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Majorca Fieldtrip 2016
I’m the Head of the Department of Geography and am proud to be part of a long tradition of geographical teaching and research at UCL.

Aside from overseeing the management of the Department my interests lie in the political geography of energy and the environment. My research often follows closely with current political events. For example, over the course of this summer I’ve been thinking about the implications of Brexit for environmental policy, writing on the geography of chemical pollution, and researching a controversy about the construction of a gas pipeline in Puglia in Southern Italy.

I originally studied physics and chemistry as an undergraduate and only switched to becoming a human geographer subsequently, and one of the things that I love about being a geographer is that it makes it possible to think across the boundaries of the natural and social sciences. Its only by doing so that we can understand the connections between environmental and political problems. With this thought in mind, my lectures on the first year Human Ecology course this term will be about the politics of the oil economy.

This is both an interesting and challenging time to be a geographer. Many of the key issues that dominate the political agenda today, including migration, climate change, water security, international conflict, and urban development, are fundamentally geographical. They are all issues that you will have the chance to study in depth over the course of your degree. I passionately believe in the importance of geographical research in addressing real world problems, and our programme of study is designed to equip you with the skills, perspectives and confidence to make a difference in the world.

I very much hope that you enjoy induction week and wish you all the best for a happy and productive period of study with us!

A. Barry
Hello and Welcome to all Geography Freshers!

I am currently the Undergraduate Tutor in the Department, so you will be seeing a lot of me these next three years. I work closely with the Student Staff Consultative Committee to ensure that both students and staff better understand each other’s perspective as well as find ways to improve students’ experience. I am also a member of the Equality Diversity Inclusion Committee working with colleagues and students to continuously strive to foster a more welcoming, inclusive and safe environment for all. An important part of my role is to support students through any difficult circumstances, and if I can’t answer your question or provide the right support, I will always try to direct you to the right person or resource.

As an Associate Professor in Human Geography, I will encounter students in their first year as one of the teaching staff on one of the core modules, Geography in the Field, including the Catalonia residential field class. I also teach Development Geography, a popular module in year 2, and I teach on various team-taught modules in year 3, including Water in Africa, Urban Political Ecology, and Postcolonial Geographies of Development in Africa. In my teaching, I often draw on my own research focused especially on urban youth culture and diverse economies in cities across the global South and global North, and you will often hear me speak about Nairobi in particular, where I have worked and spent time since 2005.

I’m really looking forward to meeting you all during induction week and having the chance to get to know you throughout the course of your time at UCL.
I have worked in the Geography Department for over 20 years and I am the Learning Resources Coordinator based in the Department’s Map Library (Anne Oxenham Map Room) and Reading Room. My main responsibility is overseeing Moodle, the Virtual Learning Environment for Geography which all students will use throughout their studies. I also manage the Map and Reading Rooms that are located in 26 Bedford Way, which are for the sole use of Geography students.

The Reading Room is a dedicated quiet work space with an excellent reference library, student computer facilities and it is also home to the Department’s extensive atlas collection. Then there is the Map Library with its huge holdings of maps that cover most of the world. The more popular maps are currently being digitised to make them easier for students to use.

With my work in the Department, students get to see me regularly. During the initial induction week I help with orientation and from there I will continue to facilitate your learning when you come to use the resources. I look forward to meeting you soon.
Declan Cumberlidge-Myford

I joined the Department of Geography at UCL in January 2019 and I am very proud to be part of such a vibrant, supportive and stimulating environment.

In the Department of Geography, our goal is to ensure that you not only have a successful academic career at UCL, but also an enjoyable time in which to develop personally and socially. As the Undergraduate Programme Administrator, I am your primary contact for programme related enquiries and for assistance regarding extenuating circumstances or any other welfare issues. You can also book appointments with the Undergraduate Tutor, Tatiana Thieme with me.

Other duties include allocating tutor groups, monitoring attendance, registering students to modules and acting as secretary to the Student Staff Consultative Committee.

I am contactable through the Department email geog.office@ucl.ac.uk and via my personal telephone number 020 7679 0500 or available in room G13 of the Pearson Building.
Welcome to a big part of being Geography students at UCL… our Geography Society! My name is Khadija and I’m the President of the 2019-2020 committee and I’m really excited to show you what our society has to offer in the coming academic year.

Firstly, the committee and I send huge congratulations for getting into a Top 10 university in the world. Getting here can be a difficult challenge, I remember how stressed I was during my A Levels. But you made it! A very big well done to you, we look forward to welcoming you all.

Coming to UCL and beginning the academic year can be a daunting venture. We at UCL GeogSoc want to take some of that pressure off with our Fresher’s events in September. Membership of our society is £55 which lasts for your entire time at UCL, and we work hard to make sure every penny is well spent. We hope that during our Fresher’s events you can make some new friends, get any burning questions answered and ultimately have a great time getting to know your city and your university. We are going to create the perfect atmosphere for socialising and getting settled in so that you have a positive and memorable start on this new journey.

GeogSoc is responsible for maximising your experience here as Geographers and ensuring you have the best time possible at UCL. We are a friendly bunch and are always welcoming suggestions from our members. Over the next year, you will be invited to our many events, ranging from quizzes to balls to lectures with guest speakers. We aim to balance academic/career-based opportunities with social events too, so our society is really diverse!

You will make some of your closest friends at our events, and we hope that you become engaged with our society too. Keep an eye out for an email regarding the election of first-year representatives. Also, you can check out our Instagram page (@uclgeogsoc) to learn more about this year’s committee too.

If you have any questions about anything to do with GeogSoc, please do not hesitate to contact us through any of our several social media platforms or via email. Studying Geography at UCL is a truly unique experience, you have so many field trips to look forward to and we’re taught by some of the best in the world. Once again, we really look forward to meeting you all and are excited for all the events we have planned for you. So…welcome and good luck in your new UCL journey!

Email: geogsoc@gmail.com
Pigeon Hole: Map Room, 26 Bedford Way
Instagram: @uclgeogsoc
Facebook: UCL Geographical Society
Twitter: @UCLGeogSoc
SSCC student chairs pass on some top tips for students.

Welcome to all Geography Freshers! In addition to GeogSoc which covers the social needs of the UCL Geographer, we are also lucky to have the Student Staff Consultative Committee which aims to ensure the smooth running of the academic side of things during your time here in the Geography department.

The SSCC provides a forum for student representatives and staff to discuss opportunities for improvement in the undergraduate curriculum and the way it is taught. The SSCC has been instrumental in getting student voices heard and, identifying and implementing changes to the geography undergraduate program. We have one representative from each degree programme for every year group who is responsible for representing their peers. We then present these issues with the staff present at meetings and work together to come up with viable solutions.

In the past few years, we have made significant changes in the department and are proud of the impact we have had. For example, we have organised inter-year events in which students in younger years get dissertation support from final-year students. We have also addressed students’ academic concerns and have negotiated changes to module content and coursework deadlines. The SSCC we sought to improve student feedback loops by introducing an online anonymous forum whereby students can submit feedback directly to the SSCC.

During the first few weeks of term we will send out an e-mail to find students who are interested in being elected to the SSCC. The success of the SSCC depends on having enthusiastic and dedicated representatives, so we would love to see lots of incoming students get involved!

Our 10 favourite things around the Department

Geography Common Rooms
The Geography department has three undergraduate common rooms across the Pearson and Bedford Way sites. UCL can be a very busy campus, so these spaces are great for group work or to socialise with other geographers.

Anne Oxenham Map Room and Reading Room
Filled with hundreds of maps that have found their way to UCL, the Map Room is a great place for geographers to explore. The collection comes in handy for a number of modules and is invaluable for dissertation research. Adjacent to this, is the Bedford Way Reading Room. A space exclusively for geography students, it’s a great spot for when the other libraries get busy.

Staff Office Hours
The office hours system is one of the best things the Geography department offers. Every member of teaching staff member has three hours per week during which their door is open to discuss anything with students. Whether you’re struggling with a bit of coursework or want to discuss an idea for a future project, office hours provide an opportunity to have an informal chat.
without making an appointment. The department also has welfare hours that are designed specifically for non-academic issues and that give students a confidential listening ear should they need it.

The Student Centre
The Student Centre is brand new study space for UCL students across all faculties. It’s got lots of group and individual study spaces and is a beautiful, airy building that makes writing those essays a little bit easier!

The Bloomsbury Building
The Bloomsbury Building is the heart of extra-curricular life at UCL. It is home to the Clubs and Societies Centre, Bloomsbury Fitness (the students’ union-run gym), and the Bloomsbury Theatre (where all the big arts performances take place). This building is on our list because UCL societies are great communities for making friends, memories and developing skills outside your degree.

