

The image features a background photograph of several modern glass skyscrapers, likely in a city like London, with their reflections visible in a body of water in the foreground. The sky is blue with some light clouds. In the top left corner, the text 'UCL SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT' is displayed. The 'UCL' part is in orange, while 'SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT' is in white. The main title 'INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS FOR GRAND CHALLENGES' is written in large, white, outlined letters across the bottom half of the image, partially overlapping the reflection of the buildings.

UCL  
SCHOOL OF  
MANAGEMENT

# INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS FOR GRAND CHALLENGES

# TACKLE URGENT GLOBAL PROBLEMS

A young man with dark hair, wearing an orange button-down shirt over a white t-shirt, is seated at a table and looking towards a woman. The woman is seen from the side, wearing a grey patterned top. They appear to be in a casual setting, possibly a cafe or meeting space, with a yellow cup on the table in the foreground. The background is slightly blurred, showing a framed picture on the wall and a green plant on the left.

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Innovation Ecosystems for Grand Challenges introduces the concept of innovation ecosystems and its key pillars:

- Mindset
- Product and customers
- Organisation design
- Processes
- Knowledge and technology
- People
- Context

This allows learners to understand innovation management and practices, to focus on key elements of innovation within an ecosystem, and to prepare the entrepreneurial mindset for continuous research on innovation, considering the contexts and needs of companies, customers, and societies.

Throughout the course we emphasise the need of understanding innovation ecosystems from the perspective of Grand Challenges, connecting the discussion of innovation in organisations to global pressing problems, such as sustainable cities and transformative technology.

Students will also be inspired to learn from research and use research to deliver business solutions, through coursework projects, following the principles of the UCL Connected Curriculum. Students will have the opportunity of learning from researchers, industry professionals, and peers from a very diverse and international community.

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# What to expect ?



### Access to leading business and management academics

Research is at the forefront of what we do at UCL, and the same academics who are undertaking this renowned work will be teaching in class. This means that students get first-hand access to latest innovations and ideas from some of the world's great minds.

### An innovative teaching and learning environment

Learning takes place in our state-of-the-art facilities on the 50th (top) and 38th floors of the iconic One Canada Square building in the heart of Canary Wharf, London's business and finance district. We take advantage of the latest pedagogical technologies to enhance the classroom experience.

### Engaging course content

The programme will address major global challenges by focusing on building the skills and knowledge that are in high demand, enabling students to use knowledge, skills and capabilities acquired in the module in their professional careers.

### Exposure to industry experts

Being based in London's financial centre, we have access to the leading experts in some of the world's largest organisations, and we bring their expertise directly to our students.

# Why UCL School of Management?

TOP  
10

UCL is consistently ranked as one of the top-10 universities in the world (QS)

95%

of UCL School of Management's research is considered world-leading and internationally excellent (REF21)

UNIVERSITY  
OF  
THE YEAR

UCL is ranked University of the year for 2024 (THE)

90+

countries and nationalities represented across the School, bringing diversity of thought to the classroom

PRIME  
LOCATION

UCL is based in London, the number one student city in the world for the last three years (QS)

### Did you know?

- In 1878 UCL was the first university in England to accept women on equal terms with men
- 32 students or academics have been awarded a Nobel Prize • UCL is the largest campus-based university in the UK with more than 51,000 students
- More than 150 countries and nationalities are represented across UCL.

**Programme dates**

23 June to 04 July 2025. Pre- and post-programme sessions are delivered online on 16 June and 17 July respectively.

**Contact Hours**

62 hours in total

**Location**

Canary Wharf, London, UK.

**Eligibility**

Postgraduate students from partner institutions

**Application deadline**

4 April 2025, 17:00 GMT

There is a £500 registration and administration fee payable to secure your place on the programme.



**The Innovation Ecosystem Framework**

Introduction to Innovation Ecosystem Framework, Grand Challenges, Innovation Management, Diffusion of Innovation, and the Economics of Innovation. The class prepares students to understand the link between innovation ecosystems and grand challenges.

