This specialisation in Sign Language and Deaf Studies is unique amongst existing Master's degrees in including components in the psychology and linguistics and neuroscience of deafness and sign language, taught by staff at the Deafness Cognition and Language Research Centre. Students also have the opportunity to study introductory British Sign Language.

Degree summary

Students take a set of core modules and then specialise in linguistics, psychology of language, and/or interpreting. In selecting the modules for specialisation, students are able to take full advantage of the breadth of expertise in language research in the UCL Division of Psychology & Language Sciences.

- The division undertakes world-leading research and teaching in mind, behaviour, and language. Staff and students benefit from cutting-edge resources including extensive laboratories for research in speech and language, perception, and cognition.
- Opportunities for students to work with world-renowned researchers exist in all areas of investigation. The division offers a supportive environment including numerous specialist seminars, workshops, and guest lectures.
- The Language Sciences MSc provides the opportunity for in-depth study of one or more areas of the Language Sciences. The programme is an 'umbrella degree', with a number of specialisation strands that follow a common structure.

The programme is delivered through a combination of lectures, small-group teaching and a virtual learning environment. Some modules also involve workshops or practical classes. Student performance is assessed through coursework, examinations and the research dissertation.

Degree structure

Mode: Full-time: 1 year; Part-time: 2 years
Location: London, Bloomsbury

Final research project submissions are in August, meaning that the programme runs over the course of 12 months (full-time) or 24 months (part-time).

Students undertake modules to the value of 180 credits. The programme consists of two mandatory modules (45 credits), four specialisation modules (60 credits), one optional module (15 credits) and a research project (60 credits).

A Postgraduate Diploma (120 credits) consisting of two mandatory modules (45 credits), four core modules (60 credits), and one optional module (15 credits) is also offered.

A Postgraduate Certificate of four mandatory modules (60 credits) is also offered.

CORE MODULES

- Introduction to the Brain and Imaging
- Research Methods: Principles, Skills and Applications
- Specialisation modules
- Students take four specialisation modules (or three if they already hold BSL CACDP Level 1 or equivalent).
- Introduction to British Sign Language
- Deafness: Cognition and Language
- Linguistics of Sign Languages
- Introduction to Deafhood

OPTIONAL MODULES

- Students then select one optional module from all those offered within the Division of Psychology & Language Sciences, subject to availability and agreement with the Programme Director (students who already hold BSL level one or equivalent select two).
- Recommendations include:
  - Foundations of Linguistics
  - Historical and Social Context of Interpreting
  - Interaction and Language Management of Interpreting
  - Introduction to Children’s Language Development
  - Multimodal Communication and Cognition
  - Sociolinguistics

- Not all modules will run every year, some modules may require a minimum number of registered students.

DISSERTATION/REPORT

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

The majority of students who graduate from Language Sciences MSc programmes go on to further study or research. Recent graduates have gone on to PhD study in UCL, and other UK and overseas institutions. Others have gone to work in related industries, for example in speech technology industries, cochlear implants manufacturers, and in education. The skills that the MSc develops - independent research, presentation skills, and statistics - are transferable and very highly sought outside of academia.
Entry requirements

Normally a minimum of an upper second-class Bachelor’s degree from a UK university or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard in a language-related area such as deaf studies, linguistics, speech sciences, English language, psychology, cognitive science, or a cognate discipline.

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 assess your application we would like to learn:

// why you want to study Language Sciences at graduate level
// why you want to study Language Sciences at UCL
// what particularly attracts you to this programme
// how your academic and professional background meets the demands of this 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.

Application fee: There is an application processing fee for this programme of £75 for online applications and £100 for paper applications. More details about the application fee can be found at www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught/application.

FEES AND FUNDING 2018/19 ENTRY

// UK: £10,140 (FT), £5,060 (PT)
// EU: £10,140 (FT), £5,060 (PT)
// Overseas: £25,880 (FT), £12,950 (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.

Up to four departmental scholarships are available. All candidates holding an offer of admission by 1 June (for year of entry) will be considered based on academic merit. There is no need to make a separate application for these opportunities.

It is strongly recommended that applications are submitted no later than four weeks before this deadline.

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

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applicants: 27 July 2018

Details on how to apply are available on the website at: www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/apply

CONTACT

Mr Peter Buchanan, Teaching Administrator

Email: p.buchanan@ucl.ac.uk

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7679 4274

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