UCL Pre-Master’s and Pre-Sessional Courses

International graduate preparation courses
ucl.ac.uk/gpc
2020/21 Entry
Welcome to UCL: London’s Global University

UCL (University College London) is a world-leading multidisciplinary university with an international reputation for high-quality research and teaching, being ranked in the top 10 universities worldwide.*

Based in Bloomsbury, central London, UCL’s main campus is within walking distance of outstanding academic, social and cultural resources, as well as exceptional sporting facilities and entertainment, giving easy access to the world’s number one student city.**

* QS World University Rankings 2020
** QS Best Student Cities 2019
What can I study?

• UCL International Pre-Master’s
• UCL Pre-Master’s Certificate in Architecture
• UCL Pre-sessional English courses

What will I learn?

You will develop the linguistic, academic and research skills needed to succeed at Master’s level, including:

• critical thinking skills
• reading academic texts effectively
• developing lecture comprehension
• expressing and supporting academic ideas clearly and accurately
• enhancing oral communication skills through presentations, seminars and class participation
• undertaking independent research

Why study a Graduate Preparation Course at UCL?

• Teaching quality: You will be taught on campus by highly qualified UCL teaching staff with expertise in teaching international students. The maximum class size is 16 students, however the average is 14.
• Immersion: You will gain valuable experience in the British higher education system and quickly develop an understanding of the learning style required in the UK. Courses are delivered through a range of lectures, classes and tutorials; and complemented by a social activities programme.
• Support: You will receive regular one-to-one tutorials and individual guidance from an Education Advisor on submitting Master’s degree applications. As a UCL student, you will have access to UCL’s extensive academic and welfare resources.

How do I apply?

1. Select the appropriate course for your English language level, academic aims and availability from the information provided in this brochure and on our website.
2. Applications are made online at: ucl.ac.uk/gpc
3. When your application has been assessed, we will contact you to confirm whether we can offer you a place on the course. Entry will depend on your existing level of English (including subtests), academic history and English language level required for your degree programme.
4. Offer holders will receive information, via email, on how to formally accept their offer, pay the course fees and apply for UCL accommodation.

You should apply as early as possible to secure your place on the course and in UCL accommodation.

Accommodation

The fees you pay for your accommodation will vary depending on your needs, the location and facilities. The following tables show you the range of fees for 2019/20 per week. Fees for 2020/21 will be set in the Spring of 2020. ucl.ac.uk/accommodation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accommodation Type</th>
<th>Weekly Fee Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self-catered: UCL Student Houses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single (including en-suite)</td>
<td>£211.75 – £249.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twin</td>
<td>£97.79 – £125.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One-bed flat</td>
<td>£201.88 – £306.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catered: UCL Halls of Residence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single (not en-suite)</td>
<td>£221.69 – £243.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twin (not en-suite)</td>
<td>£167.09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The majority of UCL accommodation is within 10–30 minutes’ walk of the main campus.
UCL International Pre-Master’s course (IPM)

UCL’s International Pre-Master’s is a preparation course for international students who are aiming to study for a graduate degree at UCL or elsewhere in the UK. The International Pre-Master’s is a stimulating and rigorous course which provides you with the levels of English language and academic skills required to succeed at graduate level.

Contact Information:
UCL International Pre-Master’s Course
pre-masters@ucl.ac.uk
+44 (0)20 7679 4841
ucl.ac.uk/pre-masters
@uclclie
ucl.clie

Student View

“The Pre-Master’s greatly exceeded my expectations. I improved my academic English but also acquired a range of study skills beneficial for my Master’s studies. The Pre-Master’s not only critically enhanced my confidence but also equipped me with a way of thinking essential for successful study at postgraduate level at the leading universities in the UK.”

Name: Mina Stojanovic
Nationality: Serbian
Studyed: International Pre-Master’s
Progressed to: Social Cognition; Research and Applications MSC at UCL

Why study the International Pre-Master’s?

- The course helps facilitate the smooth transition to Master’s level from a variety of educational backgrounds. Our students have gone on to study a wide range of Master’s degrees at UCL and other leading UK universities, including:
  > University of Cambridge
  > University of Edinburgh
  > London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)
  > University of Manchester
  > University of Oxford
- The International Pre-Master’s prepares you for Master’s level programmes by studying text and task types specific to your chosen discipline area or one closely related to it. You will develop discipline-specific academic skills by engaging with topics related to your future degree.
- With a maximum of 16 students per class and weekly one-to-one tutorials, you will receive personalised support and guidance, including assistance with your application for entry to Master’s programmes.

