Contents

Welcome / Congratulations 4
Meet the Uni-Link team 5
Uni-Link stories 6

About UCL / A world leader 7
UCL by numbers 7

Uni-Link explained / The basics 8
Events 9
E-mentoring 9
Keeping in touch 10
Your Uni-Link journey 10

Get started / Ready. Set. Uni-Link 12
Tips and advice 13
University jargon buster 13
Useful links 14

My Uni-Link / Expectations and outcome 15
Aims and objectives 16
Reflective journal 17-31

Find your way / UCL campus map 32
Finding UCL 33

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Photography courtesy of Mat Wright Photography.
Congratulations and welcome to UCL's Uni-Link programme.
In the coming years you'll enjoy a first-hand university experience that will help to enrich your education, while improving your skills, confidence and knowledge.

As part of the programme, you will be linked to a department or faculty at UCL that is related to the degree you would like to study at university. You'll then attend a series of subject-specific and general higher education events throughout years 12 and 13.

Dedicated Uni-Link ambassadors, who are current UCL students, will also be there to assist you along the way, attending activities and events, and providing support.

Your commitment to the programme is vital. It is up to you to get the most out of your Uni-Link experience by attending events and activities and engaging with UCL staff and Uni-Link ambassadors where possible.

Uni-Link students are required to attend events roughly once a month, during term time, in year 12. These events may take place on weekdays or weekends. We try to limit events during exam periods. There are fewer events in year 13, to provide you with more time to prepare for your final exams. You will also have the opportunity to take advantage of the mentoring scheme which is done online.

We wish you all the very best for your Uni-Link experience. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions (see contacts on page 34) – we are here to help you every step of the way.

“I've been working at UCL for a long time and Uni-Link is an exciting programme that UCL is very committed to.

We're always looking at ways to improve the programme, so please get in touch with your comments and suggestions.”

Paulette Williams
Senior Access Officer (Uni-Link)

“I joined UCL in early 2016, previously having worked at another university for over three years.

My role involves managing the Uni-Link programme, so you will be seeing a lot of me throughout the next two years.”

Khashim Hussain
Access Officer (Uni-Link)
Uni-Link stories /

“The Uni-Link programme has really opened my eyes to the wide range of opportunities available for students who wish to study at UCL, and has encouraged me to think deeply about what my priorities are when choosing what universities I want to attend. Through a range of events and activities available for students who wish to study subjects from across the whole spectrum (from engineering to history), the Uni-Link programme has encouraged young people to engage more with opportunities and find out more about life at university.

I can sincerely say I would strongly recommend the programme – it has helped me immensely become more engaged in the university process and to open my eyes to the opportunities around me.”

Tahmeena Nadia Zaman
Year 12 student

“Uni-Link really helped me enhance my CV and the lectures and workshops gave me great cultural and commercial awareness which was invaluable for interviews. I’m currently studying Law at Warwick University and the support from Uni-Link was the foundation to me securing internships at Rothschild, Lloyds, The Economist and Baker & McKenzie. I’m also working as a Campus Ambassador for Ashurt and Deutsche as well as part-time work within my Students’ Union – Uni-Link gave me the confidence to do so.”

Nahim Miah
Former Uni-Link participant
Your choice to undertake the Uni-Link programme with UCL is a choice to get to more know about university with one of the world’s leading universities.

Founded in 1826, UCL’s pioneering vision, led by its spiritual founder Jeremy Bentham, was to ensure that everybody could access higher education. Today, UCL is among the world’s best, and leading the way in London for its multidisciplinary nature.

Find out more about UCL at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/about-ucl

// UCL has 975 professors and more than 7,000 academic and research staff who are dedicated to research and teaching of the highest standards (HESA 2014–15).

// Students from around the world make up more than one-third of UCL’s student body.

// UCL’s academic structure consists of 11 faculties, each home to world-leading research, teaching and learning in a wide-ranging variety of fields.

