



UCL Academic Manual 2023-24

Chapter 7, Part A: Qualifications and Credit Framework

Annex 7.10.2

MASc Qualification Descriptor

UCL interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences degrees (BASc, MASc) include an explicit combination of arts and sciences disciplines and are distinguished by their focus on integration and interdisciplinarity. The following descriptor has been developed as a reference point for UCL departments wishing to develop an MASc programme.

All programmes must meet the threshold standards defined in the UCL Academic Manual, Chapter 7, Part A: Qualifications and Credit Framework, including the threshold requirements in Section 4: Qualification Descriptors with regards to Academic Level, Credits, Learning Hours, Interim Qualifications and the nature of Masters Level study.

In order to utilise the Qualification Title of Master of Arts and Sciences (MASc), programmes **must** include:

- 1) Compulsory, interdisciplinary research and scholarship modules that promote the integration of research and learning across the arts and sciences.
- 2) An interdisciplinary research project or dissertation that promotes the integration of research across the arts and sciences.
- 3) A range of modules which provides students with an interdisciplinary diet across the arts and sciences.

On a standard 180-credit Masters degree (pro rata for programmes with a higher credit weighting) this should include:

- 1) Between 30 and 60 credits of compulsory, interdisciplinary taught modules.
- 2) A substantive, interdisciplinary research project or dissertation of between 60 and 90 credits.
- 3) The balance of credits providing students with an interdisciplinary diet across the arts and sciences.

Subject to approval by UCL Education Committee or its nominee, a department may propose a programme with an alternative credit distribution, provided that it continues to meet the threshold requirements set out in the UCL Qualifications and Credit Framework.