UCL Bars/Pubs
The Students’ Union at UCL provides a variety of social spaces for students. Some of the most popular are their bars and pubs, Phineas, Mully’s, The Huntley and The Institute Bar. Each of these has their own character and hosts a variety of themed nights like Phineas’ Thursday pub quizzes or Mully’s notorious karaoke night. All in all, they are all great (and cheap!!) places for a night out.

Senate House and the British Library
One of the advantages of being situated in Bloomsbury is the excellent access to academic materials beyond UCL’s collections. The Senate House Library has a hub specially for UCL students meaning more study space and access to more books. Another option is the British Library, located just a few minutes’ walk from campus. It is their largest library in the world with hundreds of millions of items in the catalogue, they will almost definitely have that super niche book you’re looking for.

Bloomsbury Farmer’s Market
The Bloomsbury Farmer’s Market takes place every Thursday behind the main UCL campus. There is a huge variety of food suited to all tastes and makes for a great break from the library. Keep an eye out for the pumpkin lasagne – it’s a favourite of ours.

Central London
One of the MAJOR perks of going to UCL is being in the heart of central London. It means access to some of the most iconic London landmarks like Regent’s Park, the West End and Covent Garden. We’d recommend taking advantage of this as much as possible!

The People
Honestly one of the standout features of the department are the staff and students in it. There is a real sense of community within the department and staff and students alike are always happy to have a chat. The student body is made up of different types of people with broad interests and the staff have some great banter too!
Out in Geography

UCL Department of Geography supports staff and students who identify as LGBTQ+ and we are keen on providing a welcoming community where everyone can thrive. Our Geography LGBTQ+ group will be organising at least one social event each term to support all those involved in the LGBTQ+ community here, and we will also have coffee and cake afternoons pre- and post- reading week. We are also in the process of setting up a mentoring scheme for LGBTQ+ students, and will provide more details at the start of the session. For further information in general, please contact either Anson Mackay or Helene Burningham, or sign up to our closed Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/1414122958700468

Ethnic Minorities Network

At UCL Geography we are striving to make the department as inclusive as possible, across our diverse student body. We have many students from different ethnic minorities studying with us, both from the UK and from around the world. A new ethnic minority network was set up last year to connect students together, to provide a sense of increased belonging in the department. Last year, the network worked closely with GeogSoc, and several social and career events were held. For further information, please contact Tariq Jazeel or Caroline Bressey in the first instance to be added to the network.
Congratulations on getting an offer from UCL! What lies ahead is a brilliant education at one of the world’s best universities, as well as all the experiences of studying right in the centre of London.

It all kicks off in late September, and everything you need to know about your first few weeks here is on our official website. This is where you can get all the official information you’re going to need - from our programme of headline events, to how to get involved with Clubs and Societies and the best way to meet new people and start making lifelong friends.

If you are an international student who will be joining us for the International Student Orientation Programme starting in mid September, we have a special line up of ‘We are all Global’ events for you.

Not new to UCL but still want to get involved? That’s great! All of our events are open to everyone. You could also consider becoming a Welcome Volunteer - it’s a great chance to make new students’ introduction to UCL amazing and enjoy the buzz of the Welcome Festival anew!

studentsunionucl.org
Fieldwork is a core part of any geographic education. We have woven fieldwork into every year of the undergraduate experience, with students guaranteed the opportunity to participate in both the first year and second year.

All students go to Barcelona in the first year, engaging with both human and physical geography methods in the capital of Catalonia and nearby National Parks. More importantly, this is a chance for the first year to bond with one another and with the teaching staff.

In the second year, there are two optional opportunities for fieldwork. Currently the physical geographers go to Majorca and the human geographers go to Glasgow. In the third year there is an optional field course for physical geographers to Greece, while for human geographers there are two possibilities – this year they are Vienna and Gibraltar. These third year field courses are capped in their numbers and students are selected for them on the basis of their performance in the degree programme thus far. The actual destinations may change from year to year as we experiment with new locales and subject matter.

Field work is central to the UCL Geography experience. The friendships fostered during this time are often the most enduring, and the experiences of being a geographer in the field are often the most fulfilling. We look forward to going with you into the field.
The Dean’s List of the UCL Faculty of Social and Historical Sciences recognises final year undergraduate students across the Faculty who have “excelled in their chosen field”.

Four Honours Geographers have been placed on this year’s List: BA Geography and BA Geography (International) Martha Hamilton, Katrina Hayter, Gabrielle Loader Katherina Oemmelenm Helena Robertson & Tekki Tetteh-Wright.

Fumica Azuma
SMangrove recolonization following aquaculture: Case study from Pulau Ubin, Singapore. Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) Alfred Steers Undergraduate Dissertation Prize. Winner.

Miles Harrison

Charlotte Hudson
Impacts of climate change on river flows in Siberia’s Lena River Basin and its implications for the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation. British Hydrological Society, Annual Student Award for the best undergraduate dissertation in hydrology. Runner up.

Jack Wharton
Reconstructing AMOC over the past 7000 years: was the Industrial Era weakening an unprecedented event? Quaternary Research Association Undergraduate Dissertation Prize. Winner.
Tariq Jazeel lectures on the undergraduate programme including the first year course “Global Geographies”.

Postcolonialism examines the influence of postcolonial theory in critical geographical thought. It explores the interventions in social, cultural and political life that ‘postcolonial geography’ is poised to make. Structured around three intersecting blocks – ‘Space’, ‘Hybridity/Identity’, ‘Knowledge’ – the book familiarize students and researchers with key critical intellectual trajectories and developments in postcolonial theory since its late 1970s emergence. This organizing structure provides the basis for the book’s delineation of the critical and analytical tools that postcolonialism offers for contemporary geographical enquiry. The book aims to develop students’ and researchers’ critical analytical skills and interpretive abilities in relation to the postcolonial politics of culture and its spatial formations.

My research interests are focused on historical and cultural geographies of the Black presence in Britain, the histories of multi-ethnic London, Victorian communities of anti-racism and the links between contemporary identity and our diverse histories as represented (or not) in the many heritage sites across Britain. I try to publish my research in a range of formats from academic papers to exhibitions in museums and walking guides. My book Empire, Race and the Politics of Anti-Caste, focused upon the geographical imagination of an anti-racist activist called Catherine Impey who established one of Britain’s earliest anti-racist magazine’s from her home in Somerset in 1888. The book traces out the radical content in Anti-Caste, as well as the international geography of Anti-Caste’s readership and its place in the history of the anti-racist movement in Britain.
What happens if we start thinking of diplomacy as less like a rational discussion between mature individuals, and more like a ripple of excitement or anger working through a crowd? To answer this question, Diplomatic Material re-thinks diplomacy through its material connections - the everyday work done by diplomats, the shared databases, the design of transnational objects - in order to show how questions of procedural standardisation and bureaucratic design are productive of the wider geopolitics that is seen playing out every day in the news. Case studies in this slim volume include the role of paper in the 19th century Foreign Office, the creation of the ‘Five Eyes’ signals intelligence alliance during World War 2, the production of military interoperability in NATO at the start of the Cold War, and the co-production of foreign policy in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the European External Action Service at the start of the 21st century.

For thousands of years, tracking animals meant following footprints. Now satellites, drones, camera traps, cellphone networks, apps and accelerometers allow us to see the natural world like never before...

Geographer James Cheshire and designer Oliver Uberti take you to the forefront of this animal-tracking revolution. Meet the scientists gathering wild data – from seals mapping the sea to baboons making decisions, from birds dodging tornadoes to jaguars taking selfies. Join the journeys of sharks, elephants, bumblebees, snowy owls and a wolf looking for love. Find an armchair, cancel your plans and go where the animals go.
In addition to our undergraduates we have a vibrant community of postgraduate students who are undertaking original research for their PhD theses. Some of our PhD students also teach on the undergraduate programme. Lioba and Ruth have both worked as post graduate teaching assistants (PGTAs).

Lioba Hirsch  
**PhD Candidate**

*Antiblackness and global health: placing the 2014-15 Ebola response in Sierra Leone in the colonial wake.*

Supervisors: Alan Ingram and Ben Page. Funding source: Heinrich-Boell PhD Scholarship and UCL cross-disciplinary training scholarship.

My PhD research took an interdisciplinary approach to the study of global health interventions. Specifically my project, which is positioned at the intersection of Black studies, historical geography and critical global health, looked at the 2014-15 British-led international Ebola response in Sierra Leone in the wake of colonialism and the transatlantic slave trade. British health campaigns in Sierra Leone have historically been entangled with the British slave trade and colonialism and both have left traces in Sierra Leonean land and cityscapes. In my thesis I explored how these colonial infrastructures and material and epistemic remains shaped the 2014-15 Ebola response.

To carry out such an interdisciplinary research project I conducted interviews with British-based health responders and members of the Sierra Leonean diaspora as well as archival research and went on two field trips to Sierra Leone.

