Mathematics with Economics BSc

This BSc is designed for students who are interested in making mathematics their major area of study but who would also like to obtain knowledge and an understanding of general economics and related subjects such as commerce and business. No previous knowledge of economics is required.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2019

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

// Gain transferable skills such as numeracy, problem-solving and logical thinking, which can lead to a large variety of interesting, diverse and well-paid careers.

// There are close and exciting connections between parts of economic theory and certain areas of abstract mathematics. Research interests of staff allow the possibility of advanced modules in this area.

// Internationally renowned UCL Mathematics is home to world-leading researchers in a wide range of fields, especially geometry, spectral theory, number theory, fluid dynamics and mathematical modelling.

// Three of the six British winners of the Fields medal (the mathematician's equivalent of the Nobel Prize) have associations with the department.

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).

In the first two years you will receive a thorough grounding in analysis, algebra and mathematical methods, following the same modules as the single-subject Mathematics students taking 3.0 credits a year. In place of the Applied Mathematics modules, you will take 1.0 credit of introductory economics each year (comprising both microeconomics and macroeconomics). Having laid the basic foundations there is a range of options in both mathematics and economics in the third year.

This programme is offered as a three-year BSc or a four-year MSci degree. The first two years of the programme are identical, and students are advised to apply for the MSci degree in the first instance, as it is possible to transfer to the BSc during the first three years.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Mathematics modules:
  Algebra 1
  Algebra 2
  Analysis 1
  Analysis 2
  Mathematical Methods 1
  Mathematical Methods 2

// Economics modules:
  Economics 1 (Combined Studies) (1.0 credit)

Optional modules

// All first-year modules are compulsory.

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Mathematics modules:
  Algebra 3: Further Linear Algebra
  Analysis 3: Complex Analysis
  Mathematical Methods 3

// Economics modules:
  Economics 2 (Combined Studies) (1.0 credit)

Optional modules

// You will select three of the following options, to the value of 1.5 credits:

// Algebra 4: Groups and Rings
// Analysis 4: Real Analysis
// Computational Methods
// Geometry and Groups
// Mathematical Methods 4
// Number Theory
// Probability and Statistics

// One of the modules may be replaced by a half-credit option outside the department, subject to approval.

FINAL YEAR

Core or compulsory module(s)

// All final-year modules are optional. Currently available mathematics options are described on the UCL Mathematics website.

Optional modules

// You will select:

// 2.0 credits from third-year mathematics options
// 1.0 credit of suitable economics options
// 1.0 credit of third-year mathematics options or approved outside options. Please note that the outside options cannot include further economics modules.
Your learning

Teaching is mainly carried out through lectures and small-group tutorials. Problem classes allow you to exercise the skills you have learned. In addition, an 'office hours' system for each programme allows you to meet with tutors on a one-to-one basis to review parts of the degree you find interesting or need clarifying. A Student Mentor scheme runs in the department offering support and advice to first-years.

Assessment

Most modules are assessed by two-hour written examinations in the third term, with a small element (10%) of coursework assessment.

Your career

We aim to develop your skills in mathematical reasoning, problem-solving and accurate mathematical manipulation. You will also learn to handle abstract concepts and to think critically, argue logically and express yourself clearly.

A mathematics degree is highly valued by employers due to the skills in logical thinking, analysis, problem-solving and, of course, numeracy, that it develops.

First career destinations of recent graduates (2013-2015) of Mathematics with Economics programmes at UCL include:

- Investment Banking Analyst, UBS
- MS in Financial Engineering, University of California, Berkeley
- Risk Analyst, Barclays
- MA Comparative Economics and Policy, University College London (UCL)
- MPhil in Finance and Economics, University of Cambridge

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 expect you to demonstrate an understanding and enjoyment of the subject beyond the examined syllabus, through your reading and involvement in problem-solving activities. Evidence of your curiosity and perseverance in tackling puzzles, and your enjoyment of logical and abstract thinking, should be shown in your application.
Entry requirements

A LEVELS


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-requirements

IB DIPLOMA
Standard Offer: 39-40. A score of 20 points in three higher level subjects including 7 in Mathematics, or 19 points in three higher level subjects including 7 in Mathematics and a 2 in any STEP paper or a distinction in Mathematics AEA, with no score below 5.

Contextual Offer: 39. A score of 19 points in three higher level subjects including 7 in Mathematics, 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: £23,470 (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.

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

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