BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES BSc / UCAS CODE: B990
2020 ENTRY

www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus
This BSc is designed to introduce students to a variety of scientific disciplines across the biosciences. The interdisciplinary nature of the programme means that the areas covered include anatomy, cell biology, developmental biology, genetics, immunology and infection, neuroscience, pharmacology, physiology and psychology.

**Key information**

**Programme starts**  
September 2020

**Location**  
London, Bloomsbury

**Degree benefits**

- UCL is a long-standing centre of excellence for biomedical science subjects. It is internationally recognised for its strength within the field of biomedical research.
- You will have the opportunity to transfer to one of nine specific degree programmes from the second year, or alternatively to continue with the general Biomedical Sciences programme.
- You will be taught by experts in the different subjects offered, but will also be encouraged to discover how the subjects overlap and interact. This will give your studies both breadth and depth.
- Our excellent facilities include laboratories, library collections and computer cluster rooms. You can become involved with the activities of the student-run Life Sciences Society, which organises seminars, careers evenings and other social events.

**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).

In the first year all modules are mandatory and are designed to give you a firm foundation on the basis of which you can make an informed choice for later years. The modules cover topics in, e.g., anatomy, cellular and molecular biology, chemistry, genetics, pharmacology and physiology.

If you find that your interest becomes focused on one specific subject area after your first year, then you can transfer to a specialist degree programme.

If you wish to remain with the general Biomedical Sciences programme, the second year offers five streams of study.

In your third year, you will undertake a research project under the supervision of a staff member in conjunction with a research group in one of the faculty’s departments or within UCL’s biomedical institutes. You will also select from an extensive range of options in your chosen stream of study.

**Specialist degree programmes**

You can transfer to any of the following specialist degree programmes after year one:

- Cell Biology
- Genetics
- Human Genetics
- Immunology and Infection
- Molecular Biology
- Neuroscience
- Pharmacology
- Physiology
- Physiology and Pharmacology

**YEAR ONE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core or compulsory module(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cellular and Molecular Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry for Biology Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Genetics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Human Anatomy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Introduction to the Mechanisms of Drug Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mammalian Physiology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Optional modules**

- All first year modules are compulsory.
YEAR TWO

Biomedical Sciences programme

- The second year offers five streams of study:
  - Stream 1: Organs and Systems
  - Stream 2: Control Systems
  - Stream 3: Developmental Biology
  - Stream 4: Drug Mechanisms
  - Stream 5: Cells and Molecules

Pathways options

- You can remain on the Biomedical Sciences BSc degree or transfer to a specialist degree programme:
  - Genetics
  - Human Genetics
  - Immunology and Infection
  - Molecular Biology
  - Neuroscience
  - Pharmacology
  - Physiology
  - Physiology and Pharmacology

FINAL YEAR

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Either a Laboratory-based Research Project (45 credits) or a Literature-based Research Project (30 credits).

Optional modules

- You will select from a wide range of optional modules in your chosen stream of study and from other approved disciplines within UCL, to the value of either 65 or 90 credits depending on your chosen project.

Your learning

Teaching across the UCL Faculty of Life Sciences involves a mixture of lectures, practical classes, seminars, tutorials and computer-based exercises. The small-group settings for practical and tutorial work provide opportunities for informal discussion. The first year is predominantly taught through lectures and laboratory classes.

Assessment

Modules will be assessed through a combination of coursework, practical reports, web-based exercises, tests and oral presentations. Written examinations will take place at the end of each academic year. Your success in your first-year examination results will be used to assess your eligibility for entry into the specialist degree programmes.

Your career

You will develop the critical and analytical skills necessary to confront complex problems, equipping you for further study, research, or for a wide variety of careers such as those associated with medical research. The training in skills such as logical thinking and decision-making will be valuable in many fields.

A degree in biomedical sciences opens doors to many career possibilities. Graduates may enter the broad biomedical science field - such as within healthcare or the pharmaceutical industry - or use their skills in careers like scientific journalism or management. The degree also provides an excellent preparation for postgraduate research.

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 addition to checking whether you meet or are expected to meet our academic entry requirements, we will be seeking evidence in your application of your interest in science, for example, through extracurricular activities or reading scientific books and journals. We will also be interested to find out what it is about the study of biomedical subjects that excites and motivates you.
**Entry requirements**

**A LEVELS**

**Standard Offer:** AAA. Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics required.

**Contextual Offer:** AAB. Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics required with grade A in Chemistry and Biology.

**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:** 38 points. A total of 18 points in three higher level subjects to include Biology, Chemistry, and Mathematic, with no score below 5.

**Contextual Offer:** 36 points. A total of 17 points in three higher level subjects including Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics with a score of 6 in Chemistry and Biology. 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.

**TUITION FEES**

The fees indicated are for undergraduate entry in the 2020/21 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 2020/21 entrants for each year of study on the programme, unless otherwise indicated below.

- UK & EU: £9,250 (2020/21)
- Overseas: £26,490 (2020/21)

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**

- Email: biosciences-admissions@ucl.ac.uk
- Telephone: +44 (0)20 7679 7169
- Department: Division of Biosciences

**Brexit**

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

**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