The BSc aims to educate and train future generations of humanitarian leaders in the theory and practice of humanitarian action. Unique in the UK, it will equip you with the knowledge that cuts across disciplines, critical, analytical and research skills and core competencies grounded in practice, to anticipate evolving and emerging humanitarian threats and manage widening vulnerability and crisis response.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2021

Location
London, Bloomsbury

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 take a compulsory central core of humanitarian studies (50% of the programme) running through all three years. This core includes both researcher-led academic subjects and core competencies. You will cover a broad range of subject areas including understanding and analysis of humanitarian crises, conflict, disaster, migration, natural hazards and climate risks, humanitarian policy and aid economics, emergency and crisis response, communication and negotiation, quantitative and qualitative research methods, and ethical, historical and political contexts.

You will select two optional pathways (25% each) to follow through three years, which provide both breadth and depth according to your interests, from: Digital Science; Management Science ; Global Health ; Anthropology and Social Science.

Digital Science includes humanitarian data science, statistics, digital science and computer programming, risk quantification and digital health. Management Science includes organisational and project management, organisational behaviour, decision making and leadership for the complex interconnected world of the future. Global Health includes global health policy, disease and poverty, conflict and health and maternal and child health, to give you an understanding of global health, challenge concepts of development and health, and interact critically and flexibly with healthcare professionals. Anthropology and Social Science includes social anthropology, culture and identities, inequality, social networks and resilience, and the anthropology of war and society, to deepen your understanding and provide the tools for shaping future policy and practice.

There is also some flexibility for you to take other modules known as ‘electives’ from other pathways or which may be available across UCL, for instance in international development and human rights, subject to availability and timetabling.

In the third year, you will undertake a major independent research project. This may be associated with your Pathway or the core humanitarian studies. UCL has extensive links to the sector and to practitioners and researchers who may support students in their research projects.

Upon successful completion of 360 credits, you will be awarded a BSc (Hons) in Global Humanitarian Studies.

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.
Diverse and international student recruitment strengthens the Kingdom may obtain information directly from UCAS.

When we assess your application we would like to learn why you want to study in the humanitarian field and where you would like to go. Applicants who have left school or who are based outside the United Kingdom may obtain information directly from UCAS. 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.

Placement
We will help facilitate an optional four-week summer placement, in the UK or internationally, between the second and third years to help you connect your academic learning with skills in the humanitarian workplace. We have an extensive network of inter- and non-governmental organisations, consultancies and enterprises we can connect you with and backed by dedicated professional services support.

Assessment
You will be assessed by a mix of practical exercises, reports, presentations, written examinations, group work, peer review and a final-year dissertation, designed to equip you with relevant skills needed for careers in the humanitarian sector.

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 skills in key areas required for a career in the humanitarian sector. These include the principles, evidence base, analysis and assessment for humanitarian action; qualitative and quantitative research methods; strategic planning and project management; communication, negotiation and presentation skills; understanding security and ethics; leadership and team working.

Humanitarian organisations and employers have emphasised the need to professionalise the sector. The core competencies in the degree programme are based on a framework developed through on-going consultation with global and national employers in the humanitarian sector, including inter- and non-governmental organisations, international consultancies and humanitarian enterprises.

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.

The unique breadth of the degree programme means that we recruit students across the humanities, natural sciences, social sciences, geography, mathematics, business studies, economics and computing. Diverse and international student recruitment strengthens the programme. We are looking for applicants prepared for critical enquiry, interested in global societal issues, but keen to develop core competences for leadership in the humanitarian sector.

When we assess your application we would like to learn why you want to study in the humanitarian field and where you would like to go professionally with your degree. Applicants with a different prior learning but with relevant professional experience, will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
Entry requirements

**A LEVELS**

**Standard Offer:** ABB. No specific subjects. At least two A level subjects should be taken from UCL’s list of preferred A level subjects.

**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. No specific subjects. At least two A level subjects should be taken from UCL’s list of preferred A level subjects.

**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:** 34 points. A score of 16 points in three higher level subjects, with no score lower than 5.

**Contextual Offer:** 32 points. A total of 15 points in three higher level subjects, with 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 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:** £21,600 (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

UCL IRDR covers all accommodation and travel costs for first- and second-year field trips. You may need to contribute to third-year projects if you choose one that involve overseas fieldwork. For instance, a return airfare to Asia may cost £800. However, you will be able to choose projects with no overseas travel, for instance where work overseas on projects (e.g., social surveys) can be done by contracted local surveyors without the need for you to visit. A discretionary fund will be made available to assist access.

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).

FUNDING

UCL IRDR will award two fee-reduction scholarships for international students. Scholarship values will be £9,000, paid towards tuition fees. Application deadline is 26 April 2021. See application instructions on the IRDR website.

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 Peter Sammonds

**Email:** humanitarian-info@ucl.ac.uk

**Telephone:** +44 (0)20 7679 9507

**Department:** Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction

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.