EARTH SCIENCES (INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME) MSci / UCAS CODE: F605 2021 ENTRY
www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus
Earth Sciences (International Programme) MSci /

This four-year programme allows students to follow any of the MSci programmes offered by UCL Earth Sciences, with the additional opportunity to spend year three studying at an approved university in Australia, New Zealand, continental Europe, China, Japan or North America.

**Key information**

**Programme starts**
September 2021

**Location**
London, Bloomsbury

**Degree benefits**

- Our department delivers world-leading research embracing the origins and history of life, Earth's composition and structure, earthquake and volcanic hazards, and past and present climate change, and these are fully integrated within our taught programme.

- We have recently moved into the renovated Kathleen Lonsdale Building with new, world-class facilities include bespoke teaching laboratories, new microscope facilities and student study areas, all in the heart of the department, next to staff offices and research laboratories.

- The department has one of the highest staff/student ratios in the country, resulting in small classes. Teaching is delivered by all of our research-active staff guaranteeing up-to-the-minute understanding and providing opportunities to take part in cutting-edge research activities.

- Students carry out a major 4th year research project within one of our research groups, with research often leading to student-led publications and conference presentations.

**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).

You will initially follow the first two years of one of the degree programmes on offer in UCL Earth Sciences (Environmental Geoscience, Geology, Geophysics, or the General, Palaeobiology or Environment and Policy pathways in the Earth Sciences programme) but with an additional option of a foreign language elective.

Your third year is spent abroad at an approved university in Australia, New Zealand, continental Europe, North America, China or Japan. You will return to UCL for your final year.

The final title of the degree awarded may reflect the particular choice of modules that you have taken, for example Earth Sciences (International Programme) (Geology) MSci.

The number of places available for direct entry onto the International programme is limited and, therefore, competitive. Eligibility to continue will be assessed in both the first and second years of study. Students failing to maintain the required standard will be transferred to the corresponding UK-based MSci or BSc programme.

Upon successful completion of 480 credits, you will be awarded a MSci (Hons) in Earth Sciences (International Programme).

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.

**YEAR ONE**

**Compulsory module(s)**

- Dynamic Earth
- Earth Materials
- From Petrology to Petrogenesis (including Cornwall fieldwork)
- Geochemistry
- History of Life
- Surface Processes (including Dorset/Devon fieldwork)
- The Earth

**Optional modules**

You will select 15 credits of optional modules from Geology, Geophysics and Environmental Geoscience programmes, and the Palaeobiology or Environment and Policy pathways.
**YEAR TWO**

**Compulsory module(s)**
- Maps, Images and Structures (including fieldwork)
- Structural Geology and Tectonics

**Optional modules**
- You will select 90 credits of optional modules from the Environmental Geoscience, Geology and Geophysics programmes, and the Palaeobiology or Environment and Policy pathways. Options available within the department may include:
  - Vertebrate Palaeontology and Evolution
  - Global Geophysics
  - Igneous Petrology
  - Isotope Geology
  - Principles of Climate
  - Surface Processes and Structures
  - Numerical Methods for Earth Sciences

**YEAR THREE**

- Year abroad at an approved university in Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China, continental Europe or North America.

**FINAL YEAR**

**Compulsory module(s)**
- Earth and Planetary System Science (including fieldwork)
- Independent MSci Project

**Optional modules**
- You will select 60 credits of optional modules from the Environmental Geoscience, Geology and Geophysics programmes or the Palaeobiology or Environment and Policy pathways depending on your programme diet. Options available within the department may include:
  - Earth and Planetary Materials
  - Physical Volcanology and Volcanic Hazards
  - Tectonic Geomorphology
  - Palaeoceanography
  - Earthquake Seismology and Earthquake Hazards
  - Melting and Volcanism
  - Deep Earth and Planetary Modelling
  - Sustainable Management of the Environment
  - Advanced Biodiversity and Macroevolutionary Studies

Because the Earth Sciences (International Programme) MSci spans several degree programmes, the modules shown here are illustrative only, using the General pathway in the Earth Sciences MSci as an example.

**Your learning**

We use a mixture of lectures, practical classes, field courses, directed reading, problem-orientated learning, private study and tutorials to enable you to gain the theoretical knowledge and practical skills demanded by the programme, as well as to develop key transferable skills such as critical analysis, report writing, team working and organisational skills.

**Assessment**

You will be assessed by a combination of written examinations, practical examinations, coursework, independent project reports and sometimes an oral examination.

**Accessibility**

Details of the accessibility of UCL buildings can be obtained from AccessAble. Further information can also be obtained from the UCL Student Support & Wellbeing team.

**Your career**

You will develop both discipline-based and highly sought after analytical skills, together with practical skills such as planning, conducting and reporting on investigations, collecting, recording and analysing data and the ability to undertake field and laboratory research.

All our students are encouraged and helped towards making informed career choices. We have excellent relationships with many employers in diverse aspects of the Earth and planetary sciences, and students are actively guided towards achieving their potential at UCL in preparation for their future careers.

**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 assess your application on the basis of your performance, or predicted performance academically, but we will also be looking for an indication of how your interest in natural and Earth sciences has developed, what aspects particularly appeal to you, and whether you have undertaken any research or reading to find out about the subject matter you wish to study.

We normally reach a decision on making an offer on the basis of the application alone. If you are resident in the UK and have been made an offer you will be invited to an applicant open day. This visit will include introductory talks on Earth sciences and our degree programmes, a tour of the department and UCL and a question and answer session.
Entry requirements

**A LEVELS**

**Standard Offer:** AAB. Two sciences preferred.

**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.

**Contextual Offer:** BBB. Two sciences preferred.

**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**

**Standard Offer:** 36 points. A score of 17 points in three higher level subjects to preferably include two sciences, with no score lower than 5.

**Contextual Offer:** 32 points. A score of 15 points in three higher level subjects to preferably include two sciences, with no score lower than 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 2021/22 academic year. The UK 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 2021/22 entrants for each year of study on the programme, unless otherwise indicated below.

// UK: £9,250 (2021/22)

// Overseas: £31,200 (2021/22)

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**

A guide including rough estimates for these and other living expenses is included on the UCL Fees and funding pages. If you are concerned by potential additional costs for books, equipment, etc., please get in touch with the relevant departmental contact (details given on this page).

In addition, please note that if you wish to study abroad during your programme at UCL, this is likely to incur additional costs. Studying abroad may cost between £200–£1000 per month depending on where you choose to study. The cost of studying abroad can be difficult to predict as it will depend on your priorities and choices. There is more information available on the UCL Study Abroad 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**

Professor Dario Alfè

Email: earthsci@ucl.ac.uk

Telephone: 

Department: Earth Sciences

**UK withdrawal from the EU**

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s withdrawal from the EU, please refer to: www.ucl.ac.uk/brexit.