

The University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences

Application for Admission to MPhil/PhD Programmes, 2012-13

Notes for Applicants

1. Application deadlines:

Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme*	Early September – December 1, 2011 - Deadline for submitting an initial application to the Research Grant Council is December 1, 2011 . - Deadline for submitting a full application to HKU is also December 1, 2011 .
Main Round	September 1, 2011 – December 1, 2011
1 st Clearing Round	December 2, 2011 – April 30, 2012
2 nd Clearing Round	May 1, 2012 – August 31, 2012

* *Established by the Research Grants Council, the prestigious Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme is looking for talented people who wish to pursue their PhD studies in Hong Kong. The Fellowship will provide a monthly stipend of HKD20,000 and a conference and research-related travel allowance of HK\$10,000 per year up to three years. Please visit the RGC's website (www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd) for more information.*

2. Submission of application form and documentary proof of academic qualification and English Language Proficiency:

- a. On-line application: All applications have to be submitted via the on-line application system by the appropriate closing date in (1). To submit an on-line application, please visit the Graduate School's website: www.hku.hk/gradsch/online
- b. Documentary proof of academic qualification: Certificates and complete transcript of undergraduate and postgraduate studies should be submitted to the Graduate School via the on-line application system.

- c. English language proficiency: An applicant, who is from an institution outside Hong Kong where the language of instruction and examination is not entirely English, s/he is required to submit the documentary proof of score report of one of the following English language proficiency tests. For details and submission, please refer to “Guide to Application for Admission, 2012-13”. Please do not submit the score report via the on-line application system.

TOEFL	Paper-based test	An overall score of 550 or above; and 4 or above in the Test of Written English (TWE)
	Internet-based test	An overall score of 80 or above; and 25 or above in the Test of Writing Section
IELTS (Academic module)		A minimum overall band of 6 with no subtest lower than 5.5
GCE		Grade C or above
IGCSE		Grade C or above
CPE		Grade C or above

- d. Proof of payment of application fee: please refer to the “Guide to Application for Admission, 2012-13” for details.
3. In addition to the on-line form and qualification documents mentioned in (2), an applicant is required to submit the following application materials directly to the Hong Kong Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences:
- a. Statement of purpose/ research proposal (in PDF format): A detailed English thesis proposal with topics of research interest. [\[Click to download the Statement/Proposal Form\]](#)
- b. Writing sample (in PDF format):
- (i) For MPhil applicants: The abstract of Bachelor’s thesis of 10 pages OR a sample research paper of 15 pages or less, written in English.
- (ii) For PhD applicants: The abstract of Master’s thesis AND a sample research paper of 15 pages or less, written in English.
- c. Academic referee’s reports: Please invite THREE people who are familiar with

your academic achievements and potentials to complete the academic referee's report form and send it directly to the Institute. Alternatively, you may request the referees to return the report to you in a signed and sealed envelope, and send the unopened envelopes to the Institute. [[Click to download the HKU Referee's Report Form](#)]

Important note: The Research Grants Council (RGC) requires that HKPF applicants must use the designated referee report's form for the Scheme. Please refer to the RGC's website for submission guidelines. [[Click to download the Referee's Report Form for the HK PhD Fellowship Scheme.](#)]

- d. Documentary proof of the applicant's proficiency in the language(s) necessary for research OR a written statement outlining current language abilities (including years of formal study), and future course of study.

Important note: Documents 3a, 3b and 3d could be submitted to the Institute by email or by post. Document 3c must be sent to us by post. Our postal and email addresses are listed in (4).

4. Enquiries:

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