Discover Research at UCL

Investigate

Choose

Funding?

Decision

ucl.ac.uk/graduate
Applying for research at UCL

Identify the programme or programmes which interest you. A list of research programmes offered by UCL can be found within our Graduate Prospectus at ucl.ac.uk/graduate/research.

Entry requirements for our research programmes can be found on the Graduate Prospectus ucl.ac.uk/graduate/research. International equivalences are shown in the key information section of each degree page. You may also need to provide proof of your English language proficiency if English is not your first language.

Check you meet the requirements

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There are three ways to identify an appropriate academic supervisor to contact:

1. **Browse the UCL Graduate Prospectus** to find centres of research in your area of interest. You can click through to the relevant department or centre website to find staff profiles. ucl.ac.uk/graduate
2. **Look on UCL’s Institutional Research Information System (IRIS), where you can search for academics and centres of research by keyword. Not all academics are listed in IRIS but it is a good place to start. ucl.ac.uk/iris**
3. **Search our online research repository (UCL Discovery) to find papers and research relevant to you. If you identify a research paper that you are interested in working with, or to the departmental contact.** ucl.ac.uk/ucl/discovery

**Individual academics**

There are three ways to identify an appropriate academic supervisor to contact:

- Browse the UCL Graduate Prospectus to find centres of research in your area of interest. You can click through to the relevant department or centre website to find staff profiles. ucl.ac.uk/graduate
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**Departments and research groups**

You can find contact details for academic departments on the relevant degree pages in our Graduate Prospectus at ucl.ac.uk/graduate/research. Alternatively, you can find Graduate Tutor information, by selecting Essential Information, on the UCL Doctoral website www.grad.ucl.ac.uk

**Establishing a dialogue with a prospective supervisor is usually fundamental to the application process. All applicants, except those applying for advertised studentships (see “Funded research opportunities”), are encouraged to send an informal research enquiry. This should either be sent directly to the academic you are interested in working with, or to the departmental contact. The process can vary by department; please contact the department first. See “Departments and research groups” section below for contact details.**

Academics at UCL undertake a lot of interdisciplinary research – for this reason it is recommended that you consider a variety of departments, academics and research groups. We advise you to make use of all the sources of information mentioned here to help you identify suitable supervisors or groups for you.

**Academic members of staff are extremely busy people and receive many research enquiries. It is therefore important to research thoroughly your prospective supervisor’s interests before you contact them, and say who you are and what you want to do clearly and concisely.**

Your **email should answer the following:**

- Are you a UK/EU or overseas student?
- Where are you from?
- What qualifications do you have, from which institution?
- What were your grades?
- Do you have any research experience? If so, what?
- Have you published any research?
- How will you fund your studies?

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**Research proposal**

Research proposals are more common in arts and social sciences areas. They are not usually required in science, technology, engineering and medical areas, where research is usually done in research groups. If applicable, you need to clearly describe the topic, its aims and objectives, and its methodology as concisely as possible; in the first instance it should usually amount to around 500 words. If a prospective supervisor is interested, then you can refine and develop your initial outline to produce a final proposal.

**A good proposal will include the following:**

- A clear and descriptive working title
- Some background, rationale and any relevant issues
- Your aims and objectives
- A description of your theoretical framework and methodological approach
- What sources or data you will be using
- What valuable and useful knowledge will come out of your research.

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Research programmes offered at UCL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Part-time</th>
<th>Full-time</th>
<th>Taught</th>
<th>Research</th>
<th>Placement</th>
<th>Industry Project</th>
<th>PhD route?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery / Doctor of Philosophy – MB PhD</td>
<td>6-7 yrs</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master of Research / Doctor in Engineering – MRes + EngD</td>
<td>4 yrs</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master of Research / Doctor of Philosophy – MRes + MPhil/PhD</td>
<td>4 yrs</td>
<td>6-8 yrs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master of Philosophy – MPhil</td>
<td>2 yrs</td>
<td>4 yrs</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master in Philosophical Studies – MPhil Stud</td>
<td>2 yrs</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor of Philosophy – MPhil/PhD</td>
<td>3-4 yrs</td>
<td>5-6 yrs</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor in Engineering – EngD</td>
<td>4 yrs</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor of Medicine (Research) – MD(Res)</td>
<td>2 yrs</td>
<td>2 yrs</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor of Public Administration – GPA</td>
<td>4 yrs</td>
<td>6 yrs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor in Clinical Psychology – DCIPhen</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor in Dentistry – DDenT</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor in Education – EdD</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>6-7 yrs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor in Educational Psychology – DEIPhen</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor in Orthopaedics – Doc.Oth.</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>6 yrs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Check ucl.ac.uk/graduate for programme-specific information
Why UCL?

**£476m**
Research grant income
UCL annual report and financial statement 2017/18

**29**
Nobel Laureates
29 Nobel Prizes have been awarded to people who are, or were, students or academics at UCL

**8th**
in the world
QS World University Rankings 2020

**1st**
for research strength in the UK
UCL is the top-rated university in the UK for research strength (REF 2014)

**155**
countries represented by UCL staff and students
UCL attracts the best and brightest staff and students from all over the world

**Partners**
UCL's ongoing links with industry:
Arup, Cisco, BBC, EU, CERN, NASA, UK Parliament, UN, Dyson, British Museum, Eisai, Microsoft and Intel, among others.

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's degree programmes please see the UCL Graduate Prospectus at [ucl.ac.uk/graduate](http://ucl.ac.uk/graduate)

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