Scandinavian Studies and History BA

This four-year BA, taught in conjunction with UCL’s School of Slavonic & East European Studies (SSEES), combines study of the languages and culture of Scandinavia with a wide range of optional modules in the history of the Nordic and Baltic regions. Year three is spent in a Scandinavian country.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2019

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

// This degree programme gives you the opportunity to learn a Scandinavian language of which you have no prior knowledge and attain a near-native competence by the time you graduate.
// You will spend your third year studying in Scandinavia, at a university in the country where your chosen language is spoken.
// UCL Scandinavian Studies has specialists across the areas of language, politics, history, medieval studies, literature and film.
// SSEES is the largest centre in the UK for the study of Central, Eastern and South-East Europe and Russia. The SSEES library contains over 400,000 books, journals and film resources.

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).

Language modules are mandatory in each year. You will nominate your chosen language as Danish, Norwegian or Swedish. No prior knowledge of the language is required. You will select between Scandinavian cultural studies modules in literature and history as well as language-based modules such as linguistics. Half your modules will be in Scandinavian Studies and half will be on the history of the Nordic and Baltic region.

You will also take modules from SELCS. This will allow you to study subjects like literature, film, art and culture from a wider perspective. You will be exposed to broad cultural movements, issues and approaches and be able to draw on the full range of specialisms within the school.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)
// 30 credits of First Level language modules in Danish, Icelandic, Norwegian or Swedish

Optional modules
// You will select from the following modules (subject to availability) to the value of 30 credits:
// Histories and Cultures of the Nordic Region
// Introduction to Linguistics and the Scandinavian Languages
// Introduction to Literary Studies
// Introduction to Old Norse
// SELCS Interdepartmental First Level modules
// In addition you will select 60 credits from a wide range of optional history modules taught by SSEES.

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)
// Intermediate Language Module in Danish, Icelandic, Norwegian or Swedish

Optional modules
// You will select 30 credits from Scandinavian Studies Year Two options and 60 credits from all SSEES history options.
// Scandinavian options may include:
// Nordic Cinema
// Nordic Landscapes
// Nordic Politics and Society
// Old Norse I
// The Nordic Welfare States
// SELCS Interdepartmental Intermediate modules
// SSEES options may include:
// Between Politics and Culture: German Ideas 1890-1970
// Fascism and Authoritarianism in Eastern Europe 1918-1945
// History of Modern Germany 1815-1990
// The Rise and Fall of Yugoslavia

YEAR THREE

Year abroad
// You will spend your Year Abroad at a university in the country where your target language is spoken, studying alongside native speakers, to make the most of your cultural and linguistic immersion.
// The experiences and skills developed while abroad further academic and personal development, cultural and social awareness, provide a foundation for further study and enhance career prospects.
// For further information please visit the SELCS year abroad website.
FINAL YEAR

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Advanced Language Module in Danish, Norwegian or Swedish

Optional modules

- You will select from a range of Advanced Level modules, including 60 credits from SSEES history options and 45 credits from Scandinavian Studies or SELCS modules.
- Scandinavian Studies options may include:
  - Advanced Project Work in Danish, Norwegian or Swedish
  - Nordic Cinema
  - Nordic Landscapes
  - Old Norse II
  - Scandinavian Social Democracy
  - The Vikings in Europe
  - SELCS Interdepartmental Advanced modules
- SSEES options may include:
  - East and West Through Travel Writing: The Limits and Divisions of Europe
  - Ivan the Terrible, the Russian Monarchy in the 16th Century
  - The Russian Revolution
  - Urban Culture and Modernity: Vienna-Prague-Budapest 1857-1938

Your learning

Teaching consists of a mixture of lectures, classes, seminars, group work and presentations. Language elements comprise four taught hours a week for basic language in year one, four hours a week for intermediate language in year two, and two hours a week for advanced language in the final year. A significant portion of your work will take place in guided independent study.

Assessment

Most modules are assessed by a mixture of coursework and written examination. Some are assessed by essays only. Language modules are assessed by coursework and written and oral examinations.

Your career

Upon graduation you will be fluent in your chosen language and have a reading knowledge of other Scandinavian languages. The historical and literary parts of the degree will develop your cultural awareness. You will be trained in the organisation, presentation and interpretation of complex information, written and oral communication, and independent and group work.

Many of our graduates find they are able to use their Scandinavian languages in a variety of contexts, such as working for Scandinavian companies. Recent graduates have also entered translating, publishing and teaching.

Please see first destinations of recent graduates (2013-2015) from European Languages, Culture and Society programmes at UCL for a selection of representative careers.

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.

Your personal statement should reflect your interests and goals, especially with respect to your proposed degree. Some knowledge or experience of Scandinavian culture is expected, as well as an explanation of how this has motivated you to learn more. We do not necessarily require a language at A level or equivalent, but expect you to demonstrate an enthusiasm and aptitude for language learning. You will be asked to confirm your language before starting at UCL.

If your application demonstrates that your academic ability and motivation make you well suited to our degree and you receive an offer,
Entry requirements

A LEVELS
Standard Offer: ABB. History and foreign language preferred.
Contextual Offer: BBB. History and foreign language preferred.

GCSE
English Language at grade B or 6, plus 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: 34. A score of 16 points in three higher level subjects, History and a language preferred, with no score lower than 5.
Contextual Offer: 32. A score of 15 points in three higher level subjects, History and a language preferred, with 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

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 2018/19 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 2018/19 entrants for each year of study on the programme, unless otherwise indicated below.

- UK & EU: £9,250 (2018/19)
- Overseas: £19,390 (2018/19)

Overseas fees for the 2019/20 academic year are expected to be available in July 2018. Undergraduate UK/EU fees are capped by the UK Government and are expected to be available in October 2018. 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