The BSc in Professional Policing is for keen and motivated candidates wishing to join a police organization and become future leaders and managers. The course will provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to pursue a career in policing and contribute effectively to the criminal justice system. Through a mix of lectures, seminars, work placement and projects, students will gain a thorough understanding of the theory, science and practice of policing.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2020

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

UCL Security & Crime Science is the first university department in the world devoted specifically to reducing crime and other risks to personal and national security, and houses the Institute for Global City Policing, which aims to foster cutting edge research on policing in a globalised world.

You will be provided with the latest knowledge and technical and human skills needed to pursue a successful career in policing and related law enforcement professions.

You will learn the philosophical and theoretical justifications for adopting an evidenced based and scientific approach to professional policing practice, and explore applications to a wide range of crime and security problems.

You will be taught by academic experts in security and crime reduction, with input from practitioners and policymakers to provide a focus on real-world relevance and impact.

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 your modules are compulsory, introducing fundamental concepts related to crime and security, criminological theories and legal powers of the police.

In years two and three, in addition to compulsory modules, you will be able to choose from a range of options, according to your specific area of interest, including a work placement based module within police forces as Special Constables or shadowing police officers (subject to availability and eligibility).

In the final year you will undertake a six month empirical research project enabling you to source, analyse, and evaluate the available evidence, and to adapt and apply it in the context of routine policing, thus contributing to the existing evidence base on policing related challenges.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Introduction to security and crime science
- Crime and society
- Police powers and procedures
- Crime mapping
- Systems and problem solving
- Terrorism
- Probability, statistics and modelling I
- Quantitative methods

Optional modules

- All first year modules are compulsory.

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Policing theory and evidence
- Safeguarding and public protection
- Preventing crimes
- Professional development
- Introduction to research
- Policing project

Optional modules

Students must choose one of the following two modules:

- Cybercrime
- Digital Policing

In addition to this, students can take one optional module that might include:

- Programming for crime scientists
- Forensic psychology
Your learning

A combination of lectures, seminars, workshops, individual and group projects will form your learning experience, which also includes problem-based learning methods, outcome-based analysis and research activities.

Placement

Only UK nationals who clear basic CTC vetting will be eligible to choose work placements as Special Constables with selected police forces as part of their Professional Practice modules. Students will have to fulfil the entry requirements and pass the standard physical tests in order to apply for work placements as Special Constables in selected police forces. Police forces will interview and select suitable applicants who will agree to commit to undergoing additional compulsory training prior to the commencement of their placement. Those who do not choose to undertake placement as a special constable or are not selected will be given opportunities to apply for other relevant research based work placements with law enforcement and security agencies.

Assessment

A wide range of assessment methods are used by this programme, including unseen examinations, coursework assignments, practical assignments, oral presentations, poster presentations, policy reports and the dissertation.

Your career

You will gain the necessary insight and skills, both intellectual and practical, to take up a wide range of crime and security-relevant positions throughout the world. The multidisciplinary approach gives you a competitive edge in the job market through your ability to work across disciplines in the service of crime reduction. However, please note, there are no guarantees of entry to a police force post completion.

As the first cohort of this programme will graduate in 2023, we do not have any career destinations available. However, we anticipate that the majority of graduates will enter the policing profession. Please note that every police force has its own recruitment, selection and eligibility requirements and you will need to successfully pass these stages.

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 academic requirements, we will also use your application to assess your motivation for studying professional policing. We will be seeking applicants committed to studying at the highest level, and who are eager, and able, to rise to the challenges presented both by the programme and by a career in this field.
Entry requirements

**A LEVELS**
**Standard Offer:** AAA. No specific subjects.
**Contextual Offer:** ABB. No specific 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](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ug-reqs)

**IB DIPLOMA**
**Standard Offer:** 38 points. A total of 18 points in three higher level subjects, with no score below 5.
**Contextual Offer:** 34 points. A total of 16 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](http://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](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/otherquals)

**UNDERGRADUATE PREPARATORY CERTIFICATES**
(Unternational 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](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/upc).

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**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: £TBC (2020/21 - see below)**
// **Overseas: £TBC (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:** scs-admissions@ucl.ac.uk
**Telephone:** 020 3108 3206
**Department:** Security and Crime Science

**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](http://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](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus)