The Environmental Geography BSc is aimed at students with a strong commitment to physical geography. The degree aims to develop this interest through modules examining the dynamics of environmental processes and their measurement, modelling and management.

### Key information

**Programme starts**
September 2018

**Location**
London, Bloomsbury

### Degree benefits

- Environmental Geography students have the opportunity to choose from a wide range of modules including some offered in other disciplines such as anthropology, archaeology, biology, Earth sciences or geomatic engineering.
- We maintain a good staff-student ratio with a focus on small-group tutorials and an office hours system in which all staff are available weekly to see students individually.
- We are proud of our consistently highly rated research record. You will therefore be working with thinkers at the cutting edge of developments in their fields.
- Our resources include: computer clusters, together with specialist facilities for geographical information and satellite image analysis; science laboratories; a reference map collection; a dedicated reading room and first-class library facilities.

### Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014

The Research Excellence Framework, or REF, is the system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions. The 2014 REF was carried out by the UK’s higher education funding bodies, and the results used to allocate research funding from 2015/16.

81% rated 4* (“world-leading”) or 3* (“internationally excellent”)

Learn more about the scope of UCL’s research, and browse case studies, on our [Research Impact website](#).

### Degree structure

In each year of your degree you will take a number of individual modules, normally valued at 0.5 or 1.0 credits, adding up to a total of 4.0 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 1.0 credit is considered equivalent to 15 credits in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

Students take the same core elements of training in research methods as for the Geography degrees, but with an emphasis on physical geography. First-year modules introduce the operation of environmental systems and the interaction between people and their environment.

Year two builds upon these foundations by detailed examination of the geomorphological, hydrological and ecological processes operating in the physical environment. Instruction in the field, laboratory and analytical techniques employed in the monitoring and modelling of environmental processes is also provided.

The final year includes a physical geography dissertation. Whilst at least 1.5 credits in the second year and at least 1.0 credit in the third year must concentrate on environmental geography, the remainder of the modules may be chosen from a wide range in Geography, and from related disciplines. Final-year modules are more specialised, reflecting the research interests of academic staff within the department.

#### YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)
- Thinking Geographically
- Geography in the Field

Optional modules
- You will select four from a range of first-year Geography optional modules and other undergraduate optional modules. Two of these may focus on environmental geography related topics outside the department.

#### YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)
- Physical Geography Field Research
- The Practice of Geography

Optional modules
- You will select 3.0 credits from a wide range of physical geography optional modules and other undergraduate optional modules, which may include one 0.5 credit unit outside of Geography. Physical geography options may include:
  - Ecological Patterns and Processes
  - Environmental Remote Sensing
  - Geomorphology
  - Hydroclimatology
  - Reconstructing Past Environments
  - Statistics for Environmental Geographers
  - Physical Geography Fieldclass

#### FINAL YEAR

Core or compulsory module(s)
- Dissertation

Optional modules
- You will select 2.5 credits from a wide range of third-year Geography optional modules and other undergraduate optional modules. You may also take two environmental geography related courses outside the department. Physical geography options within the department include:
  - Coastal and Estuarine Environments
  - Global Environmental Change
  - Principles and Practices of Remote Sensing
  - Managing Freshwaters in the 21st Century
  - Palaeoclimatology
  - Water and Development
Your learning

Your timetable will include lectures, seminars, tutorials, practical classes and fieldwork. As you progress, the focus shifts to independent and critical learning, with student-led discussions and presentations becoming more important.

Assessment

First-year assessment combines coursework completed throughout the year with end-of-year written examinations. In the second and final years, assessment may vary, some modules combining written examinations with independent projects, some assessed solely by written examination. Your dissertation carries significant weight in your final year.

Your career

Having developed skills associated with both the sciences and the humanities, UCL geographers are particularly adept at taking different perspectives on an issue or problem. These skills make our graduates highly attractive to employers.

UCL geographers have a particularly good track record of securing excellent employment. This may be partly because of the significant project management skills they develop by undertaking their supported dissertation research.

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

- Full-time student, MSc in Environment and Development at LSE (The London School of Economics and Political Science)
- Full-time student, MSc in Environment and Sustainable Development at UCL
- Full-time student, MSc in Environmental Modelling at UCL
- Researcher, Sherov Institute of Oceanology
- Full-time student, MSc in Environmental Sustainability at Birkbeck, University of London

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 the selection process we aim for there to be two-way communication so both you and the department can make the right choices. In addition to looking at your qualifications we will also be examining your personal statement for evidence of your interest in and enthusiasm for geography and for proficiency in key skills.

Most students are invited to attend an open day once they have been made an offer based on their predicted or actual A level (or equivalent) performance and their potential and aspirations. Our open days include student-led seminars, a short tour of UCL, a chance to talk with representatives of all our different research groups, and introductory masterclasses run by key members of staff.
**Entry requirements**

**A LEVELS**
Grades
AAA-AAB

Subjects
Geography grade A required.

**GCSE**
English Language and Mathematics at grade C. For UK-based students, a grade C 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**
Points
36-38 overall.

Subjects
A total of 17-18 points in three higher level subjects including grade 6 in Geography, with no score below 5.

**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)**
The 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 2017/18 academic year and are for the first year of the programme at UCL only. Fees for 2018 entry will appear here as soon as they are available.

- UK & EU: £9,250 (2017/18 - see below)
- Overseas: £23,710 (2017/18)

The UK/EU fee quoted above may be subject to increase for the 2018/19 academic year and for each year of study thereafter and UCL reserves the right to increase its fees in line with UK government policy (including on an annual basis for each year of study during a programme). Fees for overseas students may be subject to an annual increase in subsequent years of study by up to 5%.

Please see the full details of UCL’s fees and possible changes on the UCL Current Students website.

**Additional costs**
Field courses in the second and third years are partly funded by the department, and partly self-funded by those students who choose to take them. The department also provides bursaries for those students who are in receipt of a UCL bursary and who wish to undertake these courses. Further details are available on our website.

**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/eu-referendum

**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