Course structure

You will study three compulsory modules which will introduce you to the English language, research methodologies and academic skills necessary to succeed on a Master’s degree.

1. English for Academic Purposes: Communicating, building and sharing knowledge in academic contexts through reading, writing, speaking and listening.
2. Research, Argumentation and Criticality: Examining research methods used at graduate level, the development of critical, analytical and argumentative skills for study at that level and the improvement of language proficiency to support these.
3. Discipline-specific Research, Argumentation and Criticality: Builds on the first two modules by further developing research, argumentative and critical skills in a chosen discipline or one closely related to it. This involves looking at what knowledge is in that context and how that knowledge is constructed and communicated in your chosen, or a closely related, academic discipline.

Options may include:
- Architecture & Urban Design
- Business & Management
- Finance, Accounting & Economics
- Humanities & Social Sciences
- Law
- Life Sciences & Medical Sciences
- Mathematics & Computer Sciences
- Public Policy
- Science, Technology & Engineering

Teaching is through lectures, classes, seminars and workshops. In addition, you will receive individual tutorials every week.

Course assessment

You will receive the International Pre-Master’s certificate based on a combination of formal course assessments and examinations.

The qualification will meet UCL’s English language proficiency requirement.

If you apply to a university other than UCL you should check that the International Pre-Master’s examination result is acceptable for entry to that degree.

Entry requirements

Two courses are available:
- 32 weeks (September start)
- 20 weeks (January start)

The course you take will depend on your current English language level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course start date</th>
<th>IELTS overall minimum</th>
<th>IELTS subtest minimum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 2020 (32 weeks)</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2021 (20 weeks)</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These are the minimum entrance requirements and will normally result in suitable candidates being offered a place on the course.

Applicants for the January start with one or two subtests of no less than 5.5 may be considered if they have 6.0 overall and a particularly strong academic record.

Entry requirements for UCL graduate programmes are available on the Graduate Prospectus website.

ucl.ac.uk/graduate

Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course start date</th>
<th>Fees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 2020</td>
<td>£17,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2021</td>
<td>£13,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The International Pre-Master’s finishes on 30 June 2021. Course dates include examination results and additional course administration, where necessary.

Please see our website for details of other associated costs.
UCL Pre-Master’s Certificate in Architecture (Pre-MArch)

The UCL Pre-Master’s Certificate in Architecture (Pre-MArch) is a six-month intensive course designed to prepare international students specifically for Master programmes offered at the UCL Bartlett School of Architecture.

Why study the Pre-MArch?

The course aims to give you the skills, experience and confidence to study at one of the world’s best architecture schools on one of the following programmes:
- Architectural Computation MSc / MRes
- Architectural Design MArch
- Architectural History MA
- Architecture and Historic Urban Environments MA
- Bio-Integrated Design MArch / MSc
- Design for Manufacture MArch
- Design for Performance and Interaction MArch
- Landscape Architecture MA / MLA
- Urban Design MArch
- Architecture MArch (ARB/RIBA Part 2)

Skills development: The Pre-MArch will develop your academic English and literacies as well as the research and critical thinking skills required for studying at postgraduate level. The Pre-MArch will also support your architectural design skills through design projects and portfolio making and help you further reflect on your professional practice.

Expertise: The course has been specially developed by the UCL Bartlett School of Architecture and the UCL Centre for Languages & International Education based on the needs of international architecture students. You will benefit from the teaching and specialist knowledge of highly qualified academic staff in each department.

Support: You will receive personalised support and guidance, including assistance with your Master’s application for entry to the UCL Bartlett School of Architecture.

Progression: With the support of The Bartlett's academic team, you will be guaranteed a conditional offer providing you successfully complete the course with the following grades:
- Applicants for Architecture MArch (ARB/RIBA Part 2): a minimum of 70% in Design and 65% Academic Research and Reflective Practice
- For all other courses listed above: a minimum of 65% in Design and 65% in Academic Research and Reflective Practice.

Course structure

You will study two compulsory modules:

Design: This module offers an introduction to UCL’s Bartlett School of Architecture, translating critical thinking into design and architectural speculation through drawing and model-making. The work produced aims to strengthen the portfolio required for interviews for Master’s in Architecture (MArch) programmes.

Academic Research and Reflective Practice: This focuses on academic English skills and literacies with an emphasis on reflection, criticality, research, as well as efficient communication.

