MPhil & PhD Studies at The University of Hong Kong

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MPhil or PhD?
# MPhil and PhD Studies in HKU

## Study Period

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Full-time (Year)</th>
<th>Part-time (Year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MPhil</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>3-year PhD</em></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-year PhD</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Students with research Master’s degree will register for a 3-year PhD programme*
# MPhil and PhD Studies in HKU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MPhil Degree</th>
<th>PhD Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less Depth</td>
<td>More Depth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Originality</td>
<td>More Originality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Theoretical</td>
<td>More Theoretical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guided Thinking</td>
<td>Independent Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guided Work</td>
<td>More Independent Work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MPhil and PhD Studies in HKU

**MPhil**

- Bachelor’s degree with 2A honours from this University or another qualification of equivalent standard from a comparable institution (mainland universities: 2A honours equivalent – cGPA 3.0/4; average marks: 80)

**PhD**

- Bachelor’s degree (1<sup>st</sup> class Hons); or (mainland universities: 1<sup>st</sup> class honours equivalent – cGPA 3.6/4; average marks: 85)
- Bachelor’s degree (2A Hons) plus taught Master’s degree; or
- Bachelor’s degree (2A Hons) plus MPhil from this University or comparable institution
Accommodation

- FT non-local RPg students registered on/after 1 July, 2019 **guaranteed hall place in Year 1** in the following residential halls:
  - Jockey Club Student Village III
  - Graduate House
  - St. John’s College
  - Ching Lin Terrace Residence *etc.*
### Graduate Employment (by Employment Sector)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment Sector</th>
<th>MPhil &amp; PhD %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>71.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community, Social &amp; Personal Services</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce &amp; Industry</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures are supplied by the Management Information Unit. Some percentages do not add up to 100% owing to rounding.
Faculties at HKU
HKU ranked 14th in Architecture/Built Environment in QS Subject Rankings 2021.

HKU ranked 30th globally, 4th in Asia and 1st locally in The Times Higher Education World University Ranking (WUR) 2022.

HKU Faculty of Architecture celebrates its research excellence on RAE 2020: https://fac.arch.hku.hk/forms/rae-2020/

Offers RPg Programmes in 4 Departments & Division:
- Architecture
- Landscape Architecture
- Real Estate and Construction
- Urban Planning and Design

HKURBANlatt – aims at bringing together researchers from architecture, conservation, construction and real estate, landscape and urban planning and design to work together to answer big urban research and design questions facing society.
HKU’s Humanities has the highest percentage of research scoring 4 stars (i.e. world-leading quality) in the Humanities Panel in the Research Assessment Exercise 2020.

HKU ranked 1st in Asia and 21st in the world for Arts and Humanities in the U.S. News & World Report Best Global University 2021, the only one Asian University to have made it into the top 30 among 250 universities worldwide.

HKU ranked 3rd in Asia and 1st in Hong Kong in Arts and Humanities in both the Times Higher Education World University Subject Rankings 2021 and the QS World University Subject Rankings 2021.

Cutting-edge research and teaching: Linguistics (ranked 11th in QS), Modern Languages (ranked 26th in QS).

Research emphasis on Interdisciplinarity and ‘East–West’ relations from the local–global perspective and across cultural, social and historical contexts.

Public lecture by Professor Peter Singer, Princeton University, the author of the ground-breaking book Animal Liberation.

Louis Cha Fund Distinguished Lecture by Mr. Hsien-yung Pai, a famous Taiwanese writer.

UOB Behind the Scenes Lecture by Mr. Jussi Pylkkänen, Chief Auctioneer and Global President of Christie’s.

