This four-year MSci offers an additional year on top of the Biological Sciences BSc, which includes a research project, providing extra depth and knowledge which will particularly benefit those interested in further research. Year three may be spent abroad at a university in Asia, Australia, Europe or the USA.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2019

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

// You will have the opportunity to choose a specialist degree route in Biodiversity and Conservation, Genetics, Human Genetics, Cell Biology, Computational Biology or Zoology.

// Our excellent facilities include our field station at Blakeney Point in Norfolk, our on-site museum, the Grant Museum of Zoology, and the refurbished UCL Cruciform Hub.

// You will have the opportunity to undertake your final-year research project in collaboration with major London organisations, such as the Natural History Museum, ZSL London Zoo and the UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health.

// Our Summer Studentship scheme allows second- and third-year students to experience original research in the laboratory or the field.

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).

The first year of this programme covers a core range of subjects from across the biological sciences, giving you a firm foundation upon which to base your later choices.

In your second year, you can either continue towards a degree in general biological sciences, or you can choose from six specialised degree routes.

In your third year you have the choice to take modules from many different subjects across UCL. You may also apply to transfer to the International Programme MSci and spend your third year at one of our partner universities in Asia, Australia, Europe or North America.

The fourth year will be largely centred on a supervised research project, occupying 50–75% of your time. You will also take advanced Master’s level modules, providing extra depth and breadth of knowledge.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Introduction to Genetics
Introduction to Microbiology
Cells and Development
Life on Earth
Quantitative Biology

Optional modules

// Either Chemistry for Biologists or Fundamentals of Biology

YEAR TWO

Route Options

// In the second year, you will have the opportunity to either remain on the generalist Biological Sciences programme, or select a specialist route in:
// Biodiversity and Conservation
Genetics
Human Genetics
Cell Biology
Zoology
Computational Biology

// Further information on these specialist degree programmes can be found on the Biological Sciences departmental webpage.

YEAR THREE

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Literature Review

Optional modules

// You will select 3.0 credits from a wide range of optional modules in your chosen degree and from other approved disciplines within UCL. If you have transferred to the International Programme we will help you select appropriate modules during your year abroad.
Your learning

This programme consists of lectures, seminars, tutorials, practicals, and extensive personal study. You will have the opportunity to take part in UCL’s world-leading research from your first year onwards, either in the laboratory or studying animals and plants in their natural habitats.

Fieldwork
You will have the option of taking field courses based at our Blakeney Point field station in year one and in Spain or in Scotland in year two.

Assessment
Initially you will be assessed primarily by end-of-year examinations, with a smaller component from practical reports or other coursework such as essays. As your programme progresses, research-based coursework exercises will become more important, culminating in your final-year project.

Your career

Biological Sciences can lead to a wide range of careers. There is key skills training embedded in our degrees (e.g., in statistics, computing and in giving presentations), which helps make you attractive to employers.

Many of our graduates choose to undertake further studies, aiming for a research career in a university or in industry. As well as careers in scientific fields, such as in the health service, conservation or the pharmaceutical industry, our graduates have also pursued further training or employment in management, teaching, accounting, the civil service and law.

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

// Research Assistant, Cancer Institute, UCL
// Full-time student, PhD in Developmental and Stem Cell Biology at UCL
// Full-time student, DPhil in Interdisciplinary Bioscience at the University of Oxford
// Full-time student, PhD in Biomedical Sciences at Imperial College London
// Full-time student, PhD in Cancer Radiotherapy at the Institute of Cancer Research

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.

When we read your application we will be checking not only that you meet our academic entry requirements, but also for evidence of your interest in the subject and your involvement in related activities, for example, through extracurricular science clubs, laboratory visits or participation in summer schools.
Entry requirements

A LEVELS
Standard Offer: AAA. Biology required plus one from Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics.

Contextual Offer: ABB. Biology at grade A required plus one from Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics.

GCSE
English Language and Mathematics 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 including Biology at grade 6 and one from Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics, with no score below 5.

Contextual Offer: 34. A total of 16 points in three higher level subjects including Biology at grade 6 and one from Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics, with no score below 5.

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 2018/19 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 2018/19 entrants for each year of study on the programme, unless otherwise indicated below.

// UK & EU: £9,250 (2018/19)
// Overseas: £24,040 (2018/19)

Overseas fees for the 2019/20 academic year are expected to be available in July 2018. Undergraduate UK/EU fees are capped by the UK Government and are expected to be available in October 2018. 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
Dr Hazel Smith

Email:

Telephone:

Department: Division of Biosciences

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