THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
GRADUATE SCHOOL

MPhil and PhD Information Session

October, 2020
The University of Hong Kong

Founded in 1911

oldest in Hong Kong
one of the oldest in Asia
English as a lingua franca @ HKU
A Comprehensive International University

10 Faculties
Architecture, Arts, Business & Economics, Dentistry, Education, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Science, & Social Sciences
An international community @ HKU

• ~60% professoriate staff from outside Hong Kong & China
  ~40% professoriate staff from Hong Kong & China

• Highest no. of non-local RPg students amongst local universities
  > 10,000 international students (UGs, TPgs & RPgs)

• Academic links with > 400 universities abroad
Student Enrolment@ HKU

• UG, TPg and RPg HKU students: >29,000

• RPg HKU students: >2,800 (~10%)
22nd in the World
The Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2021
2nd in the World

*Times Higher Education’s* ranking of

The World's Most International Universities 2020

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
The Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2021

HKU ranks 39th in the World
Why pursue a research postgraduate degree in HKU?
Why pursue a research postgraduate degree in HKU?

HKU excels in research

10 UGC Areas of Excellence Schemes
24 UGC Theme-based Research projects
5 State Key Laboratories (SKLs)*

* SKLs are key components of China’s science and technology research system

provides conducive environment & excellent facilities

The University of Hong Kong
Why pursue a research postgraduate degree in HKU?

Accommodation

• FT non-local RPg students registered on/after 1 July, 2019 guaranteed hall place in Y1
• 188 places in Graduate House
• ~700 places in Jockey Club Student Village III for RPg students
Sports Facilities

Flora Ho Sports Centre
Stanley Ho Sports Centre
Outdoor and indoor swimming pools
Climbing wall
Dance studio
Fitness room & gym
Badminton courts
Squash courts
Table tennis courts
Tennis courts
Weight training room
Track & field facilities
Areas for basketball, cricket, golf, handball, hockey, lacrosse, rugby, soccer, softball, volleyball, etc.
HKU Global Lounge on campus
Graduate Employment Survey

Employment Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment Sector</th>
<th>MPhil &amp; PhD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>64.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community, Social &amp; Personal Services</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce &amp; Industry</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Based on Employment Survey as of December 2018
HKU ranked 14th in Architecture/Built Environment in QS Subject Rankings 2020

HKU ranked 39th globally, 5th in Asia and 1st locally in “The Times Higher Education World University Ranking (WUR) 2021”

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

Launched HKURBAN labs
- aimed 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 and ‘Creative Arts, Performing Arts & Design’** best in HK, highest proportion of research scoring 4 stars (i.e. world-leading quality) or 3 stars (i.e. internationally excellent) in the latest Research Assessment Exercise.

• **HKU ranked 31st in the world in Arts and Humanities** in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Subject Rankings 2020, one of the only four Asian Universities to have made it into the top 40.

• **HKU ranked 27th in the world in Arts and Humanities** in the QS World University Subject Rankings 2020.

• **Cutting-edge research and teaching**: Linguistics (ranked 11th in QS), Modern Languages (ranked 23th in QS).

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

‘The HKU Business School aspires to be a leading, globally-impactful academic institution of business and economics.’
Faculty of Dentistry

Top Dental Faculty in the World
QS World University Rankings by Subject
- Ranked 1st in 2016, 2017 & 2018
- Ranked 4th in 2019 & 2020

- Hong Kong’s sole provider of dental education and the only dental school in China using English as the instruction medium
- Bachelor of Dental Surgery, BDS (6 year curriculum)
- Problem based learning (PBL)
- Strongly research active and very international faculty

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
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 2020:**
  - No. 3 [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 / Leaflet
Faculty of Engineering

- **Five Departments with Three Interdisciplinary Strategic Research Clusters**
  - Clean Energy and Environment
  - Health Technologies
  - Smart Systems
  - Home of two InnoHK (~HK$300-400m each) and seven TRS (~HK$20-50m each) projects
  - Increase of RPg student annual intake from 150 to 190 in 3 years

- **World-class Scholars**
  - 5 Highly Cited Researchers by Thomson Reuters in 2019
  - 28 teachers in the Faculty ranked in the Top 1% worldwide by citations according to the Clarivate Analytics’ Essential Science Indicators (ESI) in 2019

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**Neuro-imaging tool to understand brain networks & functions** by Prof. Ed Wu & Dr. Kevin Tsia

**Sustainable lighting technology** and wireless power transfer by Prof. Ron Hui

**Wastewater treatment** project by Prof. Kaimin Shih, Prof. X.Y. Li, Prof. T. Zhang & Dr. May Chui

**Quantum information** by Prof. Giulio Chiribella
Faculty of Law

- Celebrated **50 years** in 2019
- Ranked **19** in law in QS 2020
- Ranked **4** of 500 int’l law schools SSRN Sept 2020

- **Supervision in most areas** of public and private law, international and comparative law, commercial and financial law, law & technology, law & literature, medical legal ethics, law & history, law & society and Chinese law

HKU Legal Scholarship Blog
http://researchblog.law.hku.hk/
LKS Faculty of Medicine

