The UK’s first fully open access university press

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‘Scholarly outputs are typically subjected to a publications process that ... limits their widespread dissemination. UCL is committed to being a force for good and enlightenment in the world. This includes ensuring that the products of its research are made as widely available as possible.’

Professor David Price, Vice Provost (Research), UCL
Benefits of an OA University Press

- Taking publishing back into the university system - the university supports the entire research life cycle.
- Challenge the prevailing scholarly publishing model - issue of low dissemination.
- Support for OA to AHSS outputs, which receive less funding than STEM.
- Social impact: research available to the public and policy makers.
- Global impact: outputs reach regions in which research is unavailable or unaffordable.
- Motivation for academics: they want their research to be widely read.
- Added reputational value of a university press, through global dissemination, publicity, reviews.
- Consistent with Open Science agenda.
- Opportunities for integration of research and learning.
UCL Press: facts and figures

Launched with first titles June 2015

Publishing Manager plus 4.5 FTE, all with publishing background

Open to all; mainly UCL authors to date (ECRs to Professors)

For non-UCL author / editor, BPC charge starting at £5,000

All books are copy-edited and typeset

All books evaluated by Editorial Board and peer reviewed

Strengths in Anthropology, Built Environment, History, Language Studies, Archaeology

Target is 40 books per year by 2018
Publishing activity
86 BOOKS PUBLISHED SINCE LAUNCH

- Monographs & short monographs, edited collections, textbooks
- Open Access formats: PDF, browser
- Non – OA formats: print-on-demand, e-Pub, MOBI
Digital innovation: browser-based platform
BOOC (Books as Open Online Content)
Academic Journals
Student Journals

UCL Press uses OJS (Open Journal Systems) to provide a platform for UCL students to publish Open Access Journals. Find out more about the service.

UCL Open Access Student Journals

Interscript

Opticon1826

Opticon1826 is an all-faculty, peer reviewed academic journal, run and edited by UCL postgraduate students who represent all UCL faculties. We publish predominantly current UCL research (ongoing and completed), but also a selection of reviews, commentaries and letters. Publication is continuous throughout the year, with articles available as soon as they are ready in fully open access format.

Contributions are invited from all members of UCL, including undergraduates, postgraduates and staff.

View Journal | Current Issue | Register

Interscript

Interscript is an open access academic journal on publishing. It provides a platform that fosters international debate on the constantly evolving nature of the publishing industry. The journal is managed by postgraduate students in the UCL Centre for Publishing and hosted by UCL Press. Interscript departs from traditional issue-based journal publication, and instead publishes its content on a continuous rolling basis.

View Journal | Current Issue | Register

Object

Think Pieces
Downloads and sales
UCL Press downloads since June 2015

1,409,430
Downloads June ‘15 – June ‘18

Our books and Journals have downloaded in 225 countries and territories worldwide
Most Downloaded Books

- **How the World Changed**
  - 258,171
  - Since March 2016

- **Social Media in Industrial China**
  - 72,264
  - Since Sept 2016

- **Social Media in an English Village**
  - 58,606
  - Since March 2016

- **Textbook of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery**
  - 40,463
  - Since Aug 2016

- **A Conversation About Healthy Eating**
  - 57,563
  - Since Jul 2017
JSTOR Open
• Launched Oct 16
• Now accounts for more than 50% of UCL Press downloads
Sales by format

The OA Effect?

Print sales
• Average sales 100-200 copies in first year of publication
• *How the World Changed Social Media* – over 400 copies in Y1

E-book sales
• E-Pub and Kindle sales are small!
Thanks Marcus. 1626 copies downloaded free in first 3 wks, including 69 in Australia (76 countries in total). Great to write for @uCLPress
Sustainability

• UCL invests in UCL Press:
  – To secure the effective publication and dissemination of research
  – As a ‘generous partner’, sharing its research outputs as widely as possible
• Full cost recovery is not an expectation
• Nonetheless, UCL Press has several income streams, including:
  – Sales of print, at cost (typically £20 pbk / £35 hbk)
  – Partnerships, e.g. with Knowledge Unlatched
  – Consultancy
  – Publishing Services
“I believe the UCL Press’s non-commercial model should be the way forward in academic publishing. At the moment, especially for scholars located in the global south access to publications (books and journals) is prohibitively expensive.”

- Harshana Rambukwella

“We have been really impressed with the quality of the works produced by UCL Press since its relaunch.”

- Dr Michaela Benson & Dr Iqbal Hamiduddin

“We have chosen UCL Press with the anticipation it exemplifies the imaginative thinking that is part of UCL tradition and supports innovative forms of teaching.”

- Jo Volley/ Ian Rowlands

“Since I am a UCL staff member, it seemed a natural choice. The open access policy is also very attractive, particularly since we would like this ground-breaking book to reach a wide audience.”

- Professor Anne White

“I anticipate that UCL Press would be able to support me in my exploration of innovative ways of publishing interactive audio-visual content and look forward to the possibility of collaboration.”

- Dr Sara Adhitya

“We strongly wish to publish this through UCL Press in order to benefit from the Open Access facility.”

- Bill Sillar
Thank you

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