**Organisational design: Business model innovation and platforms**

Introduction to business model innovation and platform business models. The class prepares students to develop ideas for value creation and business model innovation.

**Quality data and analysis: A research-driven approach**

Introduction to a research-driven approach for fostering innovation. The class discusses how to get quality data and how to apply theory for leveraging the quality and credibility of innovation projects.

**An entrepreneurial view: Business Planning and Collaboration**

Introduction to business planning in the context of Grand Challenges. The class discusses strategic perspectives for companies to play solo or in collaboration with partners.

**Digital-driven business innovation**

Introduction to key digital technologies which foster innovation. The class covers digital infrastructures, cloud computing, the 4th Industrial Revolution and the industries of the future, providing students with ideas on how to add digital technologies to their innovation processes.

**Knowledge and Technology: AI & Grand Challenges**

Introduction to AI (Artificial Intelligence) and ML (Machine Learning), with focus on understanding the application of these technologies for Grand Challenges. The session explains how AI and ML are applied in a few business cases.

**Process, automation and the future of work**

Introduction to operations management, with emphasis on the impact of automation to the workforce. The session discusses case studies, and gives advices to workers in the era of automation and intelligent machines.

**Effective Leadership for Long-Lasting Success**

Introduction to people management, with focus on leadership and skills. The session highlights the relevance of leadership for delivering innovation and change for Grand Challenges.

**Stories of Sustainability Oriented Innovation in Ecosystems**

Introduction to case studies on smart cities (Dubai Future Foundation), and CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) (Mercato Metropolitano). The class helps students to rethink their own projects from a sustainable business model perspective.

**Designing Nature-Inspired Products in the Circular Economy**

Introduction to the implementation of circular and regenerative initiatives using project and programme management approaches. The class covers biomimicry and explores how the agile project management approach may be used for developing circular economy solutions.

**Green Finance: Catalyst for successful interplay between innovation and sustainability through economic activities and projects**

Introduction to green finance (ESG reporting) and project appraisal related to sustainability. The session connects green finance with sustainable development and climate finance, providing information to be used in business plans.

**Industry engagement**

Engagement with companies. The class either visits a company in London, or receives the visit of a company in the campus. The idea is to learn from the professional experience, with focus on the main domains covered by the module.

## What will students get out of the programme?

**Students attending the course will acquire fundamental knowledge, skills and capabilities to be critical decision-makers on how to manage innovation in complex environments (the Grand Challenges).**

The course prepares students to select appropriate innovation management approaches for organisational and societal contexts, demonstrating depth of analysis based on strategic thinking.

A good balance between theory and practice is a core benefit of the course, which also emphasises data-driven analysis, risk management and prioritisation.



## Meet the Academics



### Magda Hercheui

Magda David Hercheui is the Programme Director for the MSc Management and a Professor in Management Education, teaching Project Management and Innovation at the UCL School of Management. She has a PhD in Information Systems and an MSc in New Media, Information and Society, both from the London School of Economics and Political Science Executive MBA in Finance, a BA in Economics, and a BA in Journalism.

Her scholarship is in the areas of knowledge management and social media, focusing on knowledge sharing, collaboration, and the governance structures of online collectives. Magda is a Senior Business Advisor at UCL CDI Centre for Digital Innovation, where she provides consultancy for digital businesses enrolled in the Impact Accelerator.

### Michael Manlangit

Michael Manlangit is an Associate Professor (Education) in Finance at the School of Management. Michael is also the Programme Director for UCL's joint MBA with Peking University as well as for the School of Management's global engagement. Michael has a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from McGill University in Montreal, Canada. He has also completed a Master's degree in Finance from Birkbeck College as well as another Master's degree in Property Development and Planning from the UCL Bartlett School of Planning. Michael is completing his PhD in Planning Studies at the UCL Bartlett School of Planning.

His current research focuses on the business practices of large, publicly listed house builders within the planning policy context of the UK. Prior research includes aspects of real estate finance as well as property development and urban planning policy.





### Paolo Taticchi

Paolo Taticchi is Professor in Strategy and Sustainability and School Deputy Director (MBA, Global Engagement, Executive Education) at UCL School of Management. Highly active in executive education, Paolo has trained thousands of managers and executives of Fortune Global 500 companies. Paolo holds a BEng and MEng in Mechanical Engineering

(cum laude), and a PhD in Industrial Engineering with a focus on operations management from the University of Perugia; and an MBA with a focus on innovation from the University of Perugia and the Bradford School of Management. He has also completed Harvard Business School's High Potentials Leadership Program.

Paolo's research on corporate sustainability and performance measurement is internationally recognised. Outside of the academy, Paolo has significant consultancy experience in the fields of strategy, education, and sustainability.

### Sunny Lee

Sun Young (Sunny) Lee is an Associate Professor of Organisational Behaviour (OB) and the head of diversity at the UCL School of Management. She earned a B.A. in English Literature from the Seoul National University, a M.P.P. from the University of Chicago, and a Ph.D. in OB from the London Business School.



Before entering academia, she worked as a consultant at Accenture, LG Ad, and Hewlett Packard for several years.



### Bilal Gokpinar

Bilal Gokpinar is Professor of Operations, Technology, and Innovation at the UCL School of Management, and Head of the Marketing and Analytics research group. Bilal received his PhD from Northwestern University, USA. He obtained his BSc in Industrial Engineering (with minors in Economics and Mathematics) from Purdue University with distinction.

Bilal's main research interests are in product and service innovation, technology management, digital transformation, and operations management. His recent research examines automation and robotics, frontline innovation, product design and service management on digital platforms, crowd-driven innovation, and healthcare operations.



### Alan Parkinson

Alan is Deputy Director (Education) and Professor of Financial Education in the School of Management. He is Chair of Departmental Education Committee; Chair of School Examination Boards; and Teaching Lead: Finance, Accounting and Economics. He is a qualified accountant (FCCA and ACMA/CGMA), with a Doctorate in Education, an MSc

Education Teaching Certificate, and an MA in Early Modern History. Alan specialises in Managerial Accounting, and Financial Management, and generic Accounting/Finance modules. His scholarship interests are accounting history, technology in education, and curriculum design/evaluation.

### Alastair Moore

Alastair is a UCL PhD computer Scientist with 10 years' experience in AI/ML, UX design, marketplaces, mobile and early stage tech innovation. Alastair was on the founding team of UCL spin-out Satalia.com and venture-backed Wearepopup.com. At UCL, he helped to create The Mobile Academy and set up IDEALondon, an innovation centre at the heart of TechCity in partnership with Cisco and DC Thomson. Alastair has been a member of the Special Group for Entrepreneurship for the British Computer Society and has mentored at the Wayra Academy, Springboard Mobile (now Techstars London) and Startupbootcamp IoT.



Alastair's current work includes projects on innovation in business models for 5G networked environments, scale-up support programme for SME's requiring Big Data/Analytics expertise, and commercialisation of smart cities platform using Sematic Web technology.

