ENGINEERING (BIOCHEMICAL)
BEng / UCAS CODE: H811
2019 ENTRY

www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus
The Biochemical Engineering undergraduate programme at UCL fully integrates engineering and biotechnology. Both BEng and MEng degrees share a common curriculum of practical core modules, delivered through innovative teaching. Both programmes will equip you with skills to follow a wide range of careers in this emerging sector.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2019

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

- The department has one of the most modern and comprehensive biochemical engineering facilities of any university in the world. Valued at over £35 million, our facilities attract leading industrial collaborators from the biopharmaceutical, cell therapy and industrial biotechnology sectors.

- Our staff are at the forefront of research in areas such as regenerative medicine, biopharmaceuticals and biofuels. We are committed to research-based teaching through UCL’s Connected Curriculum, meaning students will be exposed to the newest developments in these fields.

- The programme is professionally accredited by the Institution of Chartered Engineers (IChemE), which means that it provides the essential entry point to work towards Chartered Engineering Status (CEng).

- We have been pioneers in providing our undergraduates with training to help them understand the business environment in which the life sciences operate. This will prepare you better for your future career.

Accreditation

This programme is accredited by the Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE) as satisfying the academic requirement for registration as a Chartered Chemical Engineer when supplemented with further learning to Master’s level.

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).

Core modules are designed to introduce you to biochemical engineering through lectures and use of practical training facilities. Scenario-based learning activities will give you hands-on experience in a diverse range of fields, from tackling biopharmaceutical process development to evaluating sustainability of biofuels.

The programme builds up to the Design Project in year three, where students apply the knowledge they have gained to a case study where they will be tasked with creating a process for manufacture of a biopharmaceutical product, for example, including facility design and techno-economic evaluation.

The degree will be broken down into three main components:

- Discipline-specific material in biochemical engineering;
- Common engineering elements taught within the Faculty of Engineering Sciences; and
- Minor modules where you may choose from a range of subjects offered by the Faculty of Engineering Sciences.

Students register for Biochemical Engineering as the core discipline, but they also engage in activities that span departments via the UCL Integrated Engineering Programme. Our degrees encourage professional development, with an emphasis on design and challenging students to apply knowledge to complex problems.

You may reassess your choice of BEng/MEng route towards the end of the second year, when you have gained a deeper knowledge of what the subject involves. We normally advise applying for the MEng if you are undecided, as this gives you the most control over your study plans.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Introduction to Biochemical Engineering
- Fluid Flow and Mixing in Bioprocesses
- Thermodynamics
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Bioprocess Analysis
- Mathematical Modelling and Analysis I
- Design and Professional Practice I
- Integrated Engineering
YEAR TWO
Core or compulsory module(s)
- Downstream Processing for Engineers
- Fermentation and Bioreactor Engineering
- Biochemistry of Protein Production for Biochemical Engineers
- Heat and Mass Transfer in Bioprocesses
- Mathematical Modelling and Analysis II
- Design and Professional Skills II

Optional modules
- You will be able to select one subject from the Integrated Engineering Programme list of Minor subjects.

FINAL YEAR
Core or compulsory module(s)
- Bioprocess Plant Design
- Biochemical Reaction Engineering
- Computer Aided Bioprocess Engineering
- Molecular Biology for Bioprocess Engineers
- Chemistry and Industrial Biotechnology

Optional modules
- You will continue with two modules in your selected Minor subject from year two.

Your learning
You will be taught through a combination of lectures, case studies, team-based projects and laboratory and pilot-plant based practicals. Leading industrialists and researchers regularly visit the department to provide guest lectures. Our programmes offer regular opportunities for students to put their learning into practice through the use of scenarios. Case studies and the Design Project are conducted in small teams, with your tutors offering individual support.

Assessment
Written examinations, individual and group reports, coursework and oral presentations all contribute towards your assessment.

Your career
The core science, engineering, business and leadership skills that you acquire on the programme will provide you with excellent and diverse career prospects. In addition to your core subject knowledge in biochemical engineering, the programme will provide you with the analytical, problem-solving and numeracy skills desired by a wide range of sectors.

The excitement of taking biological advances towards new medicines and greener sustainable processes is creating an ever-growing need for biochemical engineering graduates to work in the biotechnology, pharmaceutical, biofuels, chemical, environment and food industries.

First career destinations of recent Biochemical Engineering BEng graduates (2014-2015) include:
- Analyst, BlackRock
- Full-time student, EngD in Biochemical Engineering and Bioprocess Leadership at UCL
- Full-time student, MSc in Management at Imperial College Business School, Imperial College
- Pharmaceutical Industry Analyst, Visiongain
- Full-time student, MSc in Environmental Engineering, Griffith University

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 addition to academic requirements, we will use your application to assess your motivation for studying biochemical engineering. We are seeking applicants committed to studying at the highest level, who are eager and able to rise to the challenges presented both by the programme and by a career in the discipline.

If we have made you an offer, you will be invited to an offer-holder’s open day. This provides an excellent opportunity for you to visit the departmental facilities and meet current students and staff before making a final decision.
Entry requirements

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

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

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: 38. A total of 18 points in three higher level subjects including Mathematics, plus one from Biology, Chemistry or Physics, with no score below 5.

Contextual Offer: 34. A total of 16 points in three higher level subjects including Mathematics at grade 6, plus one from Biology, Chemistry 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 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
Several major international companies have established a trust fund with the department. This fund provides five bursaries, each worth at least £1,500, which are open to all applicants.

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