Ancient Languages BA /

This unique degree offers training in an unparalleled range of ancient languages and their associated history, culture and textual traditions. Students study Hebrew and either Greek or Latin throughout the programme, plus up to three additional languages chosen from a wide selection including Akkadian, Aramaic, Egyptian, Sumerian, Syriac and Ugaritic.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2019

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

// Our programme is unique in the UK. It combines concentrated study of Greco-Roman and Semitic philology, in addition to other ancient Indo-European and Afroasiatic languages, and provides students with an unparalleled insight into the key linguistic and textual traditions of the ancient world.

// Based within UCL Hebrew & Jewish Studies and UCL Greek & Latin, students will also have access to the teaching facilities and expertise available university-wide, including in archaeology, ancient history, and linguistics.

// Access to a remarkable collection of ancient language resources in the UCL and SOAS Libraries, as well as to the special collections in the British Library and British Museum.

// UCL Hebrew & Jewish Studies and UCL Greek & Latin both have excellent global reputations.

Degree structure

In each year of your degree you will take a number of individual modules, normally valued at 15 or 30 credits, adding up to a total of 120 credits for the year. Modules are assessed in the academic year in which they are taken. The balance of compulsory and optional modules varies from programme to programme and year to year. A 30-credit module is considered equivalent to 15 credits in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

In year one you will take modules in Biblical Hebrew, either Latin or Greek, and introductory historical linguistics. You will additionally be able to start studying a third and, if desired, fourth ancient language, drawn from an extensive selection (see the list given in the Degree Structure table). Ancient language modules include intensive study of texts spanning diverse literary genres including historical narrative, prose fiction, poetry, mythology, and religion. Alternatively, you can choose up to 1.5 credits from a wide range of disciplines including archaeology, history and linguistics.

In year two you will continue your study of Biblical Hebrew and Greek or Latin. You will also begin or continue study of a third (and possibly fourth or fifth) ancient language. Again, you have the opportunity to choose a course from another discipline.

In year three you will take advanced courses in Biblical Hebrew and Greek or Latin. You may also continue study of a third (and possibly fourth or fifth) ancient language, an option from another discipline, or a dissertation.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)
// Introduction to Biblical Hebrew
// Introduction to the Study of Language
// Greek or Latin at the appropriate level

Optional modules
// You will select 1.5 credits of optional modules, which may include a third and, if desired, fourth ancient language* and/or modules from other disciplines.
// * Ancient languages: Akkadian, Egyptian, Greek, Latin. (Additional languages, e.g. Hittite, Luwian, Sanskrit, etc. are available from other University of London colleges subject to faculty approval.)

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)
// Intermediate Biblical Hebrew
// Greek or Latin at the appropriate level
// A third language at the appropriate level

Optional modules
// You will select 1.0 credit of optional modules.

YEAR THREE

Core or compulsory module(s)
// Advanced Biblical Hebrew or Ugaritic
// Greek or Latin at the appropriate level

Optional modules
// You will select 2.0 credits of optional modules; these may include an extended essay (0.5 credits) or final-year dissertation (1.0 credit).
Your learning

Teaching will be delivered by a combination of lectures, seminars and small-group tutorials. Students will be expected to undertake independent reading/study both to consolidate what is being taught and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject.

Assessment

Assessment will be by a combination of unseen written examinations and assessed coursework in the form of language assignments, in-class tests and essays.

Your career

You will gain skills such as critical thinking, oral and written communication and time-management, as well as the mental agility and versatility that comes with learning languages.

Graduates from this degree programme will be well placed to pursue further study relating to the ancient world or linguistics, or careers in law, community work, the diplomatic service, education, museum and archival work, the media, and executive roles in the private or public sector.

As the first cohort of students for this programme will not graduate until 2017, there is no career destination information currently available for this programme. The destinations shown below are from the Department of Hebrew and Jewish Studies (2013-15); please also see first destinations of recent graduates from Historical and Philosophical Studies at UCL for a selection of representative careers.

Your application

Application for admission should be made through UCAS (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). Applicants currently at school or college will be provided with advice on the process; however, applicants who have left school or who are based outside the United Kingdom may obtain information directly from UCAS.

In your application we will be particularly interested in your motivation to study the subject, and of your interest in broad matters of language, literature and culture. We will also be interested to learn of experiences you may have had relating to the degree programme subject matter, such as courses attended, museums visited, travel, and wider reading.

The selection process is conducted on the basis of your UCAS application and personal statement. If you receive an offer of a place on the programme, you will be invited to visit UCL Hebrew & Jewish Studies and UCL Greek & Latin as well as a tour of the campus.
Entry requirements

A LEVELS

Standard Offer: AAB. An ancient or modern language at grade A, unless an ancient and a modern language are offered at GCSE at grade C or above.

Contextual Offer: ABB. An ancient or modern language at grade A, unless an ancient and a modern language are offered at GCSE at grade C or above.

GCSE

English Language and Mathematics at grade C or 5. For UK-based students, a grade C or 5 or equivalent in a foreign language (other than Ancient Greek, Biblical Hebrew or Latin) is required. UCL provides opportunities to meet the foreign language requirement following enrolment, further details at: www.ucl.ac.uk/ug-reqs

IB DIPLOMA

Standard Offer: 36. A total of 17 points in three higher level subjects, with no score below 5, to include an ancient or modern language at grade 6 unless an ancient and a modern language are offered at GCSE at grade C or above.

Contextual Offer: 34. A total of 16 points in three higher level subjects, with no score below 5, to include an ancient or modern language at grade 6 unless an ancient and a modern language are offered at GCSE at grade C or above.

CONTEXTUAL OFFERS – ACCESS UCL SCHEME

As part of our commitment to increasing participation from underrepresented groups, students may be eligible for a contextual offer as part of the Access UCL scheme. For more information see www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

UCL considers a wide range of UK and international qualifications for entry into its undergraduate programmes. Full details are given at: www.ucl.ac.uk/otherquals

UNDERGRADUATE PREPARATORY CERTIFICATES (International foundation courses)

UCL Undergraduate Preparatory Certificates (UPCs) are intensive one-year foundation courses for international students of high academic potential who are aiming to gain access to undergraduate degree programmes at UCL and other top UK universities.

Typical UPC students will be high achievers in a 12-year school system which does not meet the standard required for direct entry to UCL.

For more information see: www.ucl.ac.uk/upc.

TUITION FEES

The fees indicated are for undergraduate entry in the 2019/20 academic year. The UK/EU fees shown are for the first year of the programme at UCL only. Fees for future years may be subject to an inflationary increase. The Overseas fees shown are the fees that will be charged to 2019/20 entrants for each year of study on the programme, unless otherwise indicated below.

// UK & EU: £9,250 (2019/20)

// Overseas: £19,970 (2019/20)

Full details of UCL’s tuition fees, tuition fee policy and potential increases to fees can be found on the UCL Students website.

Additional costs

If you are concerned by potential additional costs for books, equipment, etc. on this programme, please get in touch with the relevant departmental contact (details given on this page).

FUNDING

Various funding options are available, including student loans, scholarships and bursaries. UK students whose household income falls below a certain level may also be eligible for a non-repayable bursary or for certain scholarships. Please see the Fees and funding pages for more details.

CONTACT

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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/ucl-and-europe

Disclaimer

This information is for guidance only. It should not be construed as advice nor relied upon and does not form part of any contract. For more information on UCL’s degree programmes please see the UCL Undergraduate Prospectus at www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus