

UCL

Excellence across the academic spectrum

Described by the Sunday Times as “an intellectual powerhouse with a world-class reputation”, UCL is recognised as one of the world’s leading universities. UCL is ranked fourth in the world by the QS World University Rankings 2010 and is London’s leading multidisciplinary university with an international reputation for the quality of its research and teaching across the academic spectrum.

The Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) of 2008 confirmed UCL’s international research strength with outstanding results achieved across all nine faculties:

- Arts & Humanities
- Built Environment (Bartlett)
- Biomedical Sciences
- Engineering Sciences
- Laws
- Life Sciences
- Mathematical & Physical Sciences
- Social & Historical Sciences
- School of Slavonic & East European Studies

In the RAE, UCL was rated the best research university in London, and third in the UK overall, for the number of its submissions which were considered of ‘world-leading quality’.

Our excellence extends across all academic disciplines with an on-going commitment to innovation; from one of Europe’s largest and most productive centres for biomedical science interacting with eleven leading London hospitals, to world-renowned centres for architecture and urban planning (UCL Bartlett) and fine art (UCL Slade School). UCL is also the founding academic partner in the UK Centre for Medical Research and Innovation (UKCMRI) – an interdisciplinary medical research institute which will be one of the most significant developments in UK biomedical science for a generation.

An independent analysis of the Thomson Scientific Citation Index system demonstrated that UCL is the second most productive and the third most highly cited European university, and the UK university most-cited by health researchers.

Focused on the translation of research into solutions for the world’s major problems, UCL works across the disciplines and with partners from all over the world. Four themes have been identified for UCL researchers to come together from across the academic spectrum to combine their research to address significant world problems. They are called at UCL the Grand Challenges: Global Health, Human Wellbeing, Intercultural Interaction and Sustainable Cities.

Teaching at UCL is research-led, the programmes we offer reflect the very latest research and are often taught by academic staff members who are world-leaders in their fields. UCL has one of the best staff-student ratios in the UK and places a strong emphasis on small group teaching.

UCL offers a stimulating and richly rewarding experience for graduate students who want to study in one of the world’s leading centres of research and teaching.

A cosmopolitan environment

As well as being dynamic and intellectually challenging, UCL is also a very cosmopolitan and international environment in which to study. Nearly 40% of our students are from outside the UK and they come from almost 140 different countries. UCL also attracts academic staff from around the globe and international staff and students are welcomed for the different perspectives and diversity they bring to teaching and learning at UCL.

The university's location on a compact site in the heart of London offers outstanding academic professional and social benefits. UCL is surrounded by the greatest concentration of libraries, museums, archives and professional bodies in Europe. London also has a wealth of opportunities for social and leisure activities.

The Graduate School

Over 8,000 of our students are studying at graduate level, which is one of the largest populations of graduate students at any UK university. UCL offers an extremely diverse range of graduate qualifications, from taught Master's and shorter programmes to MPhils, PhDs and specialist doctorates.

On entry, all UCL graduate students become members of the Graduate School which offers opportunities that few, if any, UK institutions can match. The Graduate School aims to enhance the student experience at UCL and provide support to students in many ways including its Skills Development Programme, Research Funds and Codes of Practice. Furthermore, the School offers a number of Research and Master's scholarships to outstanding students. Details of the full range of UCL scholarships available for students can be found on our website at www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships.

Career opportunities

Whatever the reasons for pursuing graduate study, whether for career development or subject interest, the UCL Careers Service can help students to realise their full potential, and offers a full range of specialist support for graduate students including graduate employer forums and networking events, a PhD specific fair and a number of employability skills development workshops as well as individual career advice.

We strive to ensure that students are equipped not just with academic knowledge but with other highly valued skills which mean that UCL graduates are extremely employable, and are targeted by world's leading employers.

Collaborations with the USA

UCL has a large number of long-standing research and teaching links with the USA including a very well established study abroad programme in partnership with over 50 American institutions. Our JYA links include the likes of Columbia, Caltech, University of Pennsylvania, University of Chicago and many prestigious universities and liberal arts colleges. In addition, various UCL departments have bilateral student exchange agreements with institutions in the USA.

UCL offers a joint degree programme with Columbia University (Law LLB/JD). The Yale-UCL Collaboration formed in 2009 to improve global health through scientific research, clinical and educational collaboration is based on the universities' shared aims to advance biomedical research and treatment of disease for people around the world.

For further information about our programmes and scholarships, please visit our website: www.ucl.ac.uk.