History with a Year Abroad BA

Studying history at UCL gives you opportunities to explore the subject which are unrivalled anywhere else in the UK or Europe. This four-year degree combines the flexibility of the History BA programme with the opportunity to spend the third year studying abroad at an institution overseas. In the past, students have had opportunities to study at institutions in North America, South America, and in Ireland, as well as other locations.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2019

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

- Spend your third year of study abroad. In recent years institutions have included the Catholic University of Chile; the University of Texas in Austin, USA; the University of California, USA; University of Leiden, the Netherlands; University College Dublin, Ireland; the University of Toronto in Canada; and the University of Sydney in Australia.

- Drawing upon UCL History, related UCL departments and relevant University of London colleges, the programme offers a wide variety of modules spanning extraordinary chronological breadth and geographical range.

- Specialisms of the department include the history of the ancient Near East, the history of the Americas, the cultural and intellectual history of Europe, and transnational history.

- Exceptional resources, including the British Museum and British Library, are within walking distance, and other London-based museums and organisations provide unrivalled opportunities for accessing primary source material.

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 programme includes three first-year core modules, a further core module and a research project in the second year, at least nine months studying at a foreign institution in the third year, a final-year special subject, and options chosen from a range of full-year and half-year modules. During the year abroad you will take the equivalent of 120 credits at your host university.

We encourage our students to gain maximum benefit from the chronological range of expertise in the department by taking at least one module in each of ancient history; medieval or early modern history; and modern history.

Beyond these requirements the syllabus is very flexible. You may take up to 30 credits a year from another discipline, such as a language, history of art, archaeology or geography. In your second and final year you may choose specialist history modules offered throughout the University of London.

Teaching is delivered via lectures, seminars and one-to-one tutorials. All seminar groups are capped at a maximum of 15, final-year dissertation subjects at a maximum of 10.

YEAR ONE
Core or compulsory module(s)
- Writing History
- Making History
- Approaching History

Optional modules
- You will select 60 credits of optional modules, including at least 30 credits from a wide range of options in History. Options may include:
  - The Hellenistic World from Alexander to the End of the Attalid Kingdom
  - The Medieval Universe
  - British History 1850-1990
  - Building the American Nation: The United States 1789-1920
  - History of Latin America c.1830-c. 1930
- Remaining credits can be selected from another approved interdepartmental or intercollegiate module.

YEAR TWO
Core or compulsory module(s)
- Research Seminar
- During the spring term students will participate in the Study Abroad Preparation Programme, the successful completion of which is a prerequisite for progression to the year abroad.

Optional modules
- You will select 90 credits of optional modules, including at least 60 credits from a wide range of options in History. Options may include:
  - Enlightenment and Revolution: Europe 1715-1805
  - London in the Twentieth Century: From Imperial to Global City
  - American History in Hollywood Film
  - Islamic Empires in a Comparative Perspective: The Foundations of Mediterranean Politics in the Age of Crusades
  - Africa, Decolonization and Internationalism
- Up to 30 credits can be selected from another approved interdepartmental or intercollegiate module.
YEAR THREE

Year abroad key information

Students will follow modules over one academic year at another institution in lieu of modules they would have been taking at UCL. For students interested in the Chile exchange, Spanish is required. No allowances will be made for non-native speakers by our partner institutions, so students must be confident operating in the target language at an advanced level. Students will receive guidance for their year abroad and allocation of placements from the department during the autumn term of the second year. Work placements are not offered.

Year abroad: further details

In recent years host institutions for this programme have included:
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Texas at Austin
- University of California
- Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore
- University of Michigan
- University of Toronto
- Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (UC-Chile)
- University of Leiden
- University College Dublin
- University of Sydney
- Note: students cannot study at an institution where UCL does not have a bilateral exchange set up.
- Visit UCL Study Abroad for further details including passports and visas, accommodation, and tuition fees.
- Download departmental study abroad information sheet.

FINAL YEAR

Core or compulsory module(s)
- Dissertation

Optional modules
- You will select 90 credits of optional modules, including at least 30 credits from a History Special Subject, at least 30 credits from History full-year and half-year modules (which may include an approved intercollegiate module) and up to 30 credits from another department or discipline. History Special Subject options may include:
  - Competitive Men: The Politics of Competition in Ancient Greece
  - Passages to Jerusalem: The Crusades and the Medieval World
  - Great Britain and the American Colonies, 1760-1776
  - Che Guevara: The Making of a Revolutionary
  - Race and Resistance in Black Atlantic Thought

Your learning

Our approach to learning places emphasis on active student participation in seminar discussion (always in groups of fifteen or fewer). Some modules, particularly in your first year, will also include lectures. Essays you write will always be returned to you in individual face-to-face tutorials in which you will receive constructive, personal feedback.

Assessment

Your work will be assessed by a mixture of examinations and written coursework. Significant weight is given to an extended essay based on original sources produced in your final year.

Your career

The programme is designed to teach many transferable skills: how to gather and organise evidence; how to analyse it and present a structured argument; how to express yourself clearly both in writing and orally.

UCL’s History graduates have excelled in a wide range of occupations, as lawyers, financial advisers, stockbrokers, television producers, diplomats, journalists, bankers, teachers, and in the health service, the police and overseas development programmes, as well as in progressing to further study.

First destinations of recent graduates of this programme include:
- MA Journalism, Columbia University
- Business Development Analyst, Pitch Book and studying Economics, Birkbeck, University of London
- Graduate Research Analyst, Miller Research
- Foreign Correspondent, Reuters
- Freelance Filmmaker, Self-Employed Filmmaker

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.

Each candidate’s profile is considered as a complete picture, taking into account your interest in and suitability for the degree, as shown in your personal statement and referee’s report, as well as achieved and predicted grades. Your ability to present an argument, evidence of intellectual curiosity and your enthusiasm for and commitment to studying history will also be assessed.
**Entry requirements**

**A LEVELS**

**Standard Offer:** AAA. History required.

**Contextual Offer:** ABB. A in History

**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](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ug-reqs)

**IB DIPLOMA**

**Standard Offer:** 38. A score of 18 points in three higher level subjects including grade 6 in History, with no score lower than 5.

**Contextual Offer:** 34. A score of 16 points in three higher level subject including grade 6 in History, no score lower than 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](http://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](http://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](http://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:** £19,970 (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). Information regarding funding for the Year Abroad element of the course can be found on the UCL Study Abroad 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](http://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](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus).