Call all UCL students:

This is an invitation to make your experience at UCL even richer.

You, our students, have already distinguished yourselves academically. Otherwise you would not be here. Congratulations on your achievements so far and for choosing UCL as your university. A UCL education will stretch you intellectually, your programmes influenced by world-leading researchers pushing the boundaries of knowledge. You will have access to excellent digital and physical learning resources as well as the taught curriculum that makes our graduates so employable.

But you can also go the extra mile to shape your education at UCL.

Become a ChangeMaker, a Student Quality Reviewer or an Academic Representative and work in partnership with academics to make your programme even better. Join the UCL Student Experience Panel and make your voice heard. Take up some of the many opportunities to learn outside your degree programme.

Explore pressing global problems in our free two-week long Global Citizenship Programme. Support new students as a Transition Mentor helping them successfully transition to UCL. Join the Alumni Online Community and build career connections with UCL alumni. Get involved with amazing volunteering opportunities and make a difference locally. Showcase your undergraduate research with Posters in Cloisters. Tap into your entrepreneurial spirit through UCL Innovation and Enterprise. Engage with UCL Careers to develop your employability.

This booklet gives a brief overview of all the opportunities to enrich your academic experience. It tells you how they could benefit you and how to get involved.

Be bold about your future: make the most of your time at UCL.

Professor Anthony Smith
UCL Vice-Provost (Education and Student Affairs)
As your Education Officer for 2018/19 I am here to ensure that you have the best possible time here at UCL and to guarantee that you are getting the excellent academic experience that you expect from a world-renowned university. Being a UCL student means so much more than simply attending lectures and taking exams. The breadth of opportunities available across UCL as well as within the Union means you are sure to find something for you, whether that is volunteering in your local community, joining a club or society, or running your own campaign.

We are here to represent you and to support students in shaping their university experience. For that reason, we are very proud of the work our Academic Representatives undertake to improve the quality of education for UCL students, working alongside staff to represent students’ views and provide valuable feedback which continuously improves the student’s experiences. Collaboration between students and staff, working together to implement positive change within your degree programmes, departments and faculties, is a vital relationship. We believe that our university community is better when students have the greatest breadth of interaction with staff, and work in partnership together.

Students will always be at the heart of the work of our Union, and we welcome you to explore all the exciting opportunities we have on offer and to get involved in making UCL the best it can be for you.

Farooq Dean
Education Officer
(Students’ Union)

UCL ChangeMakers is a programme where students and staff collaborate to enhance UCL education and make changes for the benefit of everyone in the UCL community. Students in previous years have used grants of up to £1,000 to conduct a UCL ChangeMakers project; their activities ranged from working with departments to improve assessment and feedback practices, to collaborating with staff to implement creative teaching ideas.

Turn your idea into reality with support

Do you have an idea that could make the education in your department even better? Could it change the way you and your fellow students learn? Or harness the knowledge of your teachers even more effectively? UCL ChangeMakers is a programme where students and staff collaborate to enhance UCL education and make changes for the benefit of everyone in the UCL community. Students in previous years have used grants of up to £1,000 to conduct a UCL ChangeMakers project; their activities ranged from working with departments to improve assessment and feedback practices, to collaborating with staff to implement creative teaching ideas. Check out our website in the autumn for more details on how the 2018-19 scheme will operate.

Who is it for?
Any member of the UCL learning community – staff or student.

Benefits for you:
Develop project management skills; team leadership; the ability to communicate persuasively; build close relationships with academic staff; gain insight into UCL’s operations; HEAR recognition.

Time commitment:
7 to 20 hours (project dependent).

Find out more:
ucl.ac.uk/changemakers
As a Student Quality Reviewer you act as a consultant, teaming up with UCL staff to take an in-depth ‘behind the scenes’ look at different areas of academic practice. You’ll utilise your analytical skills to give detailed feedback from a student perspective on UCL’s work. You can choose to investigate quality, teaching practice, new programmes or the student experience. You’ll be trained and supported to make sure you have the right skills to get stuck in.

**Who is it for?**
If you want to build strong relationships with senior members of staff or want to gain experience on a committee, and you want to make a real difference in how you are taught, this opportunity is for you.

**Benefits for you:**
Research skills; leadership; financial management; persuasion; HEAR recognition; critical thinking; build relationships with senior UCL staff; you’ll also receive a stipend of: £150.

**Time commitment:**
10 – 20 hours.

**Find out more:**
studentsunionucl.org/sqr

---

**Student Quality Reviewer**

**Join staff to review UCL teaching and learning**

---

**Who is it for?**
If you want to represent your peers and directly influence change in your department or faculty, and if you want to work closely with staff and the Students’ Union as well as other students to make education the best it can be, then this opportunity is for you.

**Benefits for you:**
Training; leadership skills; communication skills; HEAR recognition; relationship building with your fellow students and key staff members in your department and faculty.

**Time commitment:**
10 hours per term.

**Find out more:**
studentsunionucl.org/rep/what-you-can-do

---

**Academic Representative**

**Be the voice of UCL students**

The Students’ Union operates an effective network of over 1,600 elected Academic Representatives across UCL. By becoming a representative, you will be the voice of students, ensuring that UCL takes the student needs into account in its decision-making. You will work with staff to ensure students are listened to and shape their education for the better. You could represent students on a programme, in the department or across your whole faculty.

---

**Who is it for?**
If you want to build strong relationships with senior members of staff or want to gain experience on a committee, and you want to make a real difference in how you are taught, this opportunity is for you.

**Benefits for you:**
Research skills; leadership; financial management; persuasion; HEAR recognition; critical thinking; build relationships with senior UCL staff; you’ll also receive a stipend of: £150.

**Time commitment:**
10 – 20 hours.

**Find out more:**
studentsunionucl.org/sqr
Shape student life at UCL

Use your personal perspectives, creativity and expertise to shape the UCL experience. As a member of the Student Experience Panel you will have the opportunity to have your say on a range of issues and help make UCL’s services even better. As part of our panel, we will ask you to collaborate with us through focus groups, quick surveys, feedback on images or website user testing. These activities are usually one-off feedback sessions and are a great opportunity to meet with students who are studying other disciplines. As an incentive for shaping UCL, you will receive a free lunch or a voucher.

Who is it for?
If you want to shape UCL, but can’t commit to a long-term project, the Student Experience Panel is for you.

Benefits for you:
Critical thinking; communication and problem solving skills; some activities offer training; cash, vouchers or free lunch.

Time commitment:
Activity dependent – 15 mins to two hours per opportunity.

Find out more:
ucl.ac.uk/you-shape-ucl/student-experience-panel

Laidlaw Programme

Become the leader of tomorrow

The Laidlaw Research and Leadership Programme aims to create the leaders of the future through a mix of training and intensive summer research periods. There are 25 bursary places available for first year undergraduates. The programme runs over three years and it gives you the opportunity to be part of a high performing group from across UCL. You will be involved in research with a global impact while developing leadership skills for your future career.

Who is it for?
If you are an ambitious and curious first year undergraduate who wants to experience working on current, high-impact research projects with UCL academics, this opportunity is for you. You’ll meet likeminded students from a range of disciplines and develop your leadership skills.

Benefits for you:
Develop research skills; undertake leadership training; develop close relationship with academics; receive a stipend of £3,300 per year in your first and second year.

Time commitment:
2 x 6-week summer research placements; 3 x 2-day leadership training workshops.

Find out more:
ucl.ac.uk/laidlaw-scholarships
Explore a world of opportunity

The UCL Global Citizenship Programme brings together students from across UCL to explore our biggest global challenges. Over two weeks at the end of the summer term, you will discuss the world’s biggest problems such as infectious diseases, rapid urbanisation or climate change. This is your chance to put your studies into a global context, learn new skills and see the world differently. There are several strands for both undergraduates and taught postgraduates and your participation is completely free of charge.

Who is it for?
If you want to get a better understanding of what it means to be a global citizen; if you want to understand pressing global problems and help to start finding the solutions; if you want to diversify your network and develop new skills, this programme is for you.

Benefits for you:
Communication and collaboration skills; problem solving; networking; collaborate with businesses and charities.

Time commitment:
Two weeks after exams finish at the end of the summer term.

Find out more:
ucl.ac.uk/global-citizenship-programme

Help new students make a successful transition to UCL

Use your experience and knowledge to support first year undergraduates from your department in making a successful transition to life at UCL. As a Transition Mentor, you will help new students navigate the challenging first term, by giving guidance on academic topics, signposting to support services such as psychological and disability services, and helping them with common administrative questions. Mentors also support their mentees to socialise and meet new people.

Who is it for?
If you are a second or penultimate year undergraduate who wants to help new undergraduates to navigate their first term, then this opportunity is for you. Applications will open in spring 2019 for the 2019/20 academic session.

Benefits for you:
Training; relationship building with fellow students in your department; communication skills, planning and group facilitation skills; gaining better knowledge of your subject; get paid at a rate of £10.70 per hour.

Time commitment:
1 x 2 hour training session in the summer or early autumn; 10 x mentoring meetings (Sept-Dec); liaison meetings with Senior Mentor and Transition team.

Find out more:
ucl.ac.uk/transition
The Access and Widening Participation Office run activities to increase applications from students from disadvantaged backgrounds. As a Student Ambassador, you will deliver talks and workshops about the UCAS process, student finance and your UCL experience. You will also work with school groups on campus, and represent UCL at Higher Education fairs and school assemblies. Ambassadors can also apply to work on long-term programmes such as Saturday school and summer schools, acting as classroom assistants and role models for teenagers.

**Who is it for?**
If you are a current undergraduate or postgraduate who wants to raise the aspirations of students from groups who are under-represented at university, this opportunity is for you. Applications will open in autumn 2018.

**Benefits for you:**
Develop communication, presentation and team-working skills; training in child protection, gain insight into widening participation issues in UK education and the UCAS process; get paid at a rate of £10.70 per hour.

**Time commitment:**
Activity dependent.

**Find out more:**
[www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/widening-participation/current-students/ambassadors](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/widening-participation/current-students/ambassadors)

---

All UCL students are encouraged to do original research, exploring the edge of knowledge and honing your skills of analysis, critical thinking and project management. Undergraduates are invited to submit your research posters for display in the UCL Cloisters at the end of January, presenting your research in person to the UCL community at a lunchtime event.

A UCL panel will select two outstanding posters for the annual Posters in Parliament exhibition at Westminster in February. The selected authors will present their posters to visitors to the exhibition, including MPs and policy makers.

**Who is it for?**
If you want to shine a light on your undergraduate research and gain experience of public engagement, this opportunity is for you.

**Benefits for you:**
Insight into being an academic researcher; project management; communication and presentation skills and HEAR recognition.

**Time commitment:**
The development and submission of your poster, attendance at the Posters in Cloisters event and, if selected, at Westminster.

**Find out more:**
[www.ucl.ac.uk/teaching-learning/posters-parliament-showcasing-undergraduate-research-national-stage](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/teaching-learning/posters-parliament-showcasing-undergraduate-research-national-stage)
Build career connections with UCL alumni

UCL’s Alumni Online Community allows students from all levels of study to connect with volunteer alumni mentors from 190 countries worldwide. Whether you are seeking professional advice to perfect your CV or want to explore a particular career path, a global network of experienced UCL alumni are ready to support you.

You can also attend UCL Connect, an award-winning professional development series – a great opportunity to find out how to break into an industry or sector. From panel-based discussions to speed networking, skills workshops and international events, this is your chance to meet with and learn from alumni experts across UCL’s global community.

Who is it for?
If you want to build strong relationships with experienced alumni and gain valuable employability skills then these opportunities are for you.

Benefits for you:
Develop networking and employability skills; build connections with alumni; receive invaluable careers advice; gain insight into a range of industries and sectors.

Time commitment:
Activity dependent.

Find out more:
udalumnicommunity.org/

UCL Innovation and Enterprise
ucl.ac.uk/enterprise

We all have ideas that have the potential to make a difference, maybe even change the world for the better. UCL Innovation and Enterprise is here to encourage your enterprising side and give you the skills, connections and support you need to be an innovator.

UCL Careers
ucl.ac.uk/careers

Whatever you want to do in the future – whether you know the career you’re looking for or not – UCL Careers is here to assist you. They are here, not just to help you find jobs or options for further study, but to advise you on the opportunities you have now – during your time at UCL – to develop employability skills and to undertake part-time work, holiday work or internships.

The Volunteering Service
studentsunionucl.org/volunteering

The Volunteering Service is the Students’ Union’s dedicated facility for students who want to get involved with volunteering projects in London. We’re one of the largest volunteering teams in UK Higher Education – with a network of over 500 charities and not-for-profit organisations across the city, there are volunteering opportunities to match your interests and timetable. You will learn new skills, meet new people, and make a real difference.

Alumni Online Community

Other opportunities
We want you to have the best and most fulfilling time at UCL. Amongst other things, we pioneer creative interdisciplinary extra-curricular learning and bring students and staff together in formal partnerships to improve systems, processes and course content.

We would like to work in partnership with you to gather your ideas and opinions to make UCL education even better. We call this student engagement.

This guide lists opportunities for you to take ownership of your educational experience. These are not limited to academic opportunities – your student experience is a mix of academic and non-academic activities that both influence your education.

Your engagement could range from participating in surveys or focus groups to taking an active role on committees. It is up to you how you want to contribute as a member of the UCL community.

You can shape and change the UCL experience for the better by taking an active role in your education. You shape UCL!

ucl.ac.uk/you-shape-ucl