

UK - England Summer at London School of Economics (LSE) UCEAP Advising Notes

Objective

This document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student's decision to apply for a UCEAP program. The document is not a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on the UCEAP and BSA websites. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website or in the Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

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Program Options Available to UC Students

The LSE Summer School offers over 100 intensive three-week courses taught in three consecutive sessions. As a UCEAP student, you enroll in ONE of these options:

- Session 2 (3 weeks)
- Session 1 + 2 (6 weeks)
- Session 2 + 3 (6 weeks)

UCEAP students may NOT apply to Session 1 as a standalone session, Session 3 as a standalone session or Session 1+3.

Program Information

For the most complete information, we recommend that you study the UCEAP and the LSE websites together:

- [Visit the UCEAP Summer at LSE program page](#)
- [Visit the LSE Summer School Courses web page](#)
- [Visit the LSE Summer School Accommodation \(Housing\) web page](#)

As a UCEAP participant, you should be referring to the UCEAP Summer at LSE program page for eligibility, academic policy, and program cost information.

Financial Aid

To be eligible for summer aid, you must take at least 6 semester units. Therefore, if you apply to Session 2 alone, you will not qualify for financial aid. If you apply to Session 1+2 or Session 2+3 you will meet the minimum units required to qualify for summer financial aid.

Financial aid students can request a financial aid estimate for the program [here](#).

Academics, Units and Grades

Each LSE Summer course is worth 3.7 UC semester units and must be taken for a letter grade; taking a class for P/NP is not an option. This program is fast-paced and very academically rigorous. Students are in classes 5 days a week, morning to afternoon. Given the intensive nature of the program and the class schedule, we recommend that you do any long-distance travel before the program starts and/or after the program ends – not during the program.

Competitiveness of the Program

This UCEAP program is not competitive and doesn't have space constraints. If you do not meet the 2.85 UCEAP GPA requirements for this UCEAP program, your application will not be considered for UCEAP participation. Otherwise, this program is able to accommodate all qualified applicants who submit a complete and thoughtful application on or before the Berkeley Study Abroad application deadline. You can ignore messaging from LSE regarding their first-come, first-served admission. Our application deadline is early enough in the LSE application period that all UCEAP applicants that apply by the UCEAP deadline should be able to get into their requested courses.

Selection Timeline

UCEAP will get back to you within 8 weeks of your UCEAP and Berkeley Study Abroad application submission date. LSE will get back to you anywhere from 2 to 10 business days after submitting your LSE Summer School online application to notify you of your admission to your chosen courses. Therefore, please expect to hear back from LSE Summer before you hear back from UCEAP.

Communication from LSE

LSE is a very large international summer school program of approximately 7,000 students and professionals; UCEAP students are a very small sub-group of that total. If you have questions about any email communication directly from LSE or are told something that appears confusing or seems to conflict with UCEAP policy, send an email to the BSA advisor. **DO NOT PAY TUITION TO LSE!** If you are being asked to pay tuition to LSE to confirm your spot, it may be because you did not complete the LSE application using the instructions provided to you by UCEAP and have been coded incorrectly in their system as a result. As a UCEAP student, you (or your financial aid) pay tuition and fees to UCEAP, not to LSE. Please contact your BSA advisor with any questions or concerns.

Housing

We strongly encourage that all students sign up for [LSE Housing](#) to ensure housing security for the program duration. To find six consecutive weeks of decent, affordable housing in central London over the summer is quite a challenge. The further you live from LSE, the more money and time you'll spend on transportation, so the money you might save in housing will likely be spent on transportation. The LSE housing cost is a large, up-front payment that you will have to pay in full well before departure. Be advised that there is no deposit or payment plan options for LSE Housing. Delay in paying for housing may prevent you from getting housing as all housing in London is first-come, first-served. See [here](#) for LSE Accommodation prices. **Financial aid students:** Your financial aid will not pay out in time for you to make this payment. Please plan accordingly. Advanced planning is key in making this work.

Flights

Do NOT purchase your flight until you have been selected by both LSE and Berkeley Study Abroad to participate AND your Official UCEAP Calendar and Arrival Instructions have been posted to your UCEAP Portal. Do NOT travel to or through the Republic of Ireland on your way

to the United Kingdom. Do not book your flight on Aer Lingus, as it will make a stop in Dublin on its way to the U.K.

Other Important Notes

UCEAP Alums

EAP alumni are one of your best resources for information about the program. If you would like to be put in touch with alums, simply send the BSA Adviser an email with your list of questions and the contact information of returnees who have agreed to be contacted will be shared.

Making friends with locals

When students are able to make friends with locals while studying abroad, their experience is enriched. The recent post [How to Make Friends with Locals While Abroad](#) by UCEAP student Elizabeth Lemerand (UCLA) offers advice for students to make meaningful connections while they travel.