Public performance by Juilliard String Quartet, University Artists Scheme.
Faculty of Business & Economics (HKU Business School)

❖ Offers full-time PhD programme in the following areas:
  • Accounting
  • Economics
  • Finance
  • Innovation and Information Management
  • Management and Strategy
  • Marketing

❖ Offers entrance scholarship to new students on the basis of academic merit

❖ Ample opportunities for academic exchanges with distinguished scholars from world leading universities

❖ Graduate employment in major higher education, research and financial institutions
Faculty of Dentistry

Top Dental Faculty in the World
Ranked 3rd in QS World University Rankings by Subject (2021)

❖ Hong Kong’s sole provider of dental education
❖ Ranks highly favourably alongside research dental schools internationally
❖ Strongly research active and very international faculty
❖ Excellent research outputs and world-leading research impact and environment

The Faculty’s Functional Research Themes:
1. Biomedical Engineering and Biofunctional Materials
2. Oral Microbiome and Health Initiative
3. Population Oral Health
4. Smart Health Technology and Potentially Malignant Oral Disease
5. Clinical Artificial Intelligence
Faculty of Education

- **3 Academic Units**
  - Teacher Education and Learning Leadership
  - Social Contexts and Policies of Education
  - Human Communication, Development, and Information Sciences

- **World University Rankings for Education 2021:**
  - No. 5 [Times Higher Education (THE)]
  - No. 7 [Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)]

- **Exchange programmes** with prestigious universities in the US, UK, and Australia
- **Renowned international visitors** to give seminars and provide individual consultations on research and publications
- **Research Postgraduate Conferences** to promote intellectual exchange
- **Financial support** for international research experiences and professional editing

Further Information: Faculty website for prospective students
Faculty of Engineering

- **Five Departments with Three Interdisciplinary Strategic Research Clusters**
  - Environment
  - Health
  - Data
  - Home of two InnoHK (~HK$300-400m each) and seven TRS (~HK$20-50m each) projects
  - Increase of RPg student annual intake from 160 to 230 in 3 years

- **World-class Scholars**
  - 4 Highly Cited Researchers by Thomson Reuters in 2020
  - 30 teachers in the Faculty ranked in the Top 1% worldwide by citations according to the Clarivate Analytics’ Essential Science Indicators (ESI) in 2020
• Ranked 21 in Law in QS 2021
• Ranked 6 of 500 int’l law schools SSRN Sept 2021
• Supervision available for topics in public and private law, international and comparative law, commercial and financial law, dispute resolution, law & technology, law & the humanities, medical legal ethics, and Chinese law

HKU Legal Scholarship Blog
http://researchblog.law.hku.hk/
HKUMed has been working tirelessly in the fight against COVID-19. Our research provides relief during crises and direction on health policies, including clinical care, diagnostics, outbreak modelling, vaccine development and more. Join us!
Faculty of Science

❖ **Six Departments/School**

Chemistry / Biological Sciences

Earth Sciences / Mathematics / Physics

Statistical and Actuarial Science

❖ **Interdisciplinary Research Units**

HKU-TCL Joint Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence / HKU-UCAS Joint Institute of Theoretical and Computational Physics / Institute of Mathematical Research / Laboratory for Space Research / The Swire Institute of Marine Science

❖ **Research Eminence:**

Leads Six Areas of Excellence projects, one State Key Laboratory and three HK-CAS Joint Laboratories

❖ **Top-ranked Scientists** – According to Clarivate Analytics’ Essentials Science Indicators 2020, 16.5% of our professoriate staff are the world’s Top 1% scholars

❖ **Guest Lectures** – delivered by world renowned scientists and Shaw Prize laureates

❖ **Scholarship** – For each HKPF awardee, the Faculty would provide an additional scholarship of HKD$15,000 in the first year
Faculty of Social Sciences

3 New Research Clusters

Some Specialist Areas by Departments

- Geography
  - Belt and Road initiative
  - Geographical information systems and cartography
  - Climate change, cultural, political and economic geography development, Transportation and geospatial technologies
  - Comparative politics
  - International relations
  - Political theory
  - Public administration and public policy

- Journalism and Media Studies
  - Digital media, research method
  - News literacy, press freedom
  - Social media analytics
  - Computational social sciences

- Psychology
  - Behavioural neuroscience
  - Clinical psychology and neuropsychology
  - Cognition and perception
  - Educational and developmental psychology
  - Social psychology

- Sociology
  - Ageing and gerontology
  - Children and youth
  - Death and bereavement
  - Expressive arts therapy
  - Family violence and child welfare
  - Gender and sexuality
  - Population health and demographic studies
  - Social service planning and management
  - Health care and mental health care

- Social Work and Social Administration
  - Asian societies and globalisation
  - Criminology
  - Media and culture
Joint Programmes

- Joint PhD
  (King’s College London)

- Joint Educational Placement for PhD
  (University of Toronto)
## Joint PhD Programme - KCL
(PhD degree jointly awarded by HKU and KCL)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HKU</th>
<th>King’s College London</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Arts</td>
<td>Faculty of Arts &amp; Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Dentistry</td>
<td>Faculty of Dentistry, Oral &amp; Craniofacial Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Science</td>
<td>Faculty of Social Science &amp; Public Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Social Sciences</td>
<td>Lau China Institute*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LKS Faculty of Medicine</td>
<td>Faculty of Natural &amp; Mathematical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Faculty of Life Sciences &amp; Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology &amp; Neuroscience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Florence Nightingale Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery &amp; Palliative Care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Part of the Faculty of Social Science & Public Policy
Joint Educational Placement for PhD - UofT
(Single PhD degree from the lead institution)
Joint PhD Programme/
Joint Educational Placement for PhD

• Registration at both Universities
• Spend half of the study period at each university
• Last six months at Home University
Scholarships, Awards, Grants and Tuition Fee
Tuition Waiver Scheme for Local Research Postgraduate Students

• Non-means-tested tuition waiver
• Cover tuition fees for the normative study period of full-time UGC-funded RPg programmes (2-year MPhil, 3-year & 4-year PhD)
• Applicable to all disciplines of study
• NOT Eligible for Non-local students holding the student visa/ entry permit/ IANG visa/ dependent visa
HKU Presidential PhD Scholar Programme (HKU-PS)

Package of up to around **HK$418,400 (approximately US$53,640)** in the 1st year, and up to around **HK$398,400 (approximately US$51,070)** in each of the subsequent years as follows:

- Cash Award to support research and living expenses: HK$40,000 in Year 1; HK$20,000 per year in the remaining normative study period
- Waiver of composition fees for the whole normative study period (i.e. HK$42,100 per year (US$5,410))
- Postgraduate Scholarship of $26,900 (US$3,450) per month
- Conference and Research-related Travel Allowance of HK$13,500 (US$1,730) per year
- Financial support to selected outstanding students for an additional year of study beyond the normative study period to reward their outstanding research output and progress
- A guaranteed hall place in Year 1, with possibility of renewal
Background

- Established by Hong Kong Research Grants Council (RGC) in 2009

Eligibility

- Available for selected full-time PhD candidates with outstanding academic performance and research ability/potential
Hong Kong PhD Fellowships (HKPF)

• Same package as HKU-PS

• (All HKPF holders will be concurrently awarded the HKU Presidential PhD Scholarship)

• For details, please visit: http://www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd
# Postgraduate Scholarships (PGS)

- Not less than HK$18,030 (US$2,310) per month (required 100 hours of services per year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PGS in HK$ per month</th>
<th>MPhil</th>
<th>PhD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before confirmation of candidature</td>
<td>HK$18,030</td>
<td>HK$18,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After confirmation of candidature</td>
<td>HK$18,030</td>
<td>HK$18,520</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Conference/Travel Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MPhil</th>
<th>Conference support once; or Travel support once (One international or Mainland experience)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>Conference support twice; or Conference support once and travel support once (One international or Mainland experience)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Scholarships and Other Awards

### Scholarships
- HKSAR Government Scholarships
- Doris Zimmern HKU-Cambridge Hughes Hall Scholarships

### Awards for Outstanding Theses
- Li Ka Shing Prizes
- Outstanding Research Postgraduate Student Awards

*PLUS scholarships, awards and prizes set up at Department and Faculty levels*
## Tuition Fee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study Mode</th>
<th>Tuition fee# (per annum)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time (non-local)</td>
<td>HK$42,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>HK$63,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Subject to revision*
Application
Application

Suggested Steps for Application

1. Getting Started
   - Select area of interest
   - Search for potential supervisor (optional)

2. Explore
   - Admission & English language requirements
   - Contact potential supervisor (optional)

3. Prepare
   - Take required tests (e.g. TOEFL/ IELTS/ GMAT etc.)
   - Prepare supporting documents (e.g. transcript, research proposal)
   - Academic referee reports

4. Submit Online Application
Application

Supporting Documents

- Research Statement or Research Proposal
- Transcript
- Certificate of degree qualification
- Two recommendation letters
- Research plan and Vision statement (for HKPF)
- TOEFL or IELTS test report (for applicants from institutions outside HK where the language of instruction and examination is not entirely in English)
- *GMAT/GRE score report – taken within 5 years (no minimum GMAT/GRE score requirement)
- *for admission to Faculty of Business & Economics
### Application – TOEFL/IELTS Test (taken within 2 years)

#### TOEFL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculties</th>
<th>Paper-Based</th>
<th>Internet-Based</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts*</td>
<td>≥ 550 + TWE Score ≥ 4</td>
<td>≥ 80 + Writing Score ≥ 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others^</td>
<td>≥ 550</td>
<td>≥ 80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Except the School of Chinese and Centre of Buddhist Studies
^Including the School of Chinese and Centre of Buddhist Studies

#### IELTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculties</th>
<th>Overall band</th>
<th>Subtest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts*</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>≥ 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others#</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>≥ 5.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Except Centre of Buddhist Studies
#Including Centre of Buddhist Studies
Application Deadlines

**Hong Kong PhD Fellowships (HKPF)**
- Initial Application to RGC: December 1, 2021 noon
- Full Application to HKU: December 1, 2021

**Postgraduate Scholarships (PGS)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Main Round</th>
<th>1st Clearing Round</th>
<th>2nd Clearing Round</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022-23</td>
<td>December 1, 2021</td>
<td>April 30, 2022</td>
<td>August 31, 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Online Application:
- [www.gradsch.hku.hk/gradsch/prospective-students/how-to-apply](http://www.gradsch.hku.hk/gradsch/prospective-students/how-to-apply)
Graduate School Videos

https://www.gradsch.hku.hk/gradsch/videos

WHY HKU?

HOW TO APPLY?

HOUSING FOR

Postgraduate Students
Videos - Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Awardees @ HKU

Graduate School Publications

Leaflet

Research Studies at One of the Top Universities in the World

The University of Hong Kong 2022-23

Financial Support

- PhD Fellowship Programme (U1U2-PF)
- Nanyang PhD Fellowship Programme
- HAAPS (Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Programme)
- Funding up to 6 years (HK$350,000 per year) in the first year and up to 4 years (HK$350,000) in each of the following years during the innovative study period
- Postgraduate Scholarships (UGC)
  - At least HK$27,500 (US$3,500) per year

Newsletter

HKU PhD Student Features in Forbes 30 Under 30 China List for Engagements in Social Entrepreneurship

HKU PhD student in the Department of Business Administration, Dr. Li Yiting, has been named to the Forbes 30 Under 30 China list for her work in social entrepreneurship and sustainable development.

Philosophy of the Graduate School

The Graduate School at The University of Hong Kong is committed to providing a supportive and stimulating environment for graduate students. It aims to foster research excellence, encourage interdisciplinary collaboration, and contribute to the advancement of knowledge in various fields of study.

Student's Start-up Wins Award at Regional Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition

A HKU graduate has won a prestigious award for his innovative start-up. His project, which focuses on sustainable energy solutions, was recognized for its potential to address global challenges and drive economic growth.

For more information and updates, please visit the Graduate School’s official website.
Graduate School
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Fax: (852) 2857 3543
Email: gradsch@hku.hk
Homepage: https://gradsch.hku.hk/
Connect with us: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or YouTube