UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ASIA

www.ucentralasia.org

The journey begins here

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ASIA

UCA Naryn Campus, Kyrgyzstan

EST. 2000

The University of Central Asia (UCA) was founded in 2000 as a private, not for profit, secular university through an International Treaty signed by the Presidents of Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan, and His Highness the Aga Khan; ratified by their respective parliaments and registered with the United Nations.

> The Presidents are the Patrons of the University and His Highness is the Chancellor.

UCA'S MISSION

UCA's mission is to promote the social and economic development of Central Asia, particularly its mountain communities, by offering an internationally recognised standard of higher education, and enabling the peoples of the region to preserve their rich cultural heritage as assets for the future. UCA seeks to contribute leadership, ideas, and innovations to the transitioning economies and communities of the region through educational and vigorous research programmes that produce knowledgeable, skilled, and creative graduates.

UCA offers a unique educational opportunity with an undergraduate degree qualifying students for top graduate programmes globally. UCA Campuses with state-of-the-art facilities are tailored to support learning interests and needs.

FACTS AND FIGURES

1:9
faculty-Student Ratio

FACULTY MEMBERS
international and regional faculty members from over 10 countries

100%
100% of UCA students benefit from financial assistance

9 ACADEMIC AND GLOBAL
partner Universities

SCHOLARSHIPS
full scholarships awarded annually

FIFA-APPROVED
football fields, tennis courts, fitness gym and sports bubble, where athletics are accessible throughout the year

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

UCA'S SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

UCA offers an undergraduate programme which cultivates knowledge and skills needed to integrate different approaches for solving problems and creating innovations in the professional and personal life of students.

UCA's unique approach to learning combines:

- A broad-based liberal arts and sciences education that builds critical thinking, analytic and technical skills across disciplines

- Undergraduate curriculum designed in partnership with top tier global universities in growing industry fields

- Hands-on learning providing theoretical and practical knowledge that can be applied to real-world issues

INTENSIVE PREPARATORY PROGRAMME

UCA's five-year degree programme starts with an intensive Preparatory Programme, followed by a four-year undergraduate programme.

The Preparatory Programme, designed by Seneca College in Toronto (Canada), focuses on English for academic purposes, mathematics and science, which prepares the student for a rigorous undergraduate degree.

PROGRAMMES

TAJIKISTAN
KHOROG

Undergraduate programmes:

- **EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**
  [Bachelor of Science]

- **ECONOMICS**
  [Bachelor of Arts]

KYRGYZSTAN
NARYN

Undergraduate programmes:

- **COMPUTER SCIENCE**
  [Bachelor of Science]

- **COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA**
  [Bachelor of Arts]

KAZAKHSTAN
TEKELI

(PLANNING STAGE)

Undergraduate programmes:

- **ENGINEERING SCIENCES**
  [Bachelor of Science]

- **BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT**
  [Bachelor of Arts]

* The following institutional partners contribute to UCA's programmes:

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

UTS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Seneca

University of Victoria

COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA

1 UCA's Communications and Media programme offers an integrative approach to narrative studies, multimedia, visual design, film making, digital journalism, news media, production skills, strategic communication, and media law, politics, research, management, ethics, and social responsibility.

2 Intensive language courses ensure graduates have superior proficiency in English, Russian and local languages, and access to media labs provides the opportunity to build versatile skills transferable to different modes of media production, communication platforms, and career pathways.

3 Exposure to and emphasise on local, regional, and international best practices are led by national and international faculty with strong academic research and professional industry backgrounds.

4 Partnerships with Central Asian and international media outlets and businesses as well as governmental, NGO and community organisations provide enriching opportunities for internships that are integral to learning in UCA's Communications and Media programme.

On the completion of the programme the graduates will be able to:

Apply knowledge and skills in research design, methods, and articulation to conduct creative and scholarly research in the field of communications and media

Conceptualise and produce creative projects in diverse mediums with proficiency in script writing, technical skills, and use of studio and portable equipment

Write and edit news and feature articles in multiple languages and professionally present facts and data to a diverse range of stakeholders

Apply knowledge and skills in multimedia, visual communication and design for effective digital and print storytelling and entrepreneurial products

Analyse contemporary intercultural issues in Central Asia and the world for sensitive reportage of conflicts and peacebuilding communication and dialogue

Contribute to political discourse in Central Asia by providing communication entry points for citizens to influence politics for relevant and ethical policy changes

Design social media campaigns and manage platforms through data analytics and digital tools for enhancement of audience engagement and brand identity

Develop advocacy and participatory communication strategies for social change, political pluralism, and environmental ethics as well as translating science into action

Core Curriculum

- Media Literacy
- Writing for Media (English, Russian, National Languages)
- Media Production (TV, Radio, Print/Digital)
- Narrative Studies and Media
- Digital Storytelling and Data

