Social Sciences with Quantitative Methods BSc

This BSc focuses on understanding the social and economic forces that shape our world. Crucially, it combines this with a rigorous training in the highly valued quantitative techniques and data analysis skills needed to examine them. You will study at least three social science disciplines including sociology and economics.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2019

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

// The UCL Institute of Education (IOE) is a world-leading centre for education and social science, ranked as the world number one for Education for the fifth year running (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2018).

// A multidisciplinary programme (drawing on different social science subjects) which allows you to choose from a wide range of modules and tailor the programme to your own interests.

// Part of the UCL Q-Step Centre - a new and advanced training centre offering students unique opportunities for interdisciplinary learning. There are also opportunities for summer school short courses and paid internships.

// You will be trained in specialist quantitative skills, which are in short supply in the labour market, particularly in the social sciences, and are valued in a range of professions including government, academia, journalism, financial analysis and marketing.

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).

Year one provides a firm foundation in the core disciplines of sociology, economics, psychology. It also covers the principles and practice of social inquiry, and the basics of data analysis.

In all years you can choose optional modules from other social science subjects across UCL.

In years two and three you continue with advanced modules in quantitative data analysis, study subjects across the social sciences, and undertake a dissertation. You may also opt to spend your third year abroad, returning to UCL for your final year of study.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Introduction to Economics 1
// Introduction to Economics 2
// Introduction to Sociology
// Social Change in Contemporary Society
// Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods
// Principles of Social Science Research

Optional modules

// You will choose 1.0 credit of optional modules, including but not restricted to the following:
// Foundations of Psychology 1
// Foundations of Psychology 2
// Understanding Social Policy
// Families in Society
// Epidemiological Transition (or other Population Health module)

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Data Analysis (double module)

Optional modules

// You will choose 3.0 credits of optional modules, including but not restricted to the following:
// Social Inequality and Mobility
// Demography and the Life Course
// Economics of Public Policy
// Economics of Education
// Economics of Children and Families
// Health and Social Epidemiology
// Work and Employment Relations
// Sociology of Childhood
// Social Psychology

FINAL YEAR

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Dissertation (double module)
// Causal Analysis
// Advanced Topics in Quantitative Data Analysis

Optional modules

// You will choose 2.0 credits of optional modules. The list of optional modules are to be confirmed, but they are likely to include the following:
// Political Sociology
// Economic Sociology
// Sociology of Religion
// Game Theory for the Social Sciences
// Environment and Climate Change
// Economics of Developing Countries
// Social Networks
// Social Movements
Your learning

Teaching will be delivered through lectures, seminars allowing in-depth discussion, computer laboratory classes analysing a range of different social science data, group work, and UCL’s virtual learning environment.

Placement

As part of the UCL Q-Step Centre, this degree includes the possibility of a six-week paid internship in the summer vacation between years two and three. UCL Q-Step aims to place as many students as possible, given available funding, and the number of paid internships available may vary year on year. Internships are competitive and not all students will receive a paid internship. The Q-Step Centre currently has funds to cover internship provision through summer 2019; however, additional funding may become available.

Assessment

Assessment is through a mix of examinations, practical exercises, essays, individual and group presentations and a dissertation in the final year of study. The weight given to each assessment method will vary across modules to ensure manageable workloads throughout the programme.

Your career

The UCL Q-Step Centre was set up in the UK as part of a £19.5 million programme to combat the shortage of quantitative skills in the social sciences. You will have access to summer courses, specialist training, workshops and conferences, and personal tutoring throughout the programme.

Having a quantitative degree will increase your job opportunities as graduates with strong quantitative skills and social science insights are in short supply. Professions include government departments, academia, journalism, financial analysis and marketing. The breadth and depth of the social science subjects and the methodological training provided by this degree will also equip students for Master's or PhD study.

The first cohort of students admitted to the Social Sciences with Quantitative Methods BSc is due to graduate in 2019. Therefore, information about career destinations for students on this programme is not yet available.

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 should demonstrate a genuine interest in social science issues. These might include education, inequality, health and illness, poverty, social mobility, environment, development, social welfare, and so on. A preference for a multidisciplinary approach rather than limiting yourself to one discipline will also be an advantage.
Entry requirements

A LEVELS
Standard Offer: AAB. No specific subjects.
Contextual Offer: BBB. No specific subjects.

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-requirements

IB DIPLOMA
Standard Offer: 36. A score of 17 points in three higher level subjects, with no score lower than 5.
Contextual Offer: 32. A score of 15 points in three higher level subjects, 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 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).

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