Sport and Exercise Medical Sciences BSc (SEMS) is a novel degree programme that combines traditional biomedical science and sports science degrees with the newest and growing medical specialty of sport and exercise medicine. You will learn about human body systems in health and disease as well as in sport and exercise performance; prevention and treatment of medical conditions through physical activity; sports injuries and performance optimisation; and research skills.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2019

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

// SEMS is a unique exciting new cross-faculty programme designed to turn top students of today into leading health professionals and scientists of tomorrow.

// SEMS will ground students in the medical sciences with a focus on exercise medicine, sports injuries, human health and disease, leading to careers across healthcare, industry, academia and elite sport.

// You will be taught by leading scientists, clinicians, and academics at the prestigious Bloomsbury and Hampstead campuses.

// There are opportunities to learn alongside peers on related programmes, and collaborate on research across UCL, the Institute of Sport Exercise and Health and its partners including the International Olympic Committee, the English Institute of Sport, and University College London Hospitals.

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).

Across three years this programme steadily transitions from general medical science to sport and exercise-specific learning. Taught research skills modules prepare students for their own dissertation. Up to eight modules are taken and assessed in each academic year.

The programme starts with the foundations of human biology and medicine, covering how the body works, what goes wrong in disease and how to treat it; students will later be introduced to physiological adaptations during exercise.

In year two there is further teaching on the foundations of clinical sport and exercise, from the energy requirements to perform, to the behavioural psychology and skills to promote appropriate physical activity for health and in disease. Students learn essential medical research and statistical skills to start their research project. There is also an optional module.

Year three comprises the research project, and five modules covering exercise prescription, musculoskeletal and sports injuries, rehabilitation, and strength and conditioning for performance optimisation.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Foundations in Health and Disease
// Cardiovascular and Respiratory Function in Health and Disease
// The Gut, Liver and Drug Metabolism
// Kidneys, Hormones and Fluid Balance
// Infection, Inflammation and Repair
// Musculoskeletal Systems in Health and Disease
// Sport & Exercise Physiology
// Data Interpretation and Evaluation of Science

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)

// Molecular Basis of Disease
// The Nervous System
// Pharmacology and Drug Action
// Functional Anatomy and Medical Imaging
// Sports Nutrition
// Health and Behaviour
// Statistics for Medical Scientists

Optional modules

// You will select one module from the following options:
// Introduction to Clinical Trials
// Health Economics
// Bioscience & Society: Public engagement, policy and funding
YEAR THREE

Core or compulsory module(s)
- Principles of Tissue Injury, Healing and Rehabilitation
- Muscle Physiology and Sports Strength and Conditioning
- Exercise Medicine
- Sports Injuries I
- Sports Injuries II
- Research Project

Your learning
A wide range of teaching strategies are employed to suit different learning styles, but independent study outside of taught time is an essential component of adult learning. Small group tutorials predominate, used to explore students’ understanding and application of lecture-based and online interactive learning. Lab practicals are used for experimental work as well as clinical skills teaching.

Assessment
Assessment methods include online and written examinations, including multiple-choice or short-answer question format; coursework in the form of written assignments, oral and poster presentations; practical skills assessment; and online participation. The dissertation is written as an academic paper aiming for publication.

Your career
The prestige of UCL and our allied sports institutes stands SEMS graduates in good stead to progress to a host of careers that require a sound understanding of medicine and science, from patient healthcare and industry such as pharma and nutrition, through to elite sport or academia including research and clinical trials.

Students would also be well placed to apply for higher research degrees, such as an MSc, PhD and NHS scientist programmes, or vocational degrees such as medicine or physiotherapy.

The first cohort from this programme will graduate in 2021 and specific career destination information is therefore 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.

Prospective students will be academically able, and also demonstrate excellent interpersonal skills and professional behaviours that future people- or patient-facing careers would require. We will be looking for examples on personal statements and in references. Students should demonstrate the value of physical activity, drawing on their own experiences.

We will use your predicted or achieved academic qualifications, your personal statement and your reference to decide whether to offer you a place.
Entry requirements

**A LEVELS**
Standard Offer: AAB. Biology and Chemistry required.
Contextual Offer: BBB. Biology and Chemistry required.

**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-reqs

**IB DIPLOMA**
Standard Offer: 36. A total of 17 points in three higher level subjects including Biology and Chemistry, with no score below 5.
Contextual Offer: 32. A total of 15 points in three higher level subjects including Biology and Chemistry, 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.

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**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: £24,760 (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