ECONOMICS WITH A PLACEMENT YEAR BSc (Econ) / UCAS CODE: L102 2020 ENTRY

www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus
This programme combines a rigorous foundation in economic concepts and tools with an opportunity to apply for a year on placement, developing and applying those tools in a real-world context. Our highly regarded department will support you in your search for a placement. In the event you cannot secure a placement, you will be able to request to switch to the three-year Economics BSc (Econ), subject to meeting any progress requirements for that degree.

**Key information**

**Programme starts**
September 2020

**Location**
London, Bloomsbury

**Degree benefits**

- Gain the knowledge and skills necessary to research answers to problems from your courses and from your placement experience. You will learn how to make use of theories, empirical analysis and the ideas of other researchers to find solutions to questions. You will also get first-hand experience applying what you learn on your placement year.

- Learn from economists who run leading centres for research and provide policy advice to international governments and agencies, such as the United Nations and the World Bank.

- We are recognised for our internationally distinguished research, and in the most recent Research Excellence Framework (REF2014), UCL received the highest percentage in the UK for research in Economics and Econometrics, 99% rated either 4* (world-leading) or 3* (internationally excellent).

- Benefit from a range of lectures presented by eminent economists including our Gorman Lectures and from the activities of student societies including the Economist's Society which publishes The Drayton Tribune magazine and the UCLU Economics and Finance Society.

**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).

The department’s fundamental premise is that students should learn how to do economics themselves, rather than just learn how the academic staff or other economists do it. In the first year you take compulsory modules on the core concepts of economics, applied economics, mathematics and statistics, and have the opportunity to take optional modules.

In your second year, principles of model-building, problem-solving and quantitative techniques are emphasised, and you will take compulsory core modules. Students apply for placements in the second year. Support in applying and preparing for placements is available. A placement cannot be guaranteed.

Assuming you have been successful in securing an approved work placement, your third year will be in an organisation on a minimum 36-week placement. To connect your academic studies with the placement, you will need to demonstrate engagement and reflective learning via monthly logs, attendance at three seminars and submission of a draft dissertation proposal.

Most final-year modules introduce you to research papers and current research, including that of staff members. You will benefit from instruction by staff whose research impacts directly on the policy process, for example via contact with the Institute for Fiscal Studies and the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. Students will also complete a compulsory undergraduate dissertation linking their experience in the workplace with academic enquiry and embed employability skills in the Advanced Skills Lab module.

**YEAR ONE**

**Core or compulsory module(s)**

- Applied Economics
- Economics
- Mathematics for Economics
- Statistical Methods in Economics

**Optional modules**

- You will select a total of 30 credits from a wide range of options.

**YEAR TWO**

**Core or compulsory module(s)**

- Macroeconomic Theory and Policy
- Microeconomics
- Quantitative Economics and Econometrics
- Not-for-credit compulsory modules
- Economics Skills Lab
- Preparation for Placement

**Optional modules**

- You will select 30 credits from a wide range of options. Options may include:
  - Economic History
  - Economics of Development
  - Economics of Education
  - Economics of Labour
  - Economics of Regulation
  - Economics of Science
  - Economics of Tax Policy
  - Economics of the Public Sector
YEAR THREE
- Year on placement at an approved organisation for 36 weeks or more. A placement cannot be guaranteed.
- Core or compulsory module(s)
  - Engagement on Placement (Economics)

FINAL YEAR
Core or compulsory module(s)
- You will select a total of at least 60 credits from the list of third-year economics modules which must include:
  - Economics UG Research
- Not-for-credit compulsory module
  - Advanced Economics Skills Lab
Optional modules
- You will select 60 credits from a wide range of options, of which 30 credits must be taken from the list of second and third-year economics modules. Third-year economics modules may include:
  - Advanced Economics of Finance
  - Advanced Macroeconomics
  - Behavioural Economics
  - Econometrics for Macroeconomics and Finance
  - Economics of Financial Markets
  - Economics of Information
  - Economics of Money and Banking
  - Economic Policy Analysis
  - Ethics in Applied Economics
  - Experimental Economics
  - Game Theory
  - Topics in Industrial Economics
  - International Trade
  - Issues in Economic Development
  - Microeconometrics

Your learning
The cornerstone of each module is a lecture series. Through demonstration classes and small-group work you will learn how to put economic models together, how to undertake quantitative analysis, and, potentially, formulate your own model to address a new problem. In the later parts of the programme, there is an increased emphasis on collaborative work and group presentations.

Placement
The programme includes the opportunity to apply to spend a year on an approved placement in the UK. Support in the application process will be provided, but a placement cannot be guaranteed. Types of organisations that offer suitable placements include the Bank of England and the Government Economics Service.

Assessment
Your progress is monitored throughout the year on a module-by-module basis, which will provide feedback aimed at improving your understanding and technique. You will be assessed by year-end written examinations and other forms of term-time assessment including, for example, multiple-choice quizzes, in-course essays and research project work.

Your career
Many useful skills can be gained through the study of economics, for example: finding solutions to real-world problems, mathematical skills and an enhanced understanding of contemporary political and economic events. The placement year provides the opportunity to apply core economics skills in a professional context and develop key work-place proficiencies, including the ability to communicate ideas effectively to others and work successfully in a team.

About one-third of our graduates move directly into graduate study, including MScs in Economics, MBA programmes and conversion courses in computing and law. Students have also proceeded to doctoral programmes including those in major US economics departments such as at Columbia, Yale and Chicago.

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.

Academic entry requirements reflect the strong competition for places. In addition to academic qualifications we seek candidates who can demonstrate that they have researched what an economics degree involves, and how it is different from a business or management degree. Evidence that you are interested in how economists in public and private sector organisations develop solutions to current real-world economic problems will be looked on favourably. Applicants should also show interest in and enthusiasm for the placement and research aspects of the programme.

UK-based applicants who have been made an offer are then given the chance to attend an open day. Each admissions cycle has open days with about 100 applicants attending on each occasion.
**Entry Requirements**

**A LEVELS**


*Contextual Offer:* A*AB. Mathematics grade A* required, plus grade A in Economics if offered.

**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:* 39 points. A score of 19 points in three higher level subjects including grade 7 in Mathematics and grade 6 in Economics if offered with no score lower than 5.

*Contextual Offer:* 38 points. A score of 18 in three higher level subjects including 7 in Mathematics and 6 in Economics if offered 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.

**TUITION FEES**

The fees indicated are for undergraduate entry in the 2019/20 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 2019/20 entrants for each year of study on the programme, unless otherwise indicated below.

// UK & EU: £9,250 (2019/20)

// Overseas: £21,870 (2019/20)

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**

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**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