Anthropology BSc

This programme looks at the biological, cultural, social and material culture aspects of human beings as well as their evolution. It will help you gain a broad set of skills including: critical reasoning; the ability to search, sift and analyse various materials; collaborative group work; and oral and written communication.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2019

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

// UCL Anthropology is one of the few departments in the country that combines social anthropology, biological anthropology, material culture and medical anthropology to give you a truly broad-based anthropology degree.

// One of the largest anthropology departments in the UK, with highly-rated research, offering an exceptionally wide range of modules taught by academic staff at the forefront of the discipline.

// Access to excellent resources including extensive literature in the UCL Main Library and other nearby libraries, such as in the Centre for Anthropology at the British Museum.

// We have an outstanding collection of ethnographic items and the Napier Primate Collection, and work closely with the ethnographic department of the British Museum and with the Horniman Museum.

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 the first year, you take compulsory modules covering the three branches of the programme; biological anthropology, social anthropology and material culture. Biological anthropology focuses on contemporary human-environment interactions and human evolution. Social anthropology explores social and cultural differences and their determinants, from indigenous groups to modern western economies. Material culture studies human, social and environmental relationships through the evidence of people’s construction of their material world. Your first year also includes a three-day field trip to discover ethnographic research and participant observation in ritual, landscape, and techniques.

Your second year includes both compulsory and optional modules. In the third year, you select five optional modules from a wide range alongside a dissertation.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Introduction to Biological Anthropology
// Introduction to Material and Visual Culture
// Introductory Social Anthropology
// Methods and Techniques in Biological Anthropology
// Researching the Social World

Optional modules

// All first-year modules are compulsory.

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Theoretical Perspectives in Social Anthropology and Material Culture
// Being Human

Optional modules

// You will select a minimum of 2.5 and a maximum of 3.0 credits from Anthropology optional modules which must include choices in biological, social, material culture and medical anthropology.
// Anthropologies of Science, Society and Biomedicine
// Ethnography of Forest People
// Human Brain, Cognition and Language
// Anthropology of Art and Design
// Medical Anthropology
// Political and Economic Anthropology
// Primate Behaviour and Ecology
// Social Construction of Landscapes
// You may take up to a maximum of 0.5 credits from other undergraduate elective modules outside the department.
six months after graduation.

Your learning

Our teaching comprises lectures, tutorials, seminars and laboratory classes. Small-group tutorials, normally meeting weekly, are an important element of many modules. Ongoing feedback is given to help you improve your written work.

Fieldwork

Your first year also includes a three-day field trip, paid for by the department, to discover ethnographic research and participant observation in ritual, landscape, and techniques.

Assessment

Your modules may be assessed by written coursework, by examination or a mixture of both. Examinations are normally unseen and their formats vary according to the module. Some combine short answers with essay questions, others rely solely on longer essay answers.

Your career

The broad range of methodological skills and analytical perspectives offered by the UCL Anthropology programme gives our graduates an unusually wide range of career possibilities, many of them directly related to the discipline’s cross-cultural focus and to our blending of the social and biological sciences.

Former graduates work in diverse fields, such as journalism, film-making, TV, museums, social work, international development, NGOs and the voluntary sector, police, probation, refugee work, wine tasting, market research, advertising, design, PR, marketing, music industry, accountancy, local government, HR, ESL teaching, and as cultural advisors for multinationals.

First career destinations of recent graduates (2013-2015) of this programme include:

- Digital Innovation Assistant, University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Full-time student, MRes in Anthropology at UCL
- Communications and Research Assistant, UK Business Angels Association
- Full-time student, MA in Ethnographic and Documentary Film (Practical) at UCL
- Full-time student, MSc in Digital Anthropology at UCL

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,
Entry requirements

A LEVELS
Standard Offer: AAA. No specific subjects. One science subject is preferable but not required.
Contextual Offer: ABB. One science subject preferable but not required.

GCSE
English Language and Mathematics at grade C or 5, plus Science or Biology at grade B or 6. 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: 38. A total of 18 points in three higher level subjects, with no score below 5. One science subject is preferable but not required.
Contextual Offer: 34. A total of 16 points in three higher level subjects, with no score below 5. Once science subject is preferable but not required.

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: £26,740 (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