney (Anthropology) was awarded the Padma Shri in 2013 by the then President of India under the category of Literature and Education. His research has ranged over the cosmology of industrialism and modernity, colonialism and photography, popular Indian visual culture, Indian studio photography, and the more general field of visual anthropology.

In Gujarat, Professor Liz Rideal (Slade School of Fine Art) created an image bank of women wearing saris in different contexts, exploring the insights this offered into gender and independence.

Tackling the Grand Challenges

The UCL Grand Challenges are a groundbreaking cross-disciplinary initiative designed to develop solutions to global problems. Bringing together experts from across a wide range of disciplines, they enable holistic responses to complex issues.

Since 2008, the UCL Grand Challenges have worked in partnership on a wide range of research projects in India, including with Indian Railways to develop solutions to unauthorised ticket resellers who exploit migrant workers, and with the Mumbai Child Welfare Committee to protect homeless children. In Mumbai, Dr Kartikeya Tripathi (Department of Security and Crime Science) and Dr Julian Walker (Development Planning Unit) worked with railway police on a research project studying the response to runaway adolescents and the policies in place to protect them.

The Grand Challenge of Cultural Understanding worked on a number of initiatives under the heading 'India Voices' throughout 2017 and 2018. Its aim was to promote UCL's activity with and in India on a range of topics including challenging gender inequality, catastrophe prevention and using architecture to create healthier communities.

Academic spotlight

Professor Cathy Holloway is co-founder and Academic Director of the Global Disability Innovation (GDI) Hub, a UCL based academic research and practice centre accelerating disability innovation for a fairer world. We spoke to Cathy about her collaborations in India…

Can you give us a brief overview of your research in India?

Our main research projects in India sit under two areas: mobile as assistive technology and assistive technology innovation ecosystem development. This builds on prior research partnerships with IIT Delhi to develop novel assistive technologies for wheelchair users and those with visual impairments. As with all good research, we have developed good friendships and multiple levels of collaboration with our partners.

What got you interested in the subject in the first place?

Assistive technology more broadly – growing up in a nursing home, combined with a love of systems and device design. I am fascinated with the impact on the individual of systems which fail them and how we co-design technologies, projects, and programmes to overcome inequality. As I learnt more about the world and disability, I realised the sad and substantial link between poverty and disability. Our partners in India understand this reality well and have great experience in designing and developing solutions which live up to Mahatma Gandhi's Talisman.

What difference do you hope it will make?

The main hope is to get more assistive technology to more people who need it, especially those who live in poverty, or at lower socio-economic levels across South-East Asia

Can you tell us about the GDI Hub's relationship with India, and the WHO?

GDI Hub is the only WHO collaborating Centre on Assistive Technology. Through this work, we have supported over 150 academic papers, which then supported the first Global Report on Assistive Technology, published by WHO and UNICEF.

The work with WHO is a little separate from the work in India currently, though we coordinate with the regional office as needed. In India, our main work is on the innovation ecosystem presently, and on proving the case for mobile as AT.

One of your recent projects - Tacilia - recently won an Engineering award. Can you tell us more about it?

Tacilia started from the applied problem of how to enable children who are blind or have partial sight to be better able to engage with Science Technology

Engineering Arts and Maths (STEAM) education. By investigating the problems faced in the classroom the need for a multiline, reconfigurable tactile interface was identified as needed to help children read books, explore shapes, design and learn to make sense of graphs, charts and other (normally) visual information.

Tacilia is the core work of Tigmanshu Bhatnagar as an output of his PhD and a collaboration between GDI Hub, the Institute of Making and IIT Delhi. Tacilia looks to address a subset of an immense or wicked problem, Quality Education as defined by the UN in Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4). We developed a process to make hundreds of independently addressable reconfigurable tactile pixels from a single monolithic sheet of Nitinol. This one component replaces nearly 3,000 components of tactile displays and brings down the fabrication cost to only £50 - £150. With Tacilia, people can draw erasable tactile graphics at braille resolution to support learning 2D math, science, and art concepts at their own pace. Tacilia can also convert bespoke digital graphics into tactile graphics in minutes.

Tacilia recently won Innovation of the Year 2023 at the Engineering Talent Awards.

What can UCL learn from your time working in India? What can the UK learn?

We were lucky to secure a small grant from UCL Global Engagement to co-develop elements of Tacilia. These small grants are gold dust in my opinion. It's very important I think when developing a partnership to have some face-to-face time. So travelling to India to work on something together is essential. Once established, it is easier to work remotely, but relationships take trust, and this takes time.

I am biased in the next opinion, but I believe a UK-India axis on assistive technology, and health and education technologies more broadly could become a powerhouse of innovation. This idea needs nurturing with funding mechanisms that allow for joint research projects, exchange programmes and targeted joint investment in infrastructure.

What would you like to say to other academics at UCL thinking of collaborating with others in India?

The key thing in India is that we are working with equivalent partners in terms of academic endeavour, and yet still there are ways in which we can complement one another to increase impact. In our case, our user-centred design work, which is core to human-computer interaction and disability innovation, complements the core mechanical and electronic engineering abilities within the IITs. GDI Hub is also able to bring a global picture, whereas, of course, our Indian partners have deep knowledge of the local and national ecosystems. This means together we can create exciting research questions, and easily develop a programme of work together. I work in many countries, and India is definitely one of the easier ones in which I have worked in terms of developing and enjoying partnerships and projects.

Find out more about UCL's collaborations with India at ucl.ac.uk/global/regional-activity/ucl-and-india

Student *spotlight*: Noor Chopra

Noor Chopra is an undergraduate student at UCL Economics. Originally from New Delhi, Noor is a trained Kuchipudi dancer and recently performed at London's Nehru Centre as part of its Indian Republic Day celebrations. Here she tells us more about her experience as a UCL student so far…

Tell us more about what you are studying at UCL.

I'm a final year student studying BSc Economics. Economics is a subject I have always been interested in and I thoroughly enjoy studying it. Throughout my years at UCL, I've covered a wide range of courses ranging from micro and macroeconomics to specialised fields like behavioural economics, development economics, and econometrics. The Economics department incorporates innovative teaching methods and technology to enhance our learning experience while emphasising the practical application of economic principles.

What led you to apply for UCL?

UCL stands as one of the world's top-ranking universities, and its Department of Economics is highly regarded with its access to exceptional faculty and resources. What truly drew me to UCL was its diverse student body and the opportunity to be part of a global learning community. After speaking to several UCL alumni who shared their unique experiences, my heart was set on applying to UCL. The location of the university, nestled in the heart of London, was a very appealing aspect for me, opening doors to a wealth of cultural, social and career opportunities. Being an economics student, London's status as a major global financial and business hub presented an ideal environment, offering a wide range of job opportunities across various industries.

What are your favourite things about living here?

What I adore most about London is its boundless opportunities for exploration and the valuable lesson it has taught me about appreciating the world around me. This city's richness in diversity extends to its culinary delights, vibrant festivals, and distinctive neighbourhoods, offering a continuous source of fascination. I love trying new things and enjoy going to Camden Market and Borough Market in my free time. Additionally, one of my treasured pastimes is going on walks or picnics to Hyde Park or Regents Park, which provides the perfect escape from the bustling city when life becomes hectic.

How did you find the process of applying here?

I found the process of applying very simple and straightforward. I submitted my personal statement and school grades via UCAS which automatically went straight to all the five universities that I applied to. Before applying, I also spoke to a few alumni students as well as attended university fairs which gave me a lot of guidance and clarity about the application process.

How do you find the work/life balance of studying at UCL?

When I first started university, I found it challenging because the workload was unlike what I was used to in school. However, after

a month or two I got into the flow of it and was successfully able to manage juggling my studies with other activities. I made sure I stuck to an organised timetable for classes, self-studying and extra curriculars and eventually, I became much better at managing my time without compromising my work or personal life.

What activities have you taken part in at UCL outside of your studies?

As a Kuchipudi (Indian classical) dancer, UCL has given me the opportunity to perform at prestigious events in London to showcase my talents and spread my culture around. I have been pursuing this dance form since I was five years old and am so glad that I have been able to continue dancing despite being in London. Additionally, I am a part of multiple UCL societies which have opened doors to various new experiences, including yoga, swimming and music.

Was it nerve-wracking to move to a new city?

I was definitely quite nervous when I first moved, London being one of the busiest and most bustling cities. It's safe to say I had a bit of a culture shock, but I've grown to love it. I have met some of the most wonderful people and have begun to feel at home in London now. I have gotten a grasp of how to navigate the city, manage on my own and face adversity independently.

How do you prefer to get around the city?

My favourite way to get around London is by either walking or taking the bus. Buses are very convenient and cost-effective, providing excellent connectivity throughout the city, which often makes it quick and easy to reach various destinations. I find walking enjoyable for short distances, while for longer journeys, I find the London Underground (Tube) extremely convenient.

