Social Sciences BSc /

You will be taught by leading academics engaged in cutting-edge research on children and families, social mobility, diversity, and migration and will study at least three social science disciplines taught at UCL, including sociology and psychology, gaining an understanding of the social and economic forces shaping our world.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2018

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

// A global social sciences degree at UCL - London's global university - giving students the opportunity to explore the relationship between the individual and society.

// An interdisciplinary degree offering you an understanding of key global issues - their genesis and ways to tackle them. Rigorous training in research skills is invaluable for future employment and study. The degree offers considerable options choice for students.

// You will be taught by leading researchers in the Department of Social Science, and by other UCL scholars.

// The UCL Institute of Education (UCL IOE) is a world-leading school for education and social science, ranked first in the world (QS World University Rankings 2015).

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.

// 78% 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).

Each year, you will take a number of individual modules. First year core modules focus on sociology and psychology, and an introduction to research methods. You can specialise in a further social science discipline through optional modules.

In year two, core modules focus on social theory, social psychology, and advanced research methods, while the wide range of optional modules allows you to pursue your own areas of interest and specialise further.

Year three combines core modules in social policy analysis and the social sciences with further optional modules. You will also conduct a research project and write a dissertation.

Modules focus on understanding social, cultural, and economic dynamics and processes in societies and individual lives, including education, health, gender, the labour market, income inequality, poverty, and public policy affecting them.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Introduction to Sociology
// Social Change in Modern Society
// Foundations of Psychology I
// Foundations of Psychology II
// Introduction to Social Science Research
// Discovering Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods

Optional modules

// You will choose 1.0 credits of optional modules from a list, which may include the following:
// Understanding Social Policy
// Introduction to Economics
// Families in Society
// Introduction to Social Anthropology
// Comparative Politics
// Living in a Schooled Society

// Note: not all modules are available every year, and some modules are capped. Not all module combinations are possible due to timetabling clashes.
YEARS TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Social Theory
- Social Psychology
- Quantitative Research Methods
- Qualitative Research Methods

Optional modules

- You will choose 2.0 credits of optional modules from a list, which may include the following:
  - Public Health in Context
  - Sociology of Gender
  - London Lab
  - Health and Social Epidemiology
  - Sociology of Childhood
  - Economics of Education
  - The Economics of Children and Families
  - Demography and the Life Course
  - Economics of Public Policy
  - Social Inequality and Mobility
  - Work and Employment Relations
  - Political and Economic Anthropology
  - Cognitive Psychology

- Note: not all modules are available every year, and some modules are capped. Not all module combinations are possible due to timetabling clashes.

FINAL YEAR

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Dissertation
- Social Policy Analysis
- Social Science Seminar

Optional modules

- You will choose 2.0 credits of optional modules from a list, which may include the following:
  - Gender, Work, and Family
  - Love, Intimacy, and Sexuality
  - Migration, Diversity, and Transnationalism
  - Culture and Psychology
  - The Sociology and Anthropology of Food
  - Economics of Higher Education

- Note: not all modules are available every year, and some modules are capped. Not all module combinations are possible due to timetabling clashes.

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 your personal statement you will need to demonstrate strong writing skills and analytical ability. You should also demonstrate your interest in global social issues, including social justice issues. You should show awareness that this is a broad-based interdisciplinary degree. Finally, you need to show that you can work effectively both on your own and as part of a group. We assess applications in the round, and value voluntary work and evidence of engagement in social issues.

Your learning

Teaching on the degree includes a stimulating mix of lectures, small-group seminars, and workshops. All students have a personal tutor throughout the three years of the degree. You will also attend practical sessions to discover, explore, and analyse qualitative data (such as interviews, visual material, and other data) and quantitative data through statistical techniques.

Assessment

Assessment is through a mix of essays, written exams, practical exercises, and a dissertation in the final year of study. The weight given to each assessment method varies across modules to ensure a manageable workload throughout the programme.

Your career

Social Sciences BSc students learn to understand and analyse complex global and social issues, gain multidisciplinary training in research skills, and learn how different research methods contribute to understanding real world phenomena. You will also have an opportunity to conduct an independent research project for your dissertation.

The degree prepares you for a wide range of careers in the public and private sectors, as well as non-governmental organisations. It will also provide a strong social science foundation for future graduate study.
Entry requirements

A LEVELS
Grades
AAA-AAB
Subjects
No specific subjects.

GCSE
English Language and Mathematics at grade B. 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 score of 17-18 points in three higher level subjects, with no score lower than 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: £16,880 (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.

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