Information on the University of California (UCEAP) exchange programme

Our exchange agreement with the University of California (UC) is institution-wide i.e. it includes all 9 of UC’s undergraduate campuses (Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Merced, Riverside, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, San Diego). Because the application process for UC is different to our other exchanges, here’s some information on how your campus will be assigned if you are allocated a place at the University of California by UCL.

Before applying to UCL for an exchange placement

If you are offered an exchange place at UC, you must be willing to accept an allocation at any one of the 9 undergraduate campuses that offers suitable modules and courses in your discipline. Successful candidates for this exchange should be able to show us that they are open-minded and ready to experience University of California at whichever campus they are offered. We cannot offer any guarantee of which campus you will be assigned.

Application Process for University of California

• Complete and submit your application to UCL for a study abroad placement. See the Study Abroad website for more information on the application process and deadlines

• If you are successfully allocated a place at UC, you will be notified of the outcome of your application in January 2024. In January, you will then complete an application to UC (with guidance from the Study Abroad Team) stating 4 campuses, in order of preference. You will also be required to submit a study plan for each of your choices

• Not all campuses offer all disciplines - it is your responsibility to fully research all campuses prior to submitting your application for campus allocation

• The University of California Education Abroad Programme Team (UCEAP) will assess applications from incoming applicants from all their worldwide exchange partners in Spring 2024 and allocate you a campus, based on your area of study and number of applicants for each campus. UCEAP will do their very best to allocate you at one of your three campus choices, but this is not guaranteed

• You will be contacted by UCEAP in May 2024 to confirm your allocated campus

Important Considerations

• UC do not consider requests for reallocation of campus any circumstances. If you choose not to accept your allocated campus in Spring 2024, your only option will be to withdraw from the Study Abroad process altogether and transfer onto a UCL degree programme without a year abroad

• UCEAP’s decisions on campus allocation are final. The UCL Study Abroad team cannot intervene in or influence the campus allocation process and all applicants for UC must enter the process understanding how the campus allocation process works

• The UCEAP Team will endeavour to place you at one of your 4 preferred campuses. However, applicants are advised that in some cases, an alternative campus (providing a suitable breadth of modules) may be offered

• UCLA and Berkeley are consistently very popular choices amongst exchange students at UC. If you are allocated a space at UC, have researched these campuses and consider them a good fit for you both academically and personally, you should certainly list them in your campus options when you apply to UC, but you must be open-minded and prepared to undertake a placement at an alternative campus if necessary

If you have further questions about the University of California exchange programme and campus allocation process, please get in touch with the UCL Study Abroad Team in the first instance.