Has it been easy to build up a community in London?

I was always scared that when I moved to London, I would feel very lonely and out of place. However, right from the start, I met such lovely and warm people who are now some of my closest friends. I made friends with people from all corners of the globe and diverse academic backgrounds, and it finally felt like I had met 'my people'.

Do you have a plan for what you'd like to do next?

Once I complete my graduation, I would love to work in London! I am highly enthusiastic about pursuing a career in the consultancy field and if not, I plan on doing a masters, preferably somewhere in the United Kingdom.

Find out more about studying at UCL at ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students

Alumni spotlight

Dr Nikhit Anilbhai (UCL Nanotechnology and Regenerative Medicine 2021), from Ahmedabad and Sonakshi Senthil (UCL Personalised Medicine and Novel Therapies 2021), from Thoothukudi co-founded Your Cue, an award-winning startup enabling data-driven patient care.

What was it like to study at UCL?

NA: In one word, brilliant. The inspiration that comes from studying in the same university as 30 Nobel Laureates draws you into wanting to do things differently, into making an impact on the world and society itself. One of the biggest advantages of a Masters in the UK is that it exposes you to multiple career opportunities, careers you probably didn't know existed. Combine that with a vibrant student community, the vibe of central London and interactions with some of the greatest minds in the world and you get the best year of your life.

SS: My time at UCL truly transformed me as both a scientist and a global citizen, preparing me to make meaningful contributions to bettering human health for generations to come. Though my formal studies are now complete, the passion they ignited - and the invaluable lessons they imparted - will stay with me for life.

Tell us about the startup you founded, Your Cue. How did the idea come about and what challenges are you aiming to address?

NA: The origins of Your Cue stem from hardship and loss - from the time I spent working in intensive care during the darkest days of the pandemic. As a young doctor working 120-hour weeks across two hospitals, I was trying to help in any way that I could. We were losing so many patients each day, but when I lost my own father, the system's shortcomings became painfully clear. He had suffered just as my patients had, without receiving the timely interventions he deserved.

That's the day Your Cue was born - a mission to enable continuous vital sign monitoring for every patient getting admitted to a hospital, not just those receiving intensive care. No one should suffer as my father did. No other families should ever have to experience our heartbreak.

SS: During my time at UCL, I took an entrepreneurship module that required pitching a business idea. Through conversations with myfriend Dr Nikhit, we recognised that while most sectors had digitised, healthcare struggled with inefficiencies. We decided to focus on enabling continuous monitoring to provide proactive care.

What support did you get from UCL to help achieve your ambitions?

NA: We ended up winning a cash prize of £500 and that small victory really pushed us to pursue our goals of starting a business and our application for the Hatchery (a dedicated startup space within BaseKX, UCL's entrepreneurship hub in King's Cross) more actively.

SS: Getting into BaseKX was a total game-changer! For up to two years, they provide free office space and invaluable business support - legal, marketing, customer research, pitching, everything an early-stage startup needs to succeed. It's an entrepreneur's paradise!

What are some of the challenges of studying overseas do you think?

SS: Studying abroad poses unique cultural and social adjustments. Navigating a new cultural landscape can certainly spur disorientation. Moving from India to London, I grappled to redefine myself amidst different value systems, constantly discerning right from wrong. Each person's definition varies. An open yet discerning mind is key in cross-cultural exchange.

NA: I believe the climate, the survival and the change in style of education. The UK climate is particularly challenging for 8-9 months of the year and if like me you're coming from a much warmer place, you're in for a climate shock. Education is so different here, both in the way its delivered and the way you're meant to receive and work with it. Research and innovation lies at the core of everything. So make sure you go to attend lectures with a fresh mind.

What was the best thing about living and studying in London?

NA: London is one of the most culturally diverse places on the planet. There's so much to experience and learn from others. To live in a city so gigantic really paints a picture of how big the world is and how we all have a role to play in it. From Hyde Park to Alexandra Palace to Camden Town, there's so much to explore and fall in love with. Also summers here are the best in the world.

SS: London is an energetic city that never sleeps. There are always new and exciting things happening for every season. As someone from a small town, I was fascinated by the busy metropolitan lifestyle when I first arrived. Even as an introvert, I appreciated that I could find quiet spaces amidst the activity. London has pockets of calm if you know where to look.

What are your plans for the future?

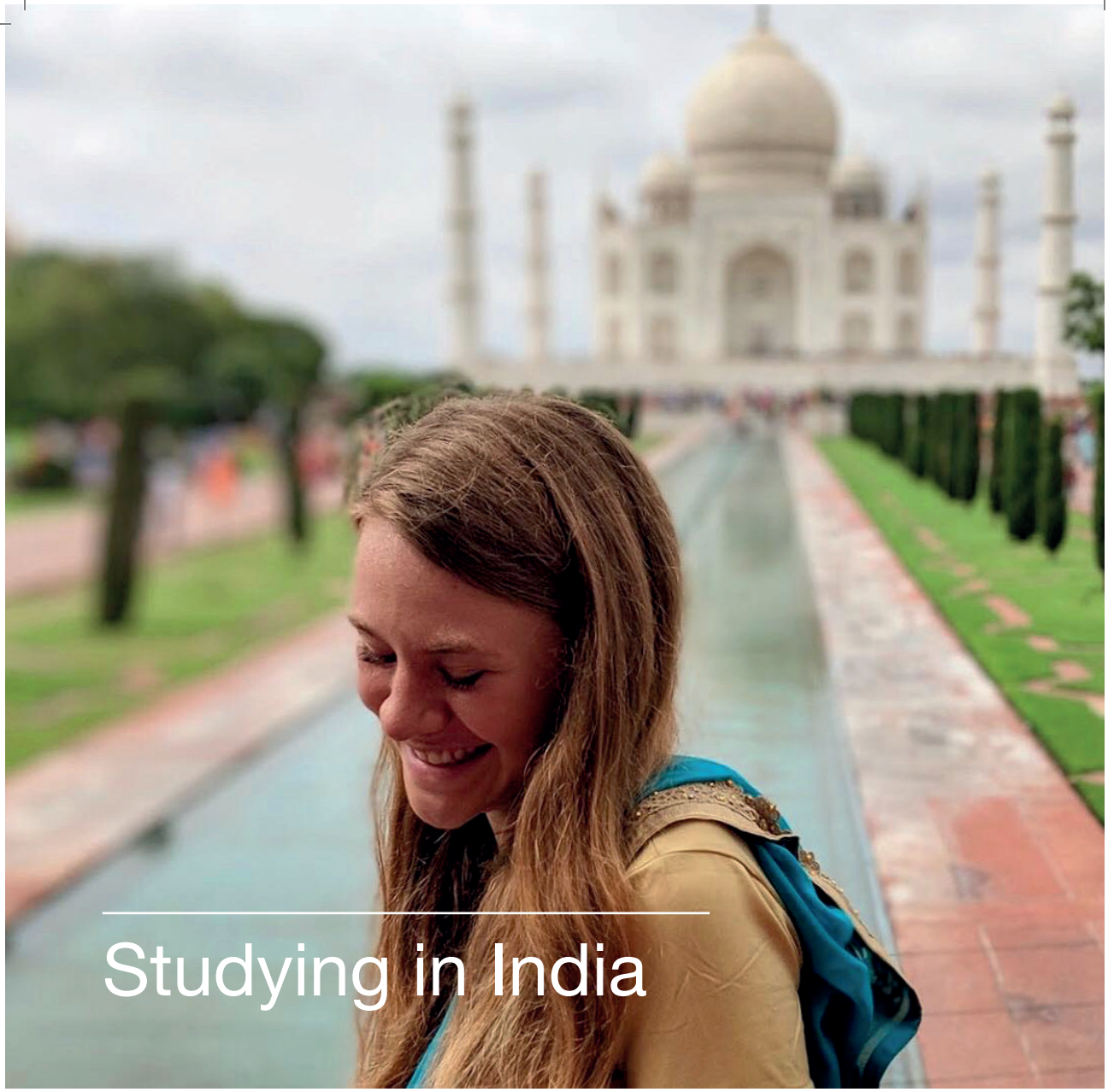
NA: At the moment our absolute focus is on raising funds for the startup. We've applied for grant funding and we keep participating in lots of competitions as the environment has been quite tough to raise in, but we're positive. We know our innovation has the ability to positively impact a billion lives in the coming decade and we're doing our best to bring our innovation to patients in hospitals as soon as possible.

SS: My vision is to scale Your Cue into the leading solution for continuous patient monitoring and transform proactive care. I see a future where we empower clinicians with real-time insights to provide preventative, high-quality care from the start - fundamentally shifting the reactive healthcare culture.

UCL would love to hear from more alumni in India.