I was very lucky to be awarded a cross-disciplinary scholarship, which allowed me to follow classes and benefit from supervision in UCL’s Institute for Global Health during the last year of my PhD. This enabled me to immerse myself more fully in global health thinking and practice.

To all freshers: Welcome! The department is host to truly wonderful and engaging members of staff and a vibrant student body, so don’t be shy to ask for help and advice. Especially if you belong to a community that is still under-
represented in academia, are the first in your family to go to university or maybe just feel a little lost or overwhelmed, please know that you deserve to be here and that the department will help you succeed in your academic trajectory as much as possible. That has been my experience, I hope it is yours too!

Ruth Slatter
PhD Candidate

Methodism as design space? What can the spatial and material design of Methodist spaces in London between 1851 and 1932 reveal about congregation experiences of the denomination?

Supervisor: James Kneale. Funding source: Wolfson Foundation.

My PhD research is best described as historical geography. I am interested in how Methodism, a form of protestant Christianity, was experienced by its congregational members in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. With few written sources to help me answer my research questions, my research focuses on the design of spaces and the material things these congregations used.

My primary research is based in archives and museum collections. I spend a lot of time reading church meeting minute books and looking at a range of, often bizarre, material things that have survived from nineteenth and early twentieth-century Methodist churches. Last April I presented my research at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers in Chicago and in July I organised panel sessions and a fieldtrip at the International Conference of Historical Geographers in London. My interest in material approaches to historical research has resulted in me teaching on the second year BASc Object Lessons course that encourages students to think about how objects can be used in the research practices of various disciplines.

My advice to freshers would be to not be afraid of the new and the unfamiliar, both academically and socially. I come to geography from an art history and design history background and have been inspired by the huge range of ideas that are discussed in the UCL Geography Department. University is a great time to explore new ideas.
Richard Walton
PhD Candidate

Understanding the impacts of scrub management on plant-pollinator relationships in farmland pond ecosystems.

Supervisors: Carl Sayer, Jan Axmacher and Helen Bennion.

My PhD research at UCL combines three general areas of research: biogeography, palaeoecology, and aquatic science. My work seeks to understand how farmland ponds might act as biodiversity refuges for insect pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and moths in the wider agricultural landscape. This includes studying the differences in pollinator community structure between ponds where trees and shrubs are occasionally cut back and removed in order to keep the pond surface open to sunlight and air flow and with ponds that have thick, impenetrable vegetation that keeps the pond surface largely inaccessible. My study should help to inform both pond and pollinator conservation in UK farmland.

My fieldwork involves visiting nine ponds in North Norfolk each month to monitor flowering plant and pollinator communities. As the active growing season progresses from spring to autumn, I look to see how each community fares at both managed and unmanaged, overgrown ponds. I bring insect samples back to the laboratories where I can identify them, swab them for pollen, and then match that pollen back to flowering plants found at one of my study ponds.

The academic and research staff here at UCL Geography have excellent associations with scientists and institutions worldwide. As I have found out first hand, if you are truly interested in your research, you will be given amazing opportunities. I have had the great chance to study plant macrofossil remains at the University of Bergen, Norway for two weeks under the Mead Fund. I’ve also been fortunate to get funding for my fieldwork equipment through a scheme my supervisor was aware of, one that I likely would not have found on my own.

To all incoming freshers, I would say: take every opportunity that comes your way or look for ways to create an opportunity; there are no problems, just solutions; help others with their fieldwork and you will likely get help with yours; get involved with any of the many annual events and clubs, and attend optional seminars; and most importantly, never turn down a chance to have a conversation with a staff member; whether official or casual, you may just end up with the next best connection you need for your work or other interests!
Public Engagement and Partnerships

As well as using our research in teaching we also work to ensure that audiences beyond the university learn of our findings, through media and community work and in partnership with institutions such as museums, galleries and conservation agencies.

Dr Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh
Refuge in a Moving World.

This network is an initiative of the UCL Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS) in collaboration with the Institute of Global Prosperity (IGP), and led by the MRU. It brings together experts from across the UCL who work on displacement, forced migration, exile and conflict. It is grounded on the understanding that cross-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary research is essential to develop a full understanding of, and a means of responding to, the human, material and representational effects of intersecting processes of mass displacement around the world.

Professor Jon French iCOASST
This project, partnered with the Environment Agency, will help forecast what the UK’s coastline will look like in the future, up to 100 years’ time. The increasing risk of coastal flooding not just around the UK coast, but worldwide, drives this research. The project plans to integrate coastal systems mapping, behaviour landform models and coastal area models to produce a tool that can be used to forecast long term coastal evolution, leaving a legacy that will have a practical application to coastal erosion and flood management.

Professor Richard Taylor
Role of groundwater in poverty alleviation in Sub-Saharan Africa

Richard’s research is focused on the role of groundwater in enabling low-income communities to adapt to the pressures of rapid development and climate variability. Working with researchers and governmental partners in Tanzania, Ethiopia and Niger, Richard provides policy advice on the use of groundwater for domestic water supply and agriculture. In a further project, based in Kenya, Uganda and Senegal, Richard’s research looks at the role of water supply versus waste disposal and aims to develop hydrological teaching aids via YouTube for any country.

Dr Carl Sayer
The Norfolk Ponds Project
Carl’s research and conservation work feeds into the Norfolk Ponds Project which aims to conserve, and restore Norfolk’s currently neglected farmland ponds. Carl organises pond restoration events, ecological surveys, field workshops and provides pond restoration advice to farmers, landowners and the general public.
Running Club

The UCL Geography Running Club is open to all students and staff. Our aim is to encourage running participation across the department, with the occasional geographical bent. During 2017-2018 we will run EITHER every Monday or Thursday evening 17:15 - 18:15 (day to be confirmed). We meet in the foyer of the Pearson Building where we are able to offer secure storage facilities.

The main route is round Regent’s Park and up Primrose Hill. The group caters for mixed running abilities from those wanting to run for fun, to those who want to build in hill training to increase strength and stamina. The length of this run varies between 7 - 10km, and bootcamp exercises might be included along the way! Running social-events are held at the end of Terms 1 and 2.

We have a Facebook page where all running announcements are made: search for “UCL Geography Running Group”
In 2016 UCL Geography students and staff initiated a new UCL Conservation Society (UCS), an informal, student-led society, with membership open to all students at UCL.

Since this time the UCS has gone from strength to strength and provides students with a chance to expand their knowledge and involvement with key nature conservation and environmental issues.

The UCS gets involved in all sorts of practical conservation activities including conservation volunteering, campaigning (e.g. #PlasticFreeUCL), bioblitz events, fund-raising, mini-conferences, field trips and nature guiding. Talks and debates are also planned during each term with recent speakers including George Monbiot, Nick Baker, Chris Packham and Geoge McGavin. Importantly the group is totally informal and fun as well as being educational.

Closely linked to the UCL Green Initiative (www.ucl.ac.uk/greenucl), the UCS is taking a leading role in a survey of wildlife found on campus (especially birds) and encourages anyone at UCL to join in and learn about urban species and how they survive in the green spaces and parks that surround UCL.

To join the UCS go to: studentsunionucl.org/clubs-societies/conservation-society

Follow the group on Twitter @conservationucl

and Facebook www.facebook.com/uclconservationsociety
visit www.geog.ucl.ac.uk/sustainability and look for “recycling” to find out more...
My name is Anpu (pronounced An-bu) and I am a recent graduate from UCL Geography. My time at UCL was incredible and allowed me to become the person that I am today. I was surrounded by a supportive network of academic staff and friends and the streets of London which has never stopped exciting and inspiring me. Each module in the course was enjoyable, challenging and fulfilling. Even though I've always had a passion for the creative and visual arts, I'm a Geographer at heart.

Since graduation, I've gone onto start my own business as a YouTuber, Creative Director and Videographer. My greatest accomplishment during my year after graduation was the documentary I produced which explored themes of urban and political geography related to gentrification, housing and identity.

During this year I have also created an eight-part series named ‘Life at UCL Geography’. Throughout my time at UCL, I was vlogging various aspects of uni life that I cherished such as fieldwork trips abroad. This series explores what life at UCL is really like by showcasing the daily life of students and staff. I interviewed senior members of staff and asked questions about Brexit, diversity and other pressing issues. I filmed lectures, seminars and tutorials to capture the vibrant academic atmosphere of UCL. I even hung out with lecturers around their favourite local coffee shops and the spaces around UCL and Bloomsbury to highlight how wonderful a place central London can be. It was an honour to represent the geography department through the format of video and I hope it continues to inspire the next generation.

Watch all 8 episodes of Anpu’s series, search for ‘Life at UCL Geography’ on YouTube, for a great insight on everything UCL Geography related.
Visit www.ucl.ac.uk/maps for more information
Physical geographers (including Dr Burningham!) jump for joy on the Mallorca fieldclass.
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