

Doctoral Education Strategy

UCL aims to train researchers from

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Vision

UCL aims to train researchers from diverse backgrounds to be creative, critical, autonomous intellectual risk takers at the frontiers of research.

We aim to produce research leaders, working with integrity and motivated to

make a positive impact on society. We prepare them to be able to work across disciplines which is needed to confront society's grand challenges in both academic and non-academic roles.



UCL's unique global position

UCL is uniquely placed as one of the world's great comprehensive Universities to be an outstanding place to train researchers:


- a strong tradition of working across disciplines and tackling Grand Challenges facing society, seeking fair solutions to global problems
- a longstanding tradition of radical thought dating back to Bentham
- a very wide spread of academic disciplines and specialisms within a strong Faculty structure with world-leading experts in their fields
- Doctoral programmes in all areas of our activity, including a growing number of professional doctorates and the largest number of funded Centres for Doctoral Training funded by UK Research Councils and charities
- Located in one of the world's great cities with its rich diversity of cultural and scientific institutions, other strong

Universities with whom we



Values

A desire to challenge the status quo openly and freely but rigorously; an openness to



What are we preparing research students for?

We aim to educate our candidates to be prepared

How will we do this?

All UCL academic Departments, Divisions and Centres have research active staff with particular research strengths, and educate research students. They have extensive supervisory experience. They are forward looking in their strategies to educate researchers for the challenges and particularly seek to promote tackling cross-disciplinary approaches to research questions. Every unit maintains an environment (space, IT, laboratories etc..) required to achieve their research strategy.

UCL has been very successful in gaining support for research students and we continue to seek funding from many sources: Research Councils, charities, the private sector, philanthropy, and from WOS budget for studentships and teaching assistantships. We will continue to seek support for part-time as well as full-time students. Students must have sufficient funds to support themselves, at

least at the level of the RCUK minimum stipend. Some may come with their own funds but we expect these to be adequate. We need to continue to seek funding for scholarships, training, and for postdoctoral fellowships to allow us to retain outstanding researchers and to enable researchers to pursue disruptive ideas that may be outside areas that are currently in fashion for funders.

UCL respects the need for maintaining a decent work-life balance at all stages of a career, including during their doctoral training. UCL has a maternity and paternity leave policy and strongly encourages all funders of doctoral training to fund these in full. UCL seeks to encourage doctoral study by all sections of society with the ability to become a researcher and is seeking to identify and mitigate barriers which may prevent disadvantaged sections from being able to pursue a doctorate.



We seek to progress these through four enabling action lines:

1. ~~Ensuring a High Quality Education~~ (E) (1)

Action lines

1. Ensuring a high quality research training

2. Foster leadership grounded in excellence

- a. Encourage and support leadership opportunities to allow research students to develop leadership through experience. This will be done through UCL's Grand Challenges programme, UCL Changemakers, student societies, in Faculties, and exploiting the richness of the opportunities in London.
- b. Doctoral researchers

If you have any questions about the Doctoral Education Strategy,
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