Get in touch and find out about volunteering opportunities at ucl.ac.uk/alumni

Find out what entrepreneurship support is available for UCL students at ucl.ac.uk/enterprise/students



Studying in India

UCL aims to give its students a global experience, and thanks to the support of UCL Study Abroad and a range of bursaries, students interested in India can go beyond the classroom and visit the country itself.

UCL student Sara Frumento (European and International Social & Political Studies), spent six weeks in India thanks to support from the UCL Global Experience Bursary. She wrote about her time on the International Summer School (ISS) in New Delhi and subsequent volunteering opportunities in Bharatpur and Gurgaon.

While walking through the extremely crowded Chandni Chowk, one of the oldest markets in Old Delhi, I was surprised by how intense everything in India seems to be: the colours, the smells, the noises, the emotions. In that same moment, almost overwhelmed by such intensity, I was already aware that my six weeks in India would have been some of the most incredible of my life. Indeed, being immersed in its complex and fascinating culture, I developed real insights into this amazing country.

The four-week academic programme was engaging and deeply formative. With India as a study model, three different modules (Democracy, Governance & International Relations; Growth, Development & Sustainability and Society, Culture & Heritage) introduced me to a range of issues that are shaping the contemporary world.

This course gave me a new perspective on the subjects I was already familiar with - I am a European Social and Political Studies student specialising in International Relations - while introducing me to completely new topics.

In addition to the academic syllabus, I engaged with this country through a varied range of integrated activities including interactions with eminent speakers - such as politician and author Dr. Shashi Tharoor, journalist Mr. Rajdeep Sardesai and judge of the Supreme Court of India Justice Madan Lokur, workshops on leadership and Hindi classes. Furthermore, I had the opportunity to visit numerous UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the Red Fort and Qutub Minar in Delhi, the breathtaking Taj Mahal, the legendary birthplace of Krishna Vrindavan, and Amber Fort in Jaipur.

For the two final weeks, I was part of the Service Learning, where we had the opportunity to work as volunteers. In the first week, I volunteered for WWF in Bharatpur, Rajasthan. Here, I explored Keoladeo National Park, meeting with park officials and rickshaw pullers, learning how to test the park's water, visiting a school to learn about the WWF's programmes for teaching students about conserving water and even embarking on a bird watching cycle tour.

In the second week, I worked in a local school in Gurgaon for Ritinjali - an NGO providing education to children and adults from disadvantaged backgrounds- where I taught English, and helped out in the classroom.

Both weeks were a great opportunity for inner development and personal growth and it demonstrated to me once more how diverse, contradictory and beautiful India is. During these six weeks, I also had the chance to learn from other students coming from all over the world and share with them everyday experiences.

While constituting a huge difference from what I am used to, my experience in India with ISS was profoundly enriching and I am extremely grateful for it. The combination of tradition and development, maintaining its roots but looking to the future, is an inspiring model of demographic and economic growth, from which I definitely learnt a lot.

I would not hesitate to recommend a similar experience to other students and I am very thankful that the Global Experience Bursary helped me to spend almost two months of my summer in such a stimulating and enriching way.

UCL has exchange agreements with over 200 institutions across 46 countries and six continents, including many of the world's top 100 universities.

In 2021, UCL Study Abroad worked with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) to run a virtual programme on sustainable development through the lens of Mumbai.

To find out more about studying abroad through UCL, visit ucl.ac.uk/students/go-abroad

Keep up to date

Find out more about UCL's work in India and across the world:

ucl.ac.uk/global/regional-activity/ucl-and-india

X: @UCL_Global
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LinkedIn: UCL Global Engagement

#UCLandIndia

UCL 1826 2026 200

UCL was established in February 1826 – the first university to be located in London and the first in England to admit students of all backgrounds and faiths. UCL's history is one of world-leading pioneering research, education, discovery, and societal benefit, built on foundational values of inclusion and excellence in all endeavours. In 2026, we will celebrate our 200th anniversary.

Launching on 11 February 2026, UCL 200 will be an exciting year-long programme of activities and events. UCL 200 offers an outstanding opportunity to highlight our history, reinforce the enduring contemporary importance of our founding values and launch a vision for UCL's third century, based on our record of excellence in discovery and real world impact.

The UCL 200 programme will illustrate how we are addressing current global concerns and seizing opportunities to improve our future through imagination, innovation, and expertise. We will engage our internal communities, alumni, partners and other stakeholders in the development and delivery of the programme.

More details will be announced on our website soon. We welcome engagement from our alumni, partners and friends. If you would like to get in touch with us please email UCL200@ucl.ac.uk.

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