Programme Guide
MRes in Developmental Neuroscience and Psychopathology (DNP)

Overview
The MRes in Developmental Neuroscience and Psychopathology is a two year full time UCL Master’s degree, with the first year based in London and the second year based at Yale University in the USA. This innovative programme brings together two globally renowned universities to provide students with a unique interdisciplinary experience. This encompasses:

• An overview of developmental psychopathology, including a wide range of mental health disorders in childhood and adolescence (e.g. anxiety, autism, ADHD, psychosis and conduct disorder)
• Conceptual frameworks that draw together neuro-cognitive, behavioural, systemic and psychodynamic perspectives
• Practical training in statistical analysis (e.g. SPSS and R), programming (Matlab) and writing research proposals
• The opportunity to conduct a year-long research project supervised by leading Yale researchers.

University College London
UCL is one of the foremost teaching and research institutions in the United Kingdom. It was founded in 1826 to provide higher education for all who could benefit from it, regardless of religion, race or class, and is both the oldest and the largest of the various colleges and institutes that make up the University of London. Psychology at UCL has an outstanding track record of innovative research. For more information visit: www.ucl.ac.uk

The Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families
The Centre is a leading UK children’s mental health charity with over 60 years’ experience of caring for young minds through direct clinical services, research and teaching. The vision of the Centre is a world in which children and their families are effectively supported to build on their own strengths to achieve their goals in life.

‘I have found that the course offers a challenging and fascinating journey through multiple disciplines and their points of intersection. The two year programme has given me practical research experience in two leading research institutions. I have felt that, rather than being simply taught, we have been encouraged to think in order that we might contribute to this new and rapidly growing multidisciplinary debate ourselves.’

Jo Guiney
Former student, now working as a Clinical Psychologist

Yale Child Study Center
The Child Study Center is a department at the Yale University School of Medicine. The mission of the Center is to understand child development, behavioral and socio-emotional adjustment, their link to the emergence of psychiatric disorders and how to help children and families in need of care. The strengths of the Center are reflected in the breadth and integrative nature of research, clinical services and training. For more information visit: http://medicine.yale.edu/childstudy/
Modules are grouped into ‘families’

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Year 1: Teaching

In the first year you will be primarily based at the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families at the newly built Centre of Excellence in Kings Cross, London with full access to library and computer facilities. The teaching in the first year comprises nine mandatory modules, grouped into four themes as outlined below.

1. Neuroscience
   This methods based module introduces a number of key neuroimaging techniques, including fMRI and EEG, and considers their application in the context of developmental research. A second neuroscience module, Affective Neuroscience explores how the brain processes emotion and how such processes may become disordered during development.

2. Research Methods
   These modules are designed to equip you with a general knowledge of both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies as well as practical research skills including the use of the statistical analysis package SPSS and how to develop and present an effective research application.

3. Development and Psychopathology
   These two modules provide a foundation in theories of developmental psychopathology and also cover the major psychological disorders of childhood. Skills in effective science communication are also covered which are essential for all scientists. The first module introduces a range of perspectives on developmental psychopathology, including cognitive-behavioural, psychiatric, psychoanalytic and systemic approaches. The second module then explores in detail – through the lens of these different perspectives – the major disorders of childhood, including anxiety, depression, autism, conduct disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder.

4. Psychoanalytic Thought
   These two modules introduce students to key psychoanalytic ideas and their application to clinical practice.

Year 2: Research

The second year focuses on the completion of a substantial research project at Yale University. Already in your first year in London, you will be paired with an individual academic mentor in Yale. Mentors are experts in their field, and many are senior faculty members from the Yale Child Study Centre or associated departments in Yale. Projects are assessed by means of a research portfolio which comprises three elements: an oral presentation of your research ideas alongside a written proposal; a 15,000-17,000 word written dissertation; and a conference style poster. In the written thesis, you will be encouraged to consider your developmental psychopathology research question from at least two perspectives. A number of formative workshops tailor-made to support the projects will be on offer during the year, including fMRI and EEG techniques, advanced research design and a workshop focusing integrating the different perspectives on developmental psychopathology. In addition, there are opportunities to attend ‘elective’ courses across Yale University. You will also have support from your research mentor, the Deputy Programme Director in Yale, a weekly journal club and a statistics support class.

Eligibility

We would like to invite applications from students with a strong academic background in psychology, neuroscience, medicine or related disciplines.

Fees
2020 – 2021
UK / EU: £11,390 (year one only)
Overseas: £26,890 (year one only)
Please note: UCL fees are payable per year and fees may vary in the 2nd year.*

Application deadline:
24th February 2020

Open Evening
Virtual Open Day: Wednesday 4th December 2019
Open Evening: Tuesday 21st January 2020
Please check our website below for further details and booking:
https://www.annafreud.org/training/ucl-postgraduate-study/our-upcoming-events/

Application Process
Applications can be made at:
https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/apply

Teaching
Teaching on this programme will begin in September 2020 at the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families, Kings Cross.

Student Stories
Visit the Centre’s website at www.annafreud.org to hear what previous students have to say about studying on our programme.

Full details of the course can be found on the UCL website at:
http://www.ucl.ac.uk/pals/study/masters/TMSPSYSDNP01
Specific enquiries may be sent to: dnp@annafreud.org

The programme description is correct at time of going to print but is subject to change without notice.