
Reducing period poverty

Sustainable UCL and UCL Students' Union are working together to reduce 'period poverty' by providing sustainable period products to staff and student who need them.

At the same time, the initiative is aiming to raise awareness of the pros and cons of different disposable and reusable menstrual products, including their impact on health and the environment.

"We want to allow individuals to make informed choices of which sanitary products to use and help break the taboo around periods," says Emma Shirbon (Sustainable UCL).

Project Period began in 2018, when the Women's Officer at Student's Union UCL began stocking free sanitary towels and tampons in all the female toilets in its building and for collection from its main office.



Tackling school-related gender-based violence in Africa

A collaboration between the UCL Institution of Education (IOE), UNICEF, and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, UNICEF is a

Project

is aimed at reducing gender-based violence in schools in Africa. The project is a collaboration between the UCL Institution of Education (IOE), UNICEF, and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, UNICEF is a

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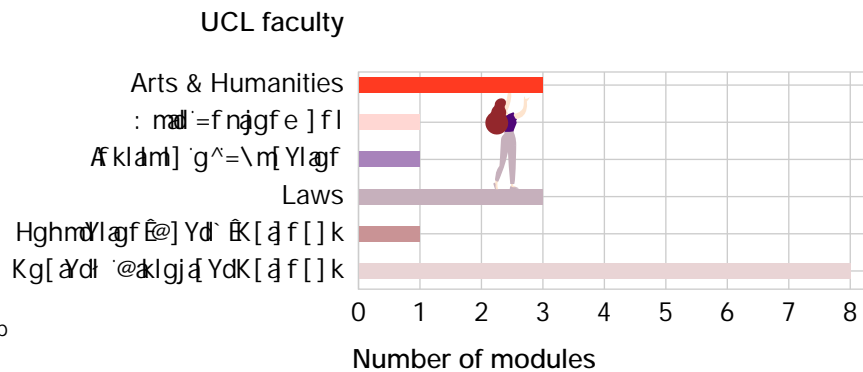
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Taught modules at UCL supporting SDG5 in 2021–22

Source: PPMI, a partner in the UN AI Lab – more details in the [methodology](#)



◀ of forced and child marriage on mental health by improving policy, research and advocacy.

“Despite most countries recognising that early and forced marriage can have serious health consequences for the individuals concerned, mental health rarely makes it to any list, and if it does, responses and supports are lacking,” explains Dr Rochelle Burgess (UCL IGH), who is leading the network.

In one study, network member Dr Delan Devakumar (UCL IGH) collaborated with local partners in Nepal to produce a documentary telling the stories of couples who were married young and how child marriage affected their lives physically and psychologically. The film, accompanied by facilitated discussions, has reached more than 1,800 people living in village communities in the rural plains of Nepal where child marriage is common.



Empowering tomorrow's leaders

Students at UCL have formed an inclusive community focusing on empowerment, gender equity and personal development.

The UCL Leading Women Society aims to empower people of all genders and help its members strive for the careers they deserve.

Boasting more than 100 members, the society holds career and personal development events, including career panels, CV clinics and networking nights. These bring together current female leaders in professional industries and provide opportunities for its members to prepare for becoming leaders themselves.



UCL retains 'Silver' Athena Swan charter mark

UCL has retained its Silver Athena Swan award status for the next five years, recognising its commitment to equality.

The national Athena SWAN Charter was established in 2005 to encourage and recognise a commitment to advancing the careers of women employed in higher education and research. UCL received its first institutional Silver award in 2015. ▶

Number of UCL's research publications supporting SDG5 by faculty in 2016–20

Arts & Humanities
Brain Sciences
Built Environment

Number of publications

◀ Professor Sasha Roseneil, Pro-Provost (Equity & Inclusion), said: "This latest award is a further indication of UCL's founding commitment to equity and inclusion and evidences how we are embedding best practice in all of our work."

This year, several UCL departments were also recognised by Athena Swan; 41 now hold awards, the highest number of any UK higher education institution, including three Gold and 17 Silver.



21.7%

of UCL's SDG5-related publications are in the top 10% most cited for all research of similar papers in 2016–20

Source: Scopus and Clarivate – see methodology

60.3%

of UCL's SDG5-related research publications are international collaborations, 2016–20

Source: Scopus and Clarivate – see methodology

DISCOVER MORE

Read more on these activities and other examples of how UCL is helping to achieve SDG5 are on the [UCL SDGs Initiative website](#).