

1.3 Policy

1. UCL is responsible for the quality and standards of all academic qualifications made in its name. Consequently, its academic partnerships should be based on the premise that:
 - the academic standards of all UCL qualifications involving collaboration with partner organisations must be compatible with UCL's regulations, policies and procedures, and with external reference points including those set out by the Office for Students Regulatory Framework and QAA's UK Quality Code for Higher Education,
 - the quality of student learning opportunities and experiences on collaborative programmes should be equivalent to those of comparable qualifications delivered and supported solely by UCL, and adequate to enable students to achieve the appropriate academic standards.
2. As UCL is responsible for the academic standards of all of its qualifications, UCL will only consider entering into partnerships with other organisations:
 - which will support the achievement of UCL's mission and 20-year strategy;
 - which have the academic standing to deliver collaborative programmes to appropriate academic standards (where relevant); the human, physical and financial standing to sustain them; and the legal standing to contract to their delivery;
 - which will enable UCL42.36 11()-4(qu)3(al)6(i)5(f)-4048005500034 Tf1 0 0 1 148.46

2 Types of Academic Partnership

2.1 Further Terms Used in this Document

Award:

Definition:

	certificates can be found in <i>Annex 8.1 Forms of Academic Partnerships</i> .
Dual Degree	Students undertake the major part of a UCL programme and of a

A jointly delivered programme can be referred to as a 'joint programme' in advertising material, but it should always be made

2. UCL has a number of Doctoral Training Partnerships/Centres (DTP/DTC) which are initiated, developed and approved via UCL Research Services. Any specific arrangements within DTPs/DTCs which come under the definition of academic partnerships will come under the terms of this framework and must be developed accordingly.
3. Student exchanges and study abroad arrangements are managed via the Study Abroad team in liaison with the Global Engagement team (GE) in line with *Annex 8.9 Principles for the Management of Study Abroad and Student Exchange Partnerships*. The Study Abroad team is the main point of contact for these activities.
- 4.

3 Roles, Responsibilities and Governance

3.1 Governance at UCL Level

1. Although in practical terms academic partnerships normally involve UCL Faculties and Departments, they are a formal relationship between the University and the partner organisation. Hence governance of academic partnerships, in terms of mandating and decision-making, sits at the highest appropriate level of authority in UCL once the relevant Head of Department/Director of Division/Institute and Dean of Faculty has approved any such proposal.
2. Academic Committee delegates responsibility for oversight of learning and teaching, including the maintenance of standards and quality management, of accredited taught programmes to the Education Committee. It also delegates responsibility for oversight of research degree provision, including the maintenance of standards and quality management, to the Research Degrees Committee.
3. Academic partnerships involving the award of credit and/or qualifications relating to taught degree programmes are therefore considered under the terms of the Education Committee; academic partnerships involving the award of research degrees are therefore considered under the terms of the Research Degrees Committee.
4. In the case of potential international academic partnerships involving accredited taught programmes/modules or research degrees, in the first instance partner organisations must be considered by the Global Engagement team (GE). GE must endorse the potential international partner in the first instance and ensure that they are in-keeping with the UCL Global Engagement Strategy.
5. The Global Engagement team (GE) may wish to strengthen an initial international partnership proposal which has the Vice-Provost (Research, Innovation and Global Engagement)'s endorsement for development through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). MoU may also be developed in response to a specific need of the partner institution, such as to progress the partnership through their own governance structure. All MoU must be signed by the Vice-Provost (Research, Innovation and Global Engagement) on behalf of UCL once the relevant Head of Department/Director of Division/Institute and Dean of Faculty has given their approval and/or signed the MOU.

3. With paragraphs 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 in mind, the day-to-day management of academic partnerships sits at local (departmental, divisional or institutional) level, normally through the Academic Programme Director, who has been appointed to the academic partnership and who is responsible for the day-to-day running of the partnership

4 The Lifecycle of an Academic Partnership

4.1 Overview

1. There are four main stages to the lifecycle of an academic partnership:

- the partner institution does not use the UCL marking scheme; and
- UCL is the sole degree-awarding body for the qualification, the grades from the partner institution may be excluded from the classification of the UCL qualification.

For jointly awarded qualifications, either the standard UCL, the partner institution or a jointly developed classification scheme may be used. If the standard UCL classification is not used, the proposed classification scheme must be approved by PMAP as part of the programme approval process.

The classification scheme for each academic partnership programme that does not use the standard UCL classification scheme must be set out in the programme summary and the additional student terms and conditions for that programme.

- m) Resources:
 - clarify the staffing resources required, including the academic lead, from both organisations;
 - consider the implications for UCL estates and facilities where relevant.
- n) Registration and induction:
 - clarify who is responsible for registering and inducting students on the partnership programme, including the registration status of students; in the case of joint or multiple programmes, students must remain registered at UCL during any periods of time spent at the partner institution;
 - clarify whether students will remain registered at both institutions for the duration of the programme;
 - consider any visa requirements and any requirements relating to Student Visa responsibilities;
 - information on the partnership programme must be made available to students, particularly around regulations and procedures, access to learning resources within both institutions, student support and assessment, and any transfer of data between the partners, e.g., personal details, transcripts.
- o) Student support:
 - students registered at UCL on a partnership programme should be entitled to the same student support services, e.g., for disability, as students on other UCL degrees;
 - clarify how students moving between organisations will access these services and how support will be configured;
 - how student feedback is collected, shared and acted upon by the partner institutions.
- p) Data transfer
 - what personal data (student and/or staff) is shared with the partner institution and is any of that data [special category sensitive data](#);
 - If the partner institution is basW*nBThtive data

ensuring that all information published and made available to students and other stakeholders through both institutions

written document and may take the form of a letter. An exit strategy should also include timescales for current students to complete their programme of study and allow for the possibility of resits, deadline extensions and so forth where there are justified extenuating circumstances.

6. Where a partner institution cannot provide an arrangement which will provide this duty of care to students, for example, due to insolvency resulting in ceasing to trade, it is the responsibility of UCL to ensure the duty of care to current, enrolled students is met. This may require alternative arrangements for teaching, assessing and providing equivalent learning opportunities for the students.

Approval

7. *Annex 8.6 Academic Partnership Termination Form* should be completed and signed