7th in the world (QS World University Rankings 2016/17)
In year 12, you will be matched to a UCL e-mentor. Your e-mentor will be a current UCL student, who is studying a programme similar to your Uni-Link stream and you’ll be matched using the Brightside platform. The e-mentoring scheme takes place online, allowing you to communicate with your mentor regularly. Feel free to ask your e-mentor about anything related to university. You may ask them about the programme they are studying, what it’s like to be a student, how to apply to university and more. You will be briefed on how e-mentoring works and provided with topics you can discuss with your mentor when you get started.

All Uni-Link participants receive an e-newsletter around once a month. The newsletter details upcoming events and activities, and also includes information about how to sign up for events. Checking your emails regularly will help you stay in touch during the programme and it is important you let us know if your email address changes so we can keep you up to date on all Uni-Link activities.

Uni-Link explained

All Uni-Link activities are free of charge to attend. Events take place on campus, or in and around London. You can also claim back any additional expenses you might incur when traveling to a Uni-Link event. This includes any travel costs incurred in addition to your own oyster/travel card. Lunch and refreshments are also provided at most events.

Core events
Your Uni-Link programme is made up of a series of events which you are expected to attend over the course of years 12 and 13. Events occur in the evening and weekends as well as, and occasionally, during school and college time. Subject streams within the programme are also mixed allowing you to explore various course areas within a subject stream.
Please ensure you keep your teachers updated on your Uni-Link timetable and give them plenty of notice ahead of the days you will be away attending Uni-Link events.

Optional events
From time to time we will also let you know about any additional UCL events happening outside of the Uni-Link programme that might also be relevant to you. These are optional events and do not make up the core programme, but may help add to your Uni-Link experience.
Of course we know that university life goes beyond the classroom, so you’ll have opportunities to socialise and have fun too! Find out more about some of the events that make up your Uni-Link programme on pages 10 and 11.

Keep in touch /
Your Uni-Link journey /

Uni-Link Launch
Kick off your Uni-Link experience and find out all you need to know about the journey ahead. Meet your Uni-Link buddies and get to know the team.

Explore UCL Day
A taster session led by our academics and PhD students, and opportunity to explore the campus and interact with our student ambassadors.

Team-building Day
It’s time for some fun and exciting team-building activities.

Subject Masterclass
A masterclass to delve more into your chosen programme.

Student Finance Presentation
A session to find out more about finance and budgeting, and settle a plan to pay for your studies.

Careers Day
Learn more about prospective careers in your chosen field. Use this session as an opportunity to think about your career path and how university study fits in to your plan.

Summer School
A three day non-residential summer school where you will work on a short project in your programme area.

Personal Statement Workshops
Get the low down on how to write a winning personal statement as well as UCAS application information.

Graduation
It’s been a long journey and this will be your opportunity let your hair down and celebrate your success with your Uni-Link friends.

e-mentoring
Become paired with your e-mentor and begin asking them questions about university (see page nine for more information about e-mentors).

Extra events
In addition to those above, your Uni-Link programme will include extra events organised by the Uni-Link team. These events include academic, social and on/off campus visits. More details on these will be available after you start your programme.
Ready. Set. Uni-Link / Tips and advice /

Get a head start on your Uni-Link programme with the following tips and advice, as well as some useful resources to help you along the way.

**Ask questions** — Throughout the programme you will get to meet different students, academics and staff members. Use the opportunities to ask questions about literally anything. We want to help enrich your understanding of university and programme choices.

**Get involved** — Rather than just sitting in on events, get involved and participate. Be active when attending events, it'll help you get the most out of the visits.

**Make it count** — This opportunity allows you to experience university before actually going to university, use it to your advantage to help you decide exactly what you want to study.

**Reflect** — This booklet contains a reflective diary (see pages 17–31). Use this to write down your aims and objectives as well as record your progress along your journey through Uni-Link.

**UCAS** — The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) processes applications to higher education institutions in the UK. UCAS will take your application, distribute it to the universities you have chosen, and inform you about any offers you receive.

**Halls of residence** — This can mean two slightly different things. Normally, it means accommodation provided for students by their university. However, it's increasingly common for private companies to run student halls as well. Either way, the basic structure is similar: you'll normally have a room of your own, sometimes with an en-suite, as well as shared facilities like kitchens. Depending on the hall, you might get a game room, a study lounge, or other bonuses.

**Student services** — These are services provided by the university to help students. They include financial services, counselling, career guidance, learning support — you name the problem, and the university just might have the answer.
Useful links /

www.ucl.ac.uk/wp
Here you will find information about all our widening participation activities and events including information about Uni-Link.

www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students
Here you can find out information about our degree programmes and other prospective student-friendly information.

www.ucl.ac.uk/openday
Find out about how to attend one of our upcoming open days.

www.ucl.ac.uk/accommodation
Get information about UCL student accommodation.

www.ucas.com
You will need to familiarise yourself with this website. Through UCAS you will be able to research programmes and higher education providers as well as make an application to study a programme.

www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships
Have a look to see if you are eligible to apply to any of our generous scholarships/bursaries.

www.nus.org.uk/en/nus-extra
NUS extra - the #1 student discount card, brings you over 200 UK student discounts.

www.thestudentroom.co.uk
A friendly student community website, packed with forums, advice and guidance on career choices.

www.bestcourse4me.com
An independent free university course guide. Explore different career paths and find out information about what you can study, linked with potential career earnings and job prospects.

www.opendays.com
The university open day directory.
Right now you may not fully know exactly what programme or career path you want to take or even if university is for you. Use the aims and objectives area on page 16 to note down what you expect from the programme, what you want to learn and any aims you may have. Make sure you refer back to this section from time to time and use with the reflective diary on pages 17–31 to track how you’re progressing against your aims.
What would I like to gain from taking part in Uni-Link?

Aims:

1. 

2. 

3. 

WHAT WOULD I LIKE TO KNOW WHEN I'M FINISHED?

WHAT NETWORKS WOULD I LIKE TO BUILD?

WHAT EXPERIENCE/KNOWLEDGE HAVE I GAINED?

HOW CAN I USE WHAT I HAVE LEARNED TODAY TO BENEFIT ME?

WHAT WILL I DO AS A RESULT OF ATTENDING THIS SESSION?

WHO HAVE I MET (CONTACTS/ NETWORKS/FRIENDS)?

Name: ____________________________________________

Email: ____________________________________________

Name: ____________________________________________

Email: ____________________________________________

MY THOUGHTS (NOTES/IDEAS/ILLUSTRATIONS ETC.):

DATE: 
SESSION: 

My Uni-Link
MY THOUGHTS (NOTES/IDEAS/ILLUSTRATIONS ETC.):

WHO HAVE I MET (CONTACTS/NETWORKS/FRIENDS)?
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My Thoughts (Notes/Ideas/Illustrations etc.):

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DATE:
SESSION:

My Thoughts (Notes/Ideas/Illustrations etc.):
Finding your way

Finding UCL /

UCL is based in and around Bloomsbury, London, and is easily accessible by a number of public transport links, including the Euston Square, Uxbridge and Warren Street Tube stations.

Bus links are available on Euston and Tottenham Court Roads, as well as along Gower Street. King’s Cross and St Pancras railway stations also provide connections to campus from the greater London area.

Once on campus, you can find your way around using the map on the left-hand side.

CASE STUDY

...it is an amazing opportunity to gain an insight into university life and what to expect...

Sadia Baksh
Former Uni-Link participant
Good luck

Contacts

UCL wishes you every success for your Uni-Link programme as well as your future, and we’re here to help you every step of the way.

You can stay in touch during the programme via the following channels:

Questions about Uni-Link
Uni-Link@ucl.ac.uk
+44 (0)20 3108 7679

Our website
www.ucl.ac.uk/uni-link

Follow us on Twitter
@UCL_UniLink