URBAN STUDIES BSc / UCAS CODE: K440
2018 ENTRY

www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus/urban
Urban Studies BSc /

This programme has been designed with a range of professional career opportunities in mind. It offers great flexibility for students curious to explore a broader range of studies relating to the built environment, as well as other subjects with a different focus offered elsewhere in UCL and other University of London institutions.

**Key information**

**Programme starts**  
September 2018

**Location**  
London, Bloomsbury

**Degree benefits**

- This degree provides a broad-based education in urbanism and the built environment, offering flexibility to choose additional related modules across UCL and benefit from the wide educational offerings across the university.
- The Bartlett has a strong history of research and leading policy advisory work. It places itself at the heart of international debates on the future of cities and regions.
- Based in London, we are able to offer our students a range of fascinating 'live projects' to use as case studies in their academic work, access to a diverse range of employers, and an unrivalled concentration of professional meetings, seminars, conferences, exhibitions and events.
- The school has a strong international outlook and provides opportunities for combined study overseas in Europe, North America, Australia and Hong Kong.

**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.

- 81% 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.

**Accreditation**

This BSc does not lead to eligibility for professional membership of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) or Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). If students are interested in gaining these accreditations, they would be advised to choose one of our sister programmes, the Urban Planning, Design and Management BSc or the Planning and Real Estate BSc. Alternatively, students can apply for a suitable accredited Master’s programme following graduation, which would be an alternative route leading to eligibility for professional membership.

**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).

The Urban Studies BSc shares common modules with the Urban Planning, Design and Management BSc, but allows a more flexible mode of study. In addition to a specified number of core modules, students are free to choose from a range of eligible modules across the faculty and university in the second and third years.

Core modules are structured around the three streams of understanding, managing and delivering urban change. They include a range of theoretical and practical modules in the urban planning, social science and design disciplines.

The programme offers the opportunity to study overseas for a term in the second year. The school has long-established links with many universities in Europe as well as a growing list in the USA and the Asia-Pacific including universities in Hong Kong and Melbourne.

Over the second and third years, Urban Studies students can choose seven eligible and related modules from across the faculty and university. This includes the option of taking a language, selected from one of the 17 (or more) languages taught in UCL’s Centre for Languages and International Education (CLIE).

**YEAR ONE**

**Core or compulsory module(s)**

- Contemporary Cities
- Beyond Cities* Introducing Planning Systems
- Introducing Urban Design: Design Skills
- Management for Built Environment Professionals I
- Making Cities
- Planning History and Thought
- Urban Lab I: Graphic Skills

**Optional modules**

- *may be exchanged for a language

**YEAR TWO**

**Core or compulsory module(s)**

- Economics of Cities and their Regions
- Green Futures
- Strategic Planning Project
- Urban and Environmental Politics
- Urban Lab II: Spatial Analysis

**Optional modules**

- You will take 1.5 credits of optional undergraduate modules offered within the School of Planning or other departments of UCL.

**FINAL YEAR**

**Core or compulsory module(s)**

- Cities and Social Change
- Real Estate Development
- Transport Policy and Planning
- Regional Development Planning and Policy

**Optional modules**

- You will take 2.0 credits of optional undergraduate modules offered within the School of Planning or other departments of UCL.
Your learning

The School of Planning advocates and employs a very interactive, hands-on form of learning. Alongside lectures, seminars and tutorials we include field visits, group project work, and laboratory and design work sessions to improve your learning experience.

Fieldwork

Students have the opportunity to go on two extended field trips during their degree: a European city in their first year and a UK city in their third year. In addition, many modules include fieldwork or site visits as part of the learning experience.

Placement

The programme enables you to acquire highly transferable knowledge and skills such as data collection, analysis and presentation, graphic skills, resolution of problems and conflicts, negotiation and mediation, team work and leadership, managing work tasks, preparing and writing professional reports, as well as written, graphic and oral presentation skills.

Assessment

Your final marks will reflect your success in a wide range of assessment types. Examinations typically constitute about a third, with essays, individual projects and group work making up the balance. This is a distinctive feature of our planning programmes, and of The Bartlett's approach in particular. As an Urban Studies student, the balance of your assessments will depend on the free modules chosen in the second and third years.

Your career

The programme enables you to acquire highly transferable knowledge and skills such as data collection, analysis and presentation, graphic skills, resolution of problems and conflicts, negotiation and mediation, team work and leadership, managing work tasks, preparing and writing professional reports, as well as written, graphic and oral presentation skills.

Graduates work in a vast range of positions in the private, public and third sectors within the built environment and urbanism disciplines (such as planning, property, urban design, economic development, housing, transport, and regeneration), as well as in other sectors where their analytical, negotiating, problem-solving and creative skills are valued.

First career destinations of recent graduates (2013-2015) of this programme at UCL include:

// Construction Project Manager, The Barkeley Group
// Full-time student, MSc in Regional and Urban Planning Studies at LSE (The London School of Economics and Political Science)
// Full-time student, MSc in Real Estate Finance and Investmentss at the University of Hong Kong
// Assistant Urban Designer, ICON
// Research Fellow, Pratt Institute

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.

We will look for evidence of your interest in our subject in your personal statement. We hope to see demonstrable interest in, and understanding of, the complex nature of cities, the links between urban planning and design, as well as an ability to write coherently, communicate effectively, think critically, and to understand and solve complex problems. We will also assess your use of English.

Shortlisted applicants living in or near to the UK will be invited to an applicant open day. This will typically include an introduction to UCL and the School of Planning, a presentation on UCL accommodation and finance, a taster lecture delivered by an academic in the School of Planning, lunch and a tour of the campus with current students, and an interactive Q&A session with members of staff and current students.
Entry requirements

A LEVELS
Grades
ABB
Subjects
No specific subjects.

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-reqs

IB DIPLOMA
Points
34 overall.
Subjects
A score of 16 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 2018/19 academic year. The UK/EU fees shown are for the first year of the programme at UCL only. 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: £25,020 (2018/19)

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/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