SOCIAL SCIENCES BSc / UCAS CODE: L300
2020 ENTRY
www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus
The BSc Social Sciences at UCL offers a global perspective on social change, providing the tools for understanding and shaping future policy and practice. We provide a broad-based education in the social sciences (including sociology, psychology, politics and economics) through the study of topics such as education, migration, social inequalities and social mobility. The programme also offers the opportunity to study abroad for one academic year.

**Key information**

**Programme starts**
September 2020

**Location**
London, Bloomsbury

**Degree benefits**

- A global social sciences degree at UCL - London’s global university - giving students the opportunity to explore the relationship between the individual and society.

- An interdisciplinary degree offering you an understanding of key global issues - their genesis and ways to tackle them. Rigorous training in research skills is invaluable for future employment and study. The degree offers students a considerable choice of optional modules.

- You will be taught by leading academics engaged in cutting-edge research on children and families, social mobility, diversity, migration and other key topics.

- The IOE is a world-leading school for education and social science, ranked as the world number one for Education for the sixth year running (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2019).

**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).

Each year, you will take a number of individual modules. First year core modules focus on sociology and psychology, and an introduction to research methods. You can specialise in a further social science discipline through optional modules.

In year two, core modules focus on social theory, social psychology, and advanced research methods, while the wide range of optional modules allows you to pursue your own areas of interest and specialise further.

Year three combines a core social science seminar module, involving workshops and seminars with invited guest speakers, with a wide range of optional modules. You will also conduct a research project and write a dissertation.

Modules focus on understanding social, cultural, and economic dynamics and processes in societies and individual lives, including education, health, gender, the labour market, income inequality, poverty, and public policy affecting them.

**YEAR ONE**

**Core or compulsory module(s)**

- Introduction to Sociology
- Social Change in Contemporary Society
- Foundations of Psychology I
- Foundations of Psychology II
- Introduction to Social Science Research
- Discovering Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods

**Optional modules**

- Students choose 1.0 course units of optional modules. Modules offered include:
  - Politics: from Power to Participation
  - Understanding Social Policy
  - Introduction to Economics 1
  - Introduction to Economics 2
  - Note: Students also have access to a range of social science modules offered by other UCL Departments, subject to availability. In the past, our students have taken modules in Political Science, Anthropology, Education Studies, from the BSc degree, and other Departments. Not all modules are available every year, and some modules are capped. Not all module combinations are possible due to timetabling clashes.
YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)

Social Theory
Social Psychology
Quantitative Research Methods
Qualitative Research Methods

Optional modules

Students choose 2.0 course units of optional modules. Modules offered include:

- Sociology of Gender
- London Lab
- Public Health in Context
- Social Inequality and Mobility
- Sociology of Childhood
- Health, Wellbeing and Society
- Work and Employment Relations
- Economics of Education
- The Economics of Children and Families
- Population Studies
- Economics of Public Policy
- Personality and Individual Differences

Note: Students also have access to a range of social science modules offered by other UCL Departments, subject to availability. In the past, our students have taken modules in Political Science, Anthropology, Education Studies, from the BAnSc degree, and other Departments. Some modules are capped and not all module combinations are possible due to timetabling clashes.

FINAL YEAR

Core or compulsory module(s)

Social Sciences Dissertation
Social Science Seminar

Optional modules

Students choose 2.5 course units of optional modules. Modules offered include:

- Thinking through identities
- Gender, Families and Work
- Citizenship, political exclusion and the racialised state
- Power, Conflict and Collective Action: The Sociology of Social Movements
- Love, intimacy and sexuality
- Migration and Society
- Social Justice and Social Psychology
- Food and Society
- Political Sociology
- Ageing and Society
- Economics of Developing Countries
- Game Theory for the Social Sciences
- Social Networks

Note: Not all modules are available every year, and some modules are capped. Not all module combinations are possible due to timetabling clashes.

Your learning

Teaching on the degree includes a stimulating mix of lectures, small-group seminars, and workshops. All students have a personal tutor throughout the three years of the degree. You will also attend practical sessions to discover, explore, and analyse qualitative data (such as interviews, visual material, and other data) and quantitative data through statistical techniques.

Placement

There is the opportunity to study abroad for one academic year at one of our partner institutions.

Assessment

Assessment is through a mix of essays, written examinations, practical exercises, and a dissertation in the final year of study. The weight given to each assessment method varies across modules to ensure a manageable workload throughout the programme.

Your career

Social Sciences BSc students learn to understand and analyse complex global and social issues, gain multidisciplinary training in research skills, and learn how different research methods contribute to understanding real-world phenomena. You will also have an opportunity to conduct an independent research project for your dissertation.

The degree prepares you for a wide range of careers in the public and private sectors, as well as non-governmental organisations. You will develop excellent skills in critical thinking and empirical analysis, helping to prepare you for employment or further study.

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 your personal statement you will need to demonstrate strong writing skills and analytical ability. You should also demonstrate your interest in global social issues, including social justice issues. You should show awareness that this is a broad-based interdisciplinary degree. Finally, you need to show that you can work effectively both on your own and as part of a group. We assess applications in the round, and value voluntary work and evidence of engagement in social issues.
Entry requirements

**A LEVELS**

Standard Offer: AAA. No specific subjects.

Contextual Offer: ABB. No specific subjects.

**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 score of 18 points in three higher level subjects, with no score below 5.

Contextual Offer: 34 points. A score 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

**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: £19,970 (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