



Admissions Procedure

1. Applications

- Applications must be made via UCAS using the 'Apply' system (www.ucas.com/students/apply)
- UCL's UCAS code is UCL U80. There is no campus code
- Please ensure that you refer to the UCAS application timetable.

2. UCAS to UCL

UCAS will forward applications to the relevant UCL faculty
Physics and Astronomy is part of the Faculty of Mathematical & Physical Sciences (MAPS)

3. Decision Criteria

Your application is considered taking into account the following factors:

- Past / predicted exam results
- Personal Statement
- Reference
- Attendance to the open day

4. Offers by UCL

The UCL Undergraduate Admissions Office will inform you of a decision in due course. Any queries/questions related to your application should be made directly to them via Email: undergraduate-admissions@ucl.ac.uk or Tel: +44 (0)20 3370 1215.

If your application is successful, the Department will recommend to the Faculty that a conditional offer of a place should be made. Whilst the Department can recommend the offer, only the Faculty Tutor has the authority to make the formal, conditional offer of a place.

Please ensure that you read the offer letter carefully, as you may be required to attend a compulsory Open Day. This decision will be made based on your place of residence.

Please note that offers are non-negotiable.

5. Invitation to the compulsory Open Day

Attendance to the open day is **compulsory** and places will be offered taking into account the factors cited in the box above.

This will also be your opportunity to address any concerns / questions you may have. We no longer conduct formal interviews.

The day itself will consist of:

- Meeting academic members of staff and current undergraduate students
- Tour of the Department and campus. Astrophysics degree applicants will also be given a tour of the University of London Observatory (ULO)
- A research talk by one of our world class researchers

NB: If you do not live within a reasonable distance from London, or are living, working, on a GAP year abroad, alternative arrangements can be made. Visiting the Department is a very important part of the admissions process and every practical effort should be made to visit.

6. Results and unconditional offers

Places will be confirmed via the UCAS website, the details of which will only be released after the exam results:

- Have been released to students via their schools
- Have been verified and checked by the University.

We regret that applicants failing to meet the required grades will not be offered a place.

Frequently Asked Question's

Q. What are the required grades?

All degree programmes in Physics and Astronomy require:

A Level:

- Mathematics A level: Grade A
- Physics A level: Grade A
- A level in third subject (For Theoretical Physics, the third subject has to be Further Mathematics): Grade A

Thus the recommended offer will be AAA to include Physics and Mathematics.

IB Diploma:

38 points - A total of 18 points in three higher level subjects including Mathematics and Physics at grade 6, with no score below 5.

Other qualifications:

May be accepted, see <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/undergraduate-study/application-and-entry/other-qualifications/> for further details.

Q. Should I apply for more than one course?

No. There are no quotas on any course and the entry criteria is the same.

Q. Is the entry criteria different for BSc and MSci?

No. There is no difference in offer for BSc and MSci since the first two years are the same and we expect all students to be able to achieve to their potential on either course. We do not consider the BSc to be a "lesser" qualification.

Q. What should be in my personal statement?

Tell us why you want to spend the next 3 or 4 years studying Physics or Astronomy and what excites you about that. It is also useful to include any physics-related extra-curricular activities and courses. For more details see the UCAS website:

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/getting-started/when-apply/how-write-ucas-undergraduate-personal-statement>

Q. What is the Open Day about?

The Open Day should be seen as your opportunity to meet members of the Department, see the campus and decide whether UCL is right for you. Similarly, it is our chance to meet you.

Q. Will the one-to-one discussion (during the Open Day) affect my offer?

No. Your offer is based on your predicted outcome, your personal statement and qualifications. The one-to-one discussion is mainly to clarify any questions you have about UCL and to provide you with the opportunity of meeting a staff member.

Q. My school does not offer Further Mathematics. Am I eligible for the Theoretical Physics option?

In principle, no. Our entry requirements are rather strict in this case. Our recommendation in this case, is that you apply for Physics. However, under exceptional circumstances, such as an excellent performance in his/her first year at UCL, we allow students who have not taken further mathematics to transfer from physics to theoretical physics.

Q. Do you have Clearing?

No. In some years we are allowed to take near misses. However, this is not cast in stone and will depend on the circumstances, so you should strive to meet the entry requirements stated above.

Q. Can I change my course option at UCL?

Under ordinary circumstances, you can change your option within the first term at UCL. After that, it is more difficult as the physics options branch out. Please note that for Theoretical Physics the entry requirements must be met.

Q. I am studying physics, or a different course elsewhere. Can I change to UCL?

We will need to assess your case individually. External applications should be made through UCAS. Please bear in mind that you may be required to start from scratch, as we rarely take students from the second year onwards.