The MSc in Information Science is an ideal career development programme for information professionals who wish to update their management skills and experience in the use of information technology, web technology and digital media, or for those from a computer-oriented background who wish to specialise in information fields.

Degree summary

The programme includes both practical and theoretical work through which students develop a deeper understanding of not just the technologies themselves but also the implications of applying and managing these technologies in varied information environments. The wide range of optional modules allows students to tailor the programme to fit their individual career specialisms and needs.

UCL Information Studies combines the best of traditional library and archive studies with the latest developments in internet technologies and electronic communication and publishing.

It brings together an outstanding team of researchers, teachers, students, practitioners and information industry leaders to help you understand, develop and shape the emerging information environment while elucidating and building on the historical developments that have created it.

Students benefit from UCL’s central London location, close to many major libraries and repositories and information centres, including the British Library and many specialist collections, giving ready access to an unsurpassed range of materials.

The programme is delivered through a combination of lectures, seminars, computer laboratory practicals and classroom practicals, with a strong emphasis on informal teaching, discussion, and the acquisition of practical skills. Assessment is through a mixture of essays, reports, examination, and practical projects such as website design and data modelling.

Accreditation

Both the MSc and PG Diploma programmes are recognised and accredited by the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP), for professional qualifications purposes.

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 five core modules (75 credits), three optional modules (45 credits) and a research dissertation (60 credits).

A Postgraduate Diploma, consisting of five core modules (75 credits), three optional modules (45 credits), full-time nine months or flexible study over 2-5 years, is offered.

A Postgraduate Certificate - any four of the modules available (60 credits), full-time 15 weeks or flexible study over a period of up to two years - is offered but does not carry CILIP accreditation.

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

- Systems Management
- Internet Technologies
- Database Systems Analysis and Design
- Introduction to Programming and Scripting
- Fundamentals of Information Science

OPTIONAL MODULES (INDICATIVE LIST):

- Digital Resources in the Humanities
- Electronic Publishing
- Foundations of Machine Learning and Data Science
- Individual Approved Study
- Information Governance
- Introduction to Digital Curation
- Introduction to Digitisation
- Knowledge Representation and Semantic Technologies
- Legal and Social Aspects of Electronic Publishing
- Managing Information Organisations
- Server Programming and Structured Data
- XML

The list above only indicates commonly chosen options. In principle, students may apply to take any module offered within the department, or in other departments, with the tutors’ permission.

DISSERTATION/REPORT

- All MSc students undertake an independent research project on a specific aspect of information technology and its application, which culminates in a dissertation of c. 12,000 words.
Your career
The MSc in Information Science prepares students for management roles in the information industries with an emphasis on technology, for example: information systems manager, web manager, information architect, knowledge manager, data manager, or indeed any information management role. Our graduates find work all over the world with electronic systems for managing, retrieving, distributing and archiving information.

Employability
This programme challenges students to think more deeply about the implications of using information technology of all kinds in the workplace, and to consider better ways of designing, specifying, implementing and managing systems in order to promote organisational success. Understanding these issues and having the skills to develop and manage practical solutions equips our students to succeed individually and to help their organisations succeed. Our students achieve a high employability rate on graduating, and rise in organisations as their skills are recognised.
Entry requirements

Normal requirements for admission are a minimum of an upper second-class Bachelor's degree from a UK university or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard. Applicants with appropriate professional qualifications or experience in relevant disciplines will also be considered. We welcome applications from those with science, engineering or humanities backgrounds. However, applicants are expected to demonstrate some technical and/or mathematical aptitude.

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

Students are advised to apply as early as possible due to competition for places. Those applying for scholarship funding (particularly overseas applicants) should take note of application deadlines.

When we assess your application we would like to learn:
// why you want to study Information Science at graduate level
// why you want to study Information Science at UCL
// what particularly attracts you to this programme
// how your academic and professional background meets the demands of this programme
// where you would like to go professionally and/or academically with your degree

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: £21,220 (FT), £10,720 (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.

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

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applicants: 9 July 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