DEMENTIA: CAUSES, TREATMENTS AND RESEARCH (NEUROSCIENCE) MSc / 2019/20 ENTRY

www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/
The new Dementia MSc is offered jointly by the UCL Institute of Neurology and the Division of Psychiatry and tackles one of the biggest global health problems facing society today. It provides research-oriented and cutting-edge training in the study of dementia and its scientific basis, led by international leaders in the science and practice of dementia. Two specialised pathways, in neuroscience and in mental health, are offered.

Degree summary

The neuroscience pathway brings the latest bench-top research findings to the bedside, develops and integrates basic and clinical neuroscience skills, and equips students for future careers in the clinical practice or basic neuroscience of dementia. A Mental Health pathway is also available.

This programme is unique in linking neuroscientific foundations with specialist clinical skills and knowledge in dementia.

The programme integrates the expertise of UCL Institute of Neurology with affiliated departments at the forefront of the global mission to defeat dementia, and is taught by international leaders working closely together to link bench and bedside as part of UCL’s Dementia Strategy.

The programme builds on UCL’s global perspective, targeting students in developing as well as developed countries to drive future training opportunities. The programme emphasises active student participation and enquiry, develops practical skills, and offers unparalleled exposure to laboratories and patients.

The programme is delivered through a combination of lectures, tutorials, seminars, journal clubs, workshops, masterclasses and patient-based teaching sessions supplemented by self-directed learning. Assessment is through ongoing formative assessments, for example interactive discussions and timetabled summative assessments (including short-answer and multiple-choice unseen examinations), essays, posters, oral presentations, and a research project and a final report in the format of a journal paper.

Degree structure

Mode: Full-time: 1 year; Part-time: 2 years; Flexible: up to 5 years
Location: London, Bloomsbury

Students undertake modules to the value of 180 credits. The programme consists of six core modules (90 credits), one or two optional modules (up to the value of 30 credits) and a dissertation/report (60 credits).

Please note that the list of modules given here is indicative. This information is published a long time in advance of enrolment and module content and availability is subject to change.

COMPULSORY MODULES

- Clinical Neuroscience of Neurodegenerative Diseases
- Current Research in Dementia
- Neurobiology of Degeneration and Repair
- Higher Functions of the Brain
- Research Methods and Introduction to Statistics
- Practical Neuroscience of Dementia

OPTIONAL MODULES

- Students can choose one or two of the following, up to the value of 30 credits:
  - Physical Sciences Module 3: Advanced Imaging
  - Advanced Treatment and Management of Dementia
  - Practical Statistics for Mental Health Research
  - Neuroscience of Mental Health
  - Quality Improvement in Health Care
  - Basic Neuroscience and Investigation of Nervous System (30 credits)
  - Students can also choose one elective module from the Faculties of Brain Sciences, Life Sciences and Population Health, subject to approval by the Programme Director.

DISSERTATION/REPORT

- All students undertake an independent research project which may take the form of a critical literature synthesis or collection and analysis of original data, depending on project availability and student background. The project culminates in a dissertation of approximately 10,000 words and a viva voce examination.
Your career

For scientists and psychologists, the programme can lead to future placements in clinically oriented research environments or clinical training. For clinicians, this is an excellent opportunity to gain a higher qualification at a world-leading centre of excellence in neurodegeneration research, which could be tailored to a variety of future roles in clinical, research and management fields. Many students have gone on to pursue PhDs and research careers in the fields of dementia and neurodegeneration.

Employability

This unique programme will equip graduates with in-depth knowledge of dementia diseases and their treatments; strong, practical research skills that could facilitate doctoral or postdoctoral research in the field; and transferable scientific communication skills. Students will harness the expertise of scientists and clinicians who are currently setting the neuroscience research agenda in dementia internationally. This experience could support further doctoral studies and applications for nationally funded fellowships. For clinicians, the programme will provide research perspectives and practical skills that could inform subspecialty practice in dementia. We aim to train the next generation of neuroscientific and clinical leaders in dementia.
Entry requirements

A degree in medicine or a minimum of an upper second-class Bachelor's degree from a UK university or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard in psychology, biological sciences, biology, neuroscience, biomedical sciences, anatomy and physiology. Graduates from other scientific disciplines will be considered on an individual basis.

English language proficiency level

If your education has not been conducted in the English language, you will be expected to demonstrate evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency.

The level of English language proficiency for this programme is: Good.

Information about the evidence required, acceptable qualifications and test providers is provided at: www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/english-requirements

Your application

When we assess your application we would like to learn:

- why you want to study Dementia Neuroscience at graduate level?
- why you want to study Dementia Neuroscience at UCL?
- what particularly attracts you to the chosen programme
- how do your academic and professional background and skills meet the demands of this challenging programme?
- where would you like to go professionally with your degree?

Together with essential academic requirements, the personal statement is your opportunity to illustrate whether your reasons for applying to this programme match what the programme will deliver.

There is an application processing fee for this programme of £75 for online applications and £100 for paper applications. Further information can be found at: www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught/application.

FEES AND FUNDING 2019/20 ENTRY

// UK: £9,860 (FT), £4,930 (PT)
// EU: £9,860 (FT), £4,930 (PT)
// Overseas: £27,040 (FT), £13,450 (PT)

The tuition fees shown are for the year indicated above. Fees for subsequent years may increase or otherwise vary. Further information on fee status, fee increases and the fee schedule can be viewed on the UCL Students website.

Fees for flexible, modular study are charged pro-rata to the appropriate full-time Master's fee taken in an academic session.

Leonard Wolfson Academic Scholarship: Up to two bursaries (one to the value of £9,860 or two to the value of £4,930) are available for the MSc in Dementia: Neuroscience. All eligible offer holders will be invited to make a bursary application at the end of July. Awards will be merit-based and will be assessed using the programme application, bursary application, and references.

Full details of funding opportunities can be found on the UCL Scholarships website: www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applicants: 23 August 2019

Details on how to apply are available on the website at: www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/apply

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/brexit