Risk, Disaster and Resilience MSc
2020/21 entry
www.ucl.ac.uk/rdr/

Amatrice, following 2016 Earthquake, Italy
Photograph from EEFIT mission
The disaster risk management industry needs professionalising. Academic study can underpin this professionalisation, enabling you to apply evidence and research based theory to this sector. Through a multidisciplinary approach to risk and disaster reduction, you will learn to become a future leader driving policy change and innovation in order to preserve lives and sustain economies which could otherwise be destroyed or damaged by disaster. You will gain expertise in analysing complex challenges and providing sustainable solutions.

Programme themes

**Physical and Social Science of Natural and Anthropogenic Hazards**
- What is known and unknown
- Current research and uncertainties

**Building Resilience**
- What are the barriers to risk and disasters reduction and how do we overcome them?
- Develop a common language to communicate complex concepts in an accessible way

**Understanding Vulnerability**
- From fragility curves describing damage to buildings to social vulnerability of individuals and society

**Quantifying Risk**
- What is risk and how do we measure it?
- Components of risk: exposure, hazard, vulnerability

**Multidisciplinary Holistic Approaches**
- Integrating scientific knowledge into disaster risk reduction research, policy and practice
- Communicating with stakeholders

**Managing Disasters**
- How to apply plans to manage real emergencies

Teaching and learning

**Learn** from world-class researchers and professionals delivering the programme through a combination of lectures, class discussions, problem-solving exercises, practicals, field trips, directed reading, student-led dialogue, and a practitioner-led real-time disaster scenario event.

**Assessment** is by individual and group presentations, coursework, written examinations, and a research project.

Why study at UCL IRDR?

UCL is one of the world’s leading universities, regularly featuring in the top 10 in global rankings.

The Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction (IRDR), leads multidisciplinary research, knowledge exchange and advanced teaching across UCL. As a student, you will be encouraged to join our active seminar series, high-profile public discussion meetings and the networking events we host.

London is one of the world’s great cosmopolitan cities. It is an international hub for global finance and risk management, NGOs, and engineering consultancies. The IRDR nurtures networks across London, and beyond.

“London itself is an unparalleled breeding ground of ideas for anyone interested in research” (MSc student 2015/16)

Careers

Whether you wish to start a new career in risk and disaster reduction or you already have experience we are here to support you. With an MSc in Risk, Disaster and Resilience you will have excellent academic credibility coupled with practical and analytical skills.

We run an annual Careers and Opportunities Forum which offers expert and targeted advice, and hosts stalls from a range of employers and headhunters in the field of risk and disaster reduction. Our alumni are highly sought-after in the following sectors: insurance, catastrophe modelling, risk management, public policy, humanitarian development, NGOs, business continuity, government, emergency services, consultancy, and academia.

Some career destinations of recent IRDR graduates:
- Disaster Risk Management Consultant, World Bank
- Project Officer, Global Risk Forum Davos
- Coastal Risk Management Officer, Environment Agency
- Project Officer, Cairo Local Government
- Field Delegate, Red Cross
- Global Engagement Fellow, Interpeace
- Resilience Technical Officer, International Medical Corps
- Project Officer, Rescue Global
- Emergency Information Management Specialist, Plan Nepal
- Business Continuity & Resilience Consultant, PwC
- Business Continuity Consultant, Arup
- Analyst, RMS (Risk Management Solutions)
- Reinsurance Claims Management Executive
- AXA Global Re, Paris
Programme structure

Mode of study: Full time: 1 year  Part time: 2 years  Flexible: up to 5 years
Students take eight taught modules and an independent research project.
A Postgraduate Diploma comprising eight taught modules can be taken full-time, or part-time over two years.
For further information see [www.ucl.ac.uk/rdr/](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/rdr/)

# Degree Programme Modules

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<tr>
<th>Two compulsory core taught modules (15 credits each)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 Integrating Science into Risk &amp; Disaster Reduction</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Quantitative risk assessment</td>
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<td>Command procedures</td>
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<tr>
<th>Two compulsory programme-specific core modules (15 credits each)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1 Natural &amp; Anthropogenic Hazards &amp; Vulnerability</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Scientific causes</td>
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<td>Methodology and techniques</td>
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<th>Two compulsory taught skills modules (15 credits each)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1 Data Analysis and Interpretation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Statistical methods</td>
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<td>Qualitative research methods</td>
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<th>Two optional modules from among the following (15 credits each)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1 Catastrophe Risk Modelling</strong></td>
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<td>Probabilistic modelling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early warning &amp; response</td>
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<td><strong>3 Gender, Disaster and Conflict</strong></td>
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<td>Gender responsiveness</td>
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<td>Managing disruptions</td>
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<td><strong>5 Conflict, Humanitarianism &amp; Disaster Risk Reduction</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Humanitarian response</td>
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<td>Satellite vulnerability</td>
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<td><strong>7 Risk Analysis for Disaster Science</strong></td>
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<td>Earthquake science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conceptual issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>**9 Post Disaster Recovery * **</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policies and practices</td>
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<td>Anthropology of risk</td>
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**Risk, Disaster and Resilience MSc Management Pathway**

See Pathway brochure for School of Management modules

All optional modules are subject to availability and particular modules may not be possible in any given year.

**Independent project (60 credits)**

The independent research project culminates in a 10,000 to 12,000 word dissertation and poster presentation. Projects may be field, theory or modelling based and can be conducted in collaboration with external industry or NGO partners.

**Field trips and exercises**

Current field visits include: the Thames Barrier and disaster management; Cambridge flood hazard; a disaster scenario exercise with a partner organisation; the Blacknest Seismological Observatory; the Met Office; Southwest England for integrated group projects covering hazard mapping, vulnerability assessment, and critical infrastructure assessment, with Hinkley Point nuclear power station as an example.
MSc Risk, Disaster and Resilience

Key information

Programme starts
September 2020

Modes and duration
Full time: 1 year     Part time: 2 years     Flexible time: 5 years

Tuition fees (2020/2021)
UK/EU: £11,830 (FT) £5,975 (PT)
Overseas: £24,980 (FT) £12,470 (PT)

Scholarships
UCL offers a selection of scholarships for supporting postgraduate studies. Details of funding opportunities can be found at: www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships. Further advice and programme-specific scholarships information can be obtained from the Masters Programmes section of the IRDR website.

Application dates
Open: November 2019    Close: 28 August 2020

Note on fees: The tuition fees shown are for the year indicated above. Fees for subsequent years may increase or otherwise vary. Further information can be viewed on the UCL Current Students website.

Optional qualifications: This degree is also available as a PG Diploma with fees set accordingly.

Entry requirements
Normally a minimum of an upper second-class UK Bachelor's degree or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard. This multidisciplinary programme accepts students from a wide range of subject areas, such as social sciences, physical sciences, and humanities.

Mathematics requirements
None, but there are some quantitative methods in the course

English language requirements
If your education has not been conducted in the English language, you will be expected to demonstrate evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency.

The English language level for this programme is: Good

International students
Country-specific information, including details of when UCL representatives are visiting your part of the world, can be obtained from the UCL International Students website.