Geography (International Programme) BSc

This integrated geography programme combines physical and human geography, and offers opportunities for specialisation and a year spent studying abroad. Those choosing the BSc will usually have studied some science at A level or equivalent, but it is possible to transfer to the BA if your interests develop differently.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2018

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

// You will gain a broad range of practical and project management skills, making you attractive to both the public and private sectors in the UK and around the world.

// We offer an exceptionally wide range of optional modules and have a particularly low staff-student ratio, encouraging individual choice and personal supervision.

// We are proud of our research record which has been consistently highly rated. You will therefore be working with thinkers at the cutting edge of developments in their fields.

// Spend your third year abroad at an approved university, such as the University of Toronto, Université Paris-Diderot, University of British Colombia, UCLA, or Universitat de Barcelona.

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).

The Geography BA and BSc share core elements and it is your personal interests, and the options you wish to pursue, that should shape your choice. In your first year you take two core modules and four optional modules, one of which can be outside the department.

In year two, compulsory modules are supplemented by six optional modules, including field research-based courses, chosen from a substantial pool. At this point it is possible to begin focusing on topics such as environmental and conservation management, remote sensing, geomorphology and climate change.

You will spend your third year abroad at an approved university. Your dissertation is the main focus of year four, and you will also take further options.

Fieldwork throughout the programme can take place both in the UK and abroad, and it is possible to base your dissertation on an overseas project. Recent destinations include Australia, Belize, India, Montserrat and Papua New Guinea. Financial support for overseas fieldwork expeditions may be available through expedition funds.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Thinking Geographically
// Geography in the Field

Core foundational modules

// You will select modules equivalent to 2.0 credits from a range including:
// Global Events
// Space and Society
// The Earth
// Environmental Change
// Human Ecology

// You may take one 0.5 credit module taught outside of Geography if you wish.

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)

// The Practice of Geography

Core intermediary modules

// You then select 3.5 credits of intermediary modules from the specialised areas below.
// To qualify for the BSc, 2.5 of these credits must be in Physical Geography.
// Human Geography: Cultural and Historical Geography; Development Geography; Environment and Society; Economic Geography; GIS and Geodemographics; Political Geography and Geopolitics; Urban Geography; Human Geography Fieldclass
// Physical Geography: Ecological Patterns and Processes; Environmental Remote Sensing; Geomorphology; Hydroclimatlogy; Reconstructing Past Environments; Statistics for Environmental Geographers; Physical Geography Fieldclass
// You may also substitute an ancillary module from outside the department, allowing you (as in your first year) to continue developing particular language skills or start to become more specialised.

YEAR THREE

Year abroad

// Year three is spent abroad on either a UCL or Erasmus exchange.
## 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.

## 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.

The first cohort of students admitted to this programme graduated in 2016. Information about career destinations for students on this programme is not yet available. Please see first destinations of recent graduates (2013-2015) from Geography programmes at UCL for a selection of representative careers.

- Forensic Accountant, KPMG
- Policy Officer, Darlington Hall Trust
- Social Researcher, Department for Communities and Local Government
- Research Assistant, UCL
- Full-time student, MSc in Water Science, Policy and Management at the University of Oxford
Entry requirements

A LEVELS

Grades
AAA-AAB

Subjects
Geography grade A required.

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

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 2018/19 academic year. The UK/EU fees shown are for the first year of the programme at UCL only. 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)

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