The Introduction to Academic Studies (IAP) short course is a two-week, full-time, pre-masters, course supporting students before they join their masters programmes at UCL Qatar. The course begins on 2 September and runs for two full weeks until the formal induction week on 16 and 17 September 2018.

Masters programmes require sound academic skills such as the ability to process and utilise relevant academic literature, think theoretically and critically, and develop and write coherent and well-supported academic arguments.

The IAP is designed to facilitate students’ transition to their masters programmes at UCL Qatar by introducing them to some key aspects of postgraduate studies and practice, with a particular focus on academic reading and writing, critical thinking, and academic conventions.

The IAP uses authentic material such as academic literature recommended by UCL faculty, examples of written work and feedback, and marking criteria in order to clarify expectations and academic conventions at postgraduate level.

**Learning objectives. By the end of the course you will:**

- Have a general understanding of the expectations at postgraduate level and how to meet them;
- Know what academic reading consists of and what it entails – including taking and making notes, and contextualising sources;
- Know various techniques to reference accurately and avoid plagiarism;
- Be more familiar with postgraduate assignments, such as essays and literature reviews;
- Understand marking criteria and the language of assignments;
- Have ‘take-away’ documents to keep developing good practice during your master’s studies.