Course assessment

You will be awarded the Pre-MArch based on a combination of formal course assessments and examinations. You will be assessed by:
- A research project
- A reflective report
- The design project will be assessed by a final oral presentation and a physical portfolio of photographs, drawings and propositional models.

Entrance requirements and fees

English language minimum requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Start Date</th>
<th>IELTS Overall Minimum</th>
<th>IELTS Subtest Minimum</th>
<th>Fees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2020</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>£12,200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Pre-Master’s Certificate in Architecture finishes on 30 June 2020. Course dates include examination results and additional course administration, where necessary. Please see our website for details of other associated costs.

Contact Information:
UCL Pre-Master’s Certificate in Architecture
pre-march@ucl.ac.uk
+44 (0)20 7679 8666
ucl.ac.uk/pre-march
@ucclie
ucl clie

Academic View

“The strongest MArch students must be able to communicate and engage in academic discourse, and can translate their critical thinking into innovative design propositions. The UCL Pre-Master’s Certificate in Architecture has been specifically developed to enhance the performance of international MArch students.”

Professor CJ Lim
Professor of Architecture and Urbanism
Director of International Affairs
UCL Bartlett School of Architecture
UCL Pre-sessional English courses

UCL Pre-sessional courses are intensive courses for international students who are planning to study a graduate degree at UCL or another UK university, but do not meet the English language requirement of their conditional offer.

Why study Pre-sessional English?

You will develop the academic skills needed for a range of disciplines and attain the English language proficiency requirement for study at a world-leading university.

In 2018, 95% of Pre-sessional students progressed to a UCL degree programme after successfully passing the Pre-sessional course.

Specifically, the course aims to:
- Develop your skills in understanding and analysing academic texts and use them in writing and speaking
- Help you more fully understand lectures while taking effective notes
- Improve your ability to speak in academic contexts, with emphasis on oral presentations and seminars
- Develop your ability to write relevant, well-argued essays in an academic style
- Develop your ability to select, use and reference appropriate academic sources
- Develop your critical thinking skills
- Build up your independent study and library-based research skills as required at UK universities.

Course structure

The Pre-sessional courses are intensive, with teaching taking place from Monday to Friday, in either the morning or the afternoon. Class sizes are kept small, with a maximum of 14 students in each class.

You will follow a mixture of classes and tutorials each week. The timetable also includes a lecture programme given by leading UCL academics, exposing you to different disciplines and world-leading research.

Course assessment

Students are assessed through:
- A reading and writing exam
- An extended essay on an academic topic related to your chosen discipline
- An oral presentation and a question and answer session on an aspect of the extended essay
- A listening exam based on an academic lecture.

If you successfully pass the course and meet the requirements of your UCL offer, you will not need to take an IELTS test for entry onto your UCL Master’s degree.

Entrance requirements

Each Pre-sessional course has a range of minimum English language entry levels that depend on the English language level required by the degree programme.

To confirm which course to apply for, please see guidance on the course website: ucl.ac.uk/pre-sess

Course dates and fees

All Pre-sessional courses finish on 13 September. Course dates include examination results and course administration. Tuition and examinations end no later than 31 August 2020.

Please see our website for details of other associated costs.

The qualification

The UCL Pre-sessional English qualification satisfies UCL’s English language proficiency requirement. If you are holding an offer for a course at a university other than UCL, you should make sure that UCL’s Pre-sessional examination result will be acceptable.

Contact Information:
UCL Pre-sessional English courses
presess@ucl.ac.uk
+44 (0)20 7679 8665
ucl.ac.uk/pre-sess

Student View

“Pre-sessional course really helped me as it focuses much more on academic preparation than IELTS courses. For example, in the Pre-sessional course, I had to give a presentation that was related to my future research interests; it was really helpful for me to explain very technical content to an audience that wasn’t familiar with the subject. Whereas in the IELTS exam, I just had to pick up a card and speak about a random subject, like cars or movies.”

Name: Essam Tawfik
Nationality: Saudi
Studied: 19-week Pre-sessional English
Progressed to: PhD in Pharmaceutics at UCL

UCL Pre-Doctoral Programmes
UCL Centre for Languages & International Education
University College London
26 Bedford Way,
London, WC1H 0AP, UK

Disclaimer: This information is for guidance only. It should not be construed as advice nor relied upon and does not form part of any contract. For more information on UCL Graduate Preparation Courses please see: ucl.ac.uk/gpc