- Research Assessment Exercise – highest % & absolute number of world leading (4*) and internationally excellent (3*) research outputs, external peer-reviewed grants & esteem measures under the Health Science Panel
- State Key Lab & WHO Reference Lab
- 290+ highly cited papers & 50+ researchers among world’s top 1% scholars (ISI Essential Science Indicators)
- Funded 170+ students for international exchange since 2007
- Wide spectrum of clinical & basic sciences research area
- Ample research funding of HK$2,500M in 2020/21

HK PhD Fellowship & HKU Presidential PhD Scholarship

Stipend: HK$319,200 p.a.
Travel allowance: HK$13,300 p.a.
Cash award: HK$40,000 in year 1 & HK$20,000 p.a. thereafter
Hall place: Guaranteed in year 1 with possibility of renewal in year 2
Composition fee: Fee of HK$42,100 p.a. waived for the whole study period
Faculty of Science

- **Six Research Divisions**
  - Chemistry/Earth and Planetary Science/Ecology and Biodiversity/Mathematical and Statistical Science/
  - Molecular and Cell Biology/Physics and Astronomy

- **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:**
  - Three Areas of Excellence projects, one State Key Laboratory and three HK-CAS Joint Laboratories

- **Top-ranked Scientists** – According to Clarivate Analytics’ Essentials Science Indicators 2019, 15.4% 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
## QS World University Rankings 2020

### Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Rank (World)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences and Management</td>
<td>21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; in Asia, 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; in HK)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Subject

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Rank (Asia)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics and International Studies</td>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Policy &amp; Administration</td>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication &amp; Media Studies</td>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MPhil and PhD Studies in HKU
# 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

Major Admission Requirement

- **MPhil** - Bachelor’s degree with honours from this University or another qualification of equivalent standard from a comparable institution.

- **PhD** - Bachelor’s degree (1st class Hons), Bachelor’s degree (Hons) plus taught Master’s degree, Bachelor’s degree (Hons) plus MPhil from this University or comparable institution.

The University of Hong Kong
# 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><strong>PhD</strong></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**

### 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

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The University of Hong Kong
MPhil and PhD Studies in HKU

Suggested Steps:

1. Applicant
   Search potential supervisor(s) of your research areas*

2. Contact potential supervisor(s) to discuss your proposed research areas

3. On-line Application for Admission
Joint Programmes

The University of Hong Kong
Joint Programmes

- Joint PhD (KCL)
- Joint Educational Placement for PhD (U of T)
- Joint Education Programme for PhD (SUSTech)

King’s College London from 2010-11
University of Toronto from 2012
Southern University of Science and Technology from 2016
# Joint PhD Programme

*(Degree jointly awarded by both universities)*

- **HKU and King’s College London**

## HKU
- Faculty of Arts
- Faculty of Dentistry
- Faculty of Science
- Faculty of Social Sciences
- LKS Faculty of Medicine

## King’s
- Faculty of Arts & Humanities
- Faculty of Dentistry, Oral & Craniofacial Sciences
- Faculty of Social Sciences & Public Policy
- Lau China Institute*
- Faculty of Natural & Mathematical Sciences
- Faculty of Life Sciences & Medicine
- Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience
- Florence Nightingale Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery
  
*Part of the Faculty of Social Science and Public Policy

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*The University of Hong Kong*
Joint Educational Placement for PhD

(Single PhD degree to be awarded by HKU or UofT)

HKU and The University of Toronto

HKU
Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine
Faculty of Science

UofT
Faculty of Medicine
Department of Molecular Genetics
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
Joint Education Programme for PhD

HKU and Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech)

- Joint supervision of PhD students leading to a single PhD degree to be awarded by HKU only
- Interested applicants should first contact SUSTech (https://www.sustech.edu.cn/en/)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period of Study</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1\text{st} and 4\text{th} years</td>
<td>HKU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2\text{nd} and 3\text{rd} years</td>
<td>SUSTech</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The University of Hong Kong
Scholarships, Awards and Grants
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 Scholarship (HKU-PS)

Package of up to around HK$414,000 (approximately US$53,000) in the 1st year, and up to around HK$394,000 (approximately US$50,000) 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/year in the remaining normative study period
- Waiver of composition fees for the whole normative study period (i.e. HK$42,100/year)
- Postgraduate Scholarship of HK$26,600/month
- Conference and Research-related Travel Allowance of HK$13,300/year
- Guaranteed hall place in Year 1, with possibility of renewal in Year 2
HKU Presidential PhD Scholarship (HKU-PS)

Eligibility and Application

In principle, all Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPF) awardees will receive HKU-PS. Selected candidates who are not awarded HKPF but considered to be of high calibre by the University will also receive HKU-PS.

For details, please visit here

The University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong PhD Fellowships (HKPF)

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

The University of Hong Kong
Hong Kong PhD Fellowships (HKPF)

Fellowship Award

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](http://www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd)
Hong Kong PhD Fellowships (HKPF)

Online Application
(starting from September each year)

Initial Application to RGC: www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd

Closing Date: December 1, 2020 noon

Full Application to HKU: www.gradsch.hku.hk

Closing Date: December 1, 2020
University Postgraduate Fellowships (UPF)

- UPF supported by donors to HKU
  - HKU Foundation
  - Lee Shau Kee Scