Health humanities seeks novel ways of understanding health and illness in society, and how methods from the humanities and social studies may be brought to bear on biomedicine, clinical practice, and the politics of healthcare. Experiences and portrayals of health and illness in literature, film and contemporary culture are also studied.

Degree summary

The programme enables students to approach issues relating to health and illness from both a historical and contemporary perspective and from a variety of disciplines, including anthropology, history, philosophy, sociology, science and technology studies, global health, literature and film studies. Students will also learn to work in an interdisciplinary manner.

Health Humanities MA is based in UCL’s new Health Humanities Centre which draws together world-leading researchers from different disciplines including medicine and health in history, philosophy, sociology, anthropology, and cultural and film studies. Leading clinicians at UCL’s acclaimed Medical School and Division of Psychiatry, who are engaged in humanities and social science research, are also actively involved with the centre. The centre was formed through the merger of the Centre for Philosophy, Justice and Health and the Centre for the History of Psychological Disciplines.

UCL Health Humanities Centre forms part of the new UCL Institute of Advanced Studies, which showcases and fosters multidisciplinary research within the humanities and the social sciences, with an active programme of events and visiting international scholars.

The programme is delivered through a combination of lectures and seminars. Assessment is through essays and a dissertation. There is no unseen examination.

Degree structure

Mode: Full-time: 1 year; Part-time: 2 years; Flexible: up to 5 years
Location: London, Bloomsbury

Students undertake modules to the value of 180 credits. The programme consists of two core modules (60 credits), elective modules of 15 or 30 credits each (up to a total of 60 credits) and a research dissertation (60 credits).

A Postgraduate Diploma (120 credits), two core modules (60 credits) and two electives (60 credits) is also offered.

A Postgraduate Certificate (60 credits), two core modules is also offered.

CORE MODULES

- Illness
- Madness

OPTIONAL MODULES

- Students may choose from the list of recommended modules below, or other relevant modules in UCL, with the approval of the convenors.
  - Anthropology and Psychiatry
  - Classical Chinese Medicine
  - Clinically Applied Cultural Psychiatry
  - Conflict, Humanitarianism and Health
  - Cultural Memory
  - Death, Dying and Consequences
  - Disease in History
  - German Literature and Psychology
  - Global Health and Development: Emerging Policy Debates
  - Global Justice and Health
  - Health Inequalities Over the Lifecourse
  - Health Policy and Reform
  - Medical Anthropology
  - Medieval Science and Medicine in Global Perspective

DISSERTATION/REPORT

- All students undertake an independent research project which culminates in a dissertation of 10,000-12,000 words.
Your career

This MA provides an exceptional foundation for those hoping to undertake PhD research and pursue an academic career, ranging from interdisciplinary work in the health humanities to a broad spectrum of more specialised disciplines, such as medicine, the philosophy of medicine, history of medicine, medical sociology or medical anthropology, among others. It is also a suitable preparation for a range of careers including science and medical journalism, bioethics, healthcare policy, NGOs and museum and heritage.

Employability

The programme gives students the opportunities to work in an interdisciplinary manner, and to engage in debate and develop their presentation skills. Students will gain experience of writing essays and training in conducting original research and applying the appropriate methodology. There are many additional activities available, both within the UCL Health Humanities Centre and the Institute of Advanced Studies, and the wider UCL community, to help students develop employability skills.
Entry requirements

Normally a minimum of an upper second-class Bachelor’s degree in a relevant discipline from a UK university or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard.

**English language proficiency level**

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 level of English language proficiency for this programme is: **Good**.

Information about the evidence required, acceptable qualifications and test providers is provided at: www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/english-requirements

**Your application**

Students are advised to apply as early as possible due to competition for places. Those applying for scholarship funding (particularly overseas applicants) should take note of application deadlines.

When we access your application we would like to learn:

- why you want to study Health Humanities at graduate level
- why you want to study Health Humanities at UCL
- what particularly attracts you to the chosen programme
- how your academic and professional background meets the demands of this challenging programme
- where you would like to go professionally with your degree

Together with essential academic requirements, the personal statement is your opportunity to illustrate whether your reasons for applying to this programme match what the programme will deliver. Applicants who have a portfolio are strongly recommended to submit it when they apply.

**FEES AND FUNDING 2017/18 ENTRY**

- UK: £9,840 (FT), £4,970 (PT)
- EU: £9,840 (FT), £4,970 (PT)
- Overseas: £20,540 (FT), £10,430 (PT)

The tuition fees shown are for the year indicated above. Fees for subsequent years may increase or otherwise vary. Further information on fee status, fee increases and the fee schedule can be viewed on the UCL Current Students website.

The Health Humanities Centre can nominate one candidate to apply for a **Wellcome Trust Master’s Award**.

Full details of funding opportunities can be found on the UCL Scholarships website.

From 2016/7 home and EU students on a Master's programme will now be able to apply for a **government postgraduate loan**.

Full details of funding opportunities can be found on the UCL Scholarships website: [www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**

All applicants: 28 July 2017

Details on how to apply are available on the website at: [www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/apply](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/apply)

**CONTACT**

Dr James Wilson, Convenor

Email: james.wilson@ucl.ac.uk

**EU referendum**

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to [www.ucl.ac.uk/eu-referendum](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/eu-referendum)