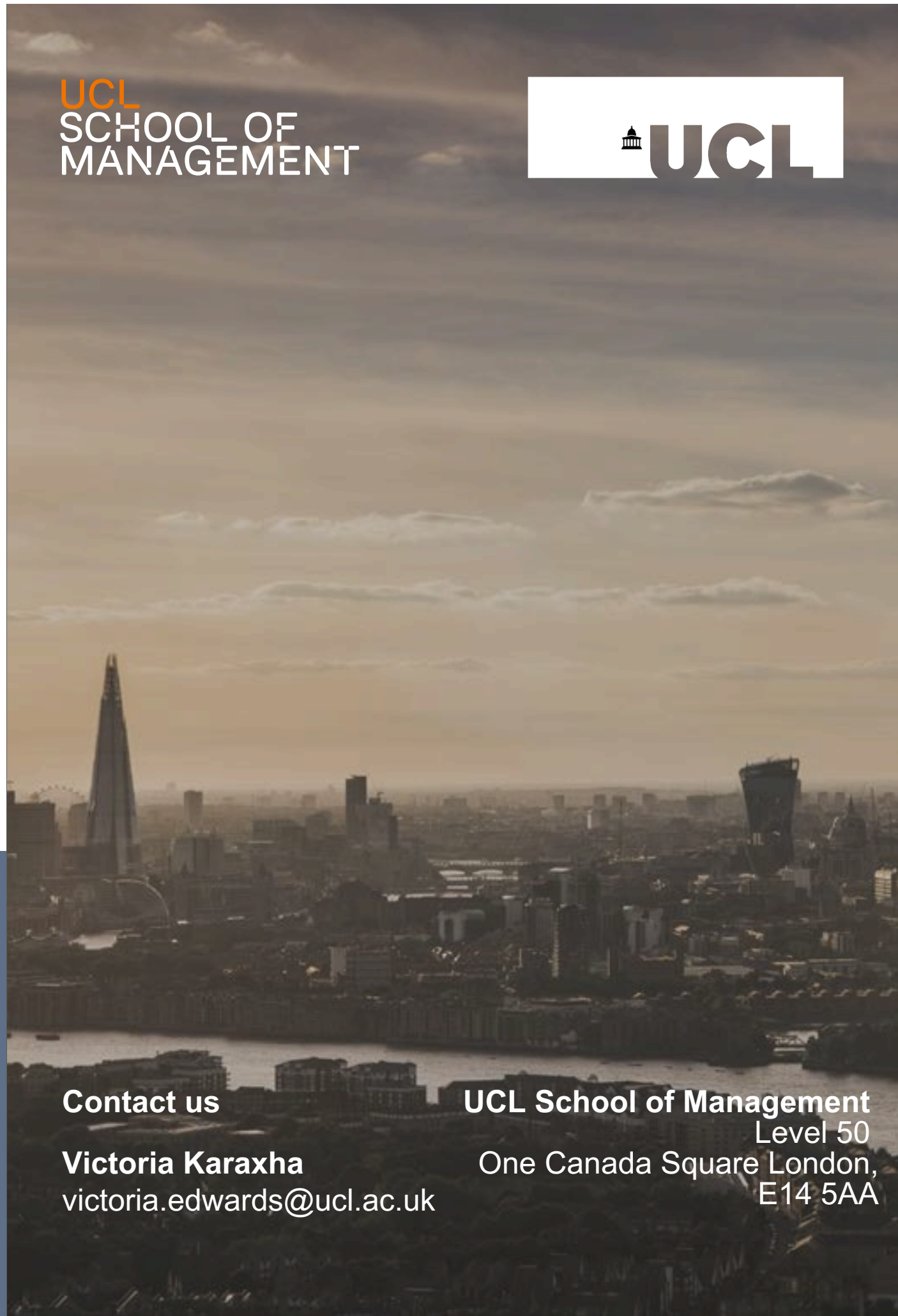


### Clive Vassell

Clive is a Lecturer of programme and portfolio management, covering traditional and agile approaches. He has a multiple professional practitioner project management qualifications including Association for Project Management (APM), PRINCE2, PRINCE2 Agile, Management of Risk (MoR), Agile Project Management (AgilePM) and Agile Business Analysis (AgileBA). He is also ITIL certified, a certified

Agile Project Management (AgilePM) trainer, a certified PRINCE2 trainer, and a Fellow of The Higher Education Academy. Clive has extensive project management, systems consultancy and software development experience, forged in the fast moving consumer goods (FMCG), retail sectors, insurance and financial systems. His scholarly interest is in the regenerative and distributive economy. He is also the School Lead for Mentoring and Coaching.

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