- Digital and Social Media
- Visual Communication
- Communications in Central Asia
- Media Law and Ethics
- Audience in Communications and Media
- Media Research

Specialised Courses

- Specialised Media Labs (Print/Digital, Radio, TV)
- PR and Strategic Communication
- Communication for Development and Social Change
- Photography
- Visual Design

- Creative Writing
- Environmental Communication
- Science Communication
- Intercultural Communication
- Political Communication
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Career Pathways

- Journalism (Traditional and Digital)
- Media Production (TV, Radio, Print)
- Public Relations
- Advertising
- Digital and Social Media

- Academics and Research
- Communication Strategy and Management
- Business and Organisational Communications
- Creative Industries (Film, Visual Design, Photography)

COMPUTER SCIENCE

1 UCA's Computer Science programme is designed in partnership with the University of Toronto, Canada. It will not only develop your programming skills, but will equip you to be part of a new generation of knowledgeable and skilled information technology (IT) professionals ready to develop infrastructure and generate entrepreneurial opportunities in Central Asia.

2 Computer Science at UCA combines the mathematical building blocks of theoretical knowledge with applied programming skills. The concepts of hardware and computer architecture are examined in addition to advanced software topics to prepare you to enter the world of technology, start a business, or pursue study at a higher level.

3 In addition to the Computer Science course work, practical projects are assigned in various courses to provide the capability of dealing with unanticipated problems and then to share the findings in refereed journals. Annual internships, including field, on-the job and pre-qualification internships are another salient feature of the Computer Science curriculum.

4 UCA's Computer Science programme provides an innovative curriculum that emphasizes both theoretical foundations and the practical application of computers. Courses in the program focus on data structures, algorithms, computer architecture and networks, operating systems, software engineering, mobile app development, software design, information security, the concepts of programming languages.

5 Students have the opportunity to use state-of the-art laboratories including a hardware, IoT, computer and networking labs to experiment both hardware and software development.

On the completion of the programme the graduates will be able to:

Design web pages and web applications for personal and business purposes

Examine the legal, social, security and ethical concerns of computer science

Explain the hardware and software of computer systems including the interaction of computer processing units, elements of operating systems, and elements of networks

Explain the structure, components and concepts of operating systems in relation to the services that the systems provide and the implementation trade-offs

Write effective solutions using a variety of programming languages including the languages Python, C, and Java.

Design a safe workplace environment based on the Occupational Health and Safety standard ISO45001 principles

Explain different types of machine learning algorithms to solve real-world problems

Analyse problems and identify and define the computing requirements appropriate to their solutions

Solve real-life problems based on the selection of the most appropriate algorithm(s) and the programming code optimization

Analyse the local and global impact of computing on individuals, organizations, and society

Communicate computer science-related concepts in written, oral, and graphical forms to technical and non-technical stakeholders

Core Curriculum

- Programming I
- Programming II
- Database Management Systems
- Computer Architecture
- Data Structures
- Operating Systems
- Software Engineering
- Computer Graphics
- Information Security
- Computer Networks
- Digital Logic Design
- Safety Management
- Calculus I
- Calculus II
- Science I
- Science II
- Information Technologies

Specialised Courses

- Web and Internet Technologies
- Artificial Intelligence
- Modelling and Simulation
- Automata Theory
- Object-Oriented Programming
- Internet of Things
- Machine Learning
- Mobile App Development
- Design and Analysis of Algorithms

Career Pathways

- Programmers
- Software developers
- Web and mobile app developers
- Data analysts
- Specialists in information technology
- Specialists in hardware and networks architectures
- Administrators and developers of database Management systems
- Specialists in computer science
- Postgraduate scientists

EARTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

1 The Earth and Environmental Sciences major at UCA provides a broad scientifically focused curriculum grounded in relevant social and cultural issues important in mountain regions of Central Asia and beyond. It provides a rigorous foundation in the Earth and Environmental Sciences, while enabling students to have some flexibility to choose courses and undertake research in specialized areas of interest.

2 The transdisciplinary curriculum covers geosciences, environmental sciences, and related social sciences. At its foundation are core courses in natural sciences together with requisite courses in the humanities and social sciences. The strength of the programme lies in its breadth and cross-disciplinary nature with specific areas of study in hydrology, geodynamics, ecology, and environmental policy and abundant opportunities for field trips in the proximate mountains.

3 An overarching theme of the EES Program is understanding the environmental and earth science processes that shape mountain settings, as well as how these interact with mountain communities and livelihoods. Some of the practical topics covered include sustainable management of natural resources; natural hazard mitigation; sustainable mining practices; food security; climate change adaptation; water resources; sustainable energy alternatives; and agrobiodiversity.

4 With an emphasis on developing problem solving skills, practical challenges are addressed through sound science, not opinions or popularly held notions. Students receive practical training outside of the classroom in laboratory exercises, summer internships, and in a senior project, which prepares them for career opportunities or graduate study in earth and environmental science fields.

At the end of the Program students will be able to:

Explain physical and chemical processes that have shaped the earth and in particular mountainous regions, over time

Interpret a broad spectrum of environmental and geological data to develop hypotheses, formulate applied research, and propose solutions

Interpret geological and environmental data as well as local/indigenous knowledge to examine the state of the earth and trends related to geodynamics, pollution, climate change and other environmental hazards

Apply environmental technologies as they relate to using Earth resources, water quality; air pollution control; and alternative energy based on social, economic, and environmental factors

Analyze environmental management problems and evaluate the effectiveness of applicable governance models as well as global environmental governance, in providing solutions to the problems

Explore a range of indigenous ways of knowing and "western" scientific knowledge systems to investigate the contributions of diverse knowledge systems towards understanding and managing human-environment relations in the context of socio-cultural and ecological change

Communicate scientific concepts to various audiences, especially communities in isolated mountainous areas to make them familiar with environmental issues

Career Pathways

- Students completing a UCA undergraduate degree in Earth and Environmental Sciences should be competitive for entry into international graduate studies programs in the areas of Earth and Environmental Sciences.

- They should be able to teach in local schools, find jobs in NGOs and government agencies, or work in the private sector in areas including water technologies, renewable energy, mining, industrial pollution, and climate change impacts.

ECONOMICS

1 The Global Economics major at UCA provides a broad education designed to understand and seek solutions to contemporary economic, financial, environmental and social challenges facing the world. Given UCA's unique location and development focus, the program examines many of these issues from the perspective of mountain communities of Central Asia.

2 The program provides a strong foundation in both theoretical and applied aspects of economics, empowering students to use their knowledge to evaluate a variety of economic and social phenomenon to make informed personal, business and policy choices. Program requirements include a core set of course in economic theory, supplemented by mathematics, data analysis and statistics.

3 Additional requirements include courses in a number of economic sub-fields relevant to the development mission of the university. Elective courses allow students the flexibility to develop a program of study that is tailored to their individual needs and interests, such as in business, entrepreneurship, environment, and public policy. Students are also encouraged to incorporate courses from other UCA programs as electives for a well-rounded educational experience.

4 Graduates of Economics are in high demand because of increasing public concerns related to the environment and resource use, and the importance of economics and management in global affairs. The program's low faculty-student ratio and hands-on learning allow students to gain the confidence and experience needed to compete in the job market or go on to graduate studies.

At the end of the Program student will be able to:

Explain complex economic and social phenomena through models and theory

Analyse qualitative and quantitative data to describe relationships between economic variables

Identify the factors determining organizational and institutional performance, and the inter-relationship between capital, labour and technology in various markets

Apply economic arguments to discuss economic policy proposals, especially in the context of Central Asian economies

Assess development challenges relevant to mountain communities by asking researchable questions and providing evidence for possible policy interventions

Use specific economic concepts such as economic equilibrium, agent theory or transaction costs to explain economic issues

Evaluate the limits of prevailing economic theory to understand the world in which we live in

Evaluate a host of policy choices (e.g. equity vs efficiency; environmental sustainability vs economic growth) using appropriate economic methods and tools

Communicate the implications of economic ideas, concepts and policy relevant to economists, decision makers in business and public sectors, as well as the general public

Career Pathways

The Global Economics program at UCA is designed to prepare students for a range of successful careers especially those in the development sector. This includes careers in government, private firms, non-profit organizations and international organizations in fields as diverse as public policy, environmental economics, agribusiness, ecological management, and international relations. Courses offered at UCA in entrepreneurship, management and finance will give enterprising and resourceful students the tools to start their own businesses and contribute to the development of the regional economy.

Finally, the program prepares graduates to enter top-ranked graduate and professional schools to pursue research and academic careers. Graduates may continue their education in graduate or professional schools in fields such as law, business administration, health, economic development, social work, consumer advocacy, and natural resource management.

Core Curriculum

- Introduction to Microeconomics
- Introduction to Macroeconomics
- Statistics
- Introduction to Econometrics
- Intermediate Macroeconomics
- Intermediate Microeconomics
- Advanced Statistics
- Applied Econometrics
- Economies of Central Asia

Specialised Courses

- Business Strategy
- Social Entrepreneurship
- Marketing
- Project Appraisal (Cost/Benefit Analysis)
- International Finance
- Economic Growth
- Behavioural Economics
- Environmental Economics
- Public Economics
- Energy Economics
- Industrial Organization
- Labor Economics
- Environmental Economics
- Economics of Innovation
- Economics of Tourism
- Agribusiness and Marketing
- Advanced Macroeconomics

RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID

Education at the University of Central Asia is heavily subsidized, and once admitted on merit, a student's financial constraint is not a barrier to quality education.

UCA's generous financial aid programme ensures that admission is based solely on merit, and the ability to pay fees is not part of the selection process.

Once a student is admitted, financial assistance is guaranteed. This assistance takes the form of scholarships, grants, and interest free loans.

Fees are paid in the national currencies, and fixed for the entire period of undergraduate study.

Tuition fees at UCA are equivalent to US$5000 per year which is less than most universities in Central Asia, as well as China, Turkey, and Russia.

Each student is assessed individually, and the tuition fee is subsidized or waived depending on the circumstances of the student's family.

US$1400
[US$140 per month]

The average contribution made by a student during an academic year including tuition, accommodation, and meals, is less than US$1400, or US$140 per month.

Tuition – US$5000

Room and Board – US$3000

>

FINANCIAL AID

>

US$1400

Average contribution by students

Providing a unique residential experience with accommodation, meals, a laptop, health insurance, and other modern facilities, the cost is equivalent to US$3000 annually that is also considered for subsidy or waiver during the financial aid decision.

55
Besides significant subsidies provided by UCA, over 55 donor funded scholarships are available annually

Full scholarships are also awarded to meritorious students from Central Asia (Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan) on a competitive basis

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF EDUCATION

- 9 international academic partner universities
- English immersion environment
- 50% international and 50% Central Asian faculty
- 100% Internet connectivity throughout the campuses
- Laboratories and studios for various disciplines

VIBRANT STUDENT LIFE

- TEDx and International Conferences
- Festivals
- Field trips
- Talent Shows and Evening Activities
- Community outreach activities
- 80% Central Asian and 20% international student body representing 9 countries
- Student clubs

5 REASONS TO CHOOSE UCA

CAMPUS FACILITIES

- State-of-the-art campuses built on over 200 hectares of land
- 24/7 security
- Secure dormitories with common areas, including game rooms and student lounges for entertainment and study
- Library with extensive online resources
- Gym with modern equipment and a trainer
- Laptops provided for every student

SCOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

- Full merit-based scholarships for high achievers (top 15% students)
- Up to 90% need based financial aid available

CAREER PROSPECTS ENHANCEMENT

- Projects and internships give students the equivalent of nine months of work experience prior to graduation
- 300 internship opportunities at over 90 organisations within Central Asia and abroad
- Professional Development Programme to equip students with the soft skills needed to succeed in the professional world
- Entrepreneurship skills: to equip UCA graduates to become job creators rather than job seekers

CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMME

INTEGRATED LEARNING PROGRAMME

As part of UCA's work integrated learning programme, students apply in-class learning to real life professional experience within their field of study across private, public and community-based sectors.

This programme offers paid summer internships and prepares students for both academic as well as professional career success. The programme is developed in partnership with the University of Victoria in Canada.

UCA is the only university in Central Asia region that is

A FULL INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER OF WACE

WACE is an international professional organization dedicated to developing, expanding, branding and advocating for cooperative and work-integrated education programs within industry and educational institutions.

UCA'S CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMME OFFERS:

- Networking with professionals
- Professional development course
- Experiential learning in the workplace
- 9 months of work experience
- Application of knowledge and skills in practice
- Potential for employment after graduation
- Full or part time summer/ winter job placements

SOME INTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS:

INTERNATIONAL AND NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS

- Aga Khan Development Network agencies
- Asian World Film Festival
- UNICEF
- USAID
- The University of Cambridge, UK
- Ashoka University
- Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG)
- Freie Universitaet Berlin
- OSCE Academy
- US Embassy
- Good Neighbors International
- InDepthNews
- Institute for War and Peace Reporting
- AmCham Kyrgyzstan
- AmCham Tajikistan

PRIVATE COMPANIES

- Nielsen Admosphere
- OXFAM
- Spalmalo IT Company
- SIAR Research and Consulting Company
- uExel IT Solutions
- Bank Bai Tushum
- BBC News
- Crowe Consulting Company
- Growave Marketing Platform
- KICB Bank

GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

- Ministry of Education and science
- Kut bilim
- Taraz Akimiat

ONLINE APPLICATION

www.ucentralasia.org/apply-online

Submit your application online

15 MARCH

Stage I
Application
Deadline

FIRST SUNDAY OF APRIL

Take UCA's Admissions
Exam **OR** Submit
SAT scores

MAY

Shortlisted candidates
to submit:
- Stage II Application Form
- Financial aid application
- Interviews

UCA Khorog Campus, Tajikistan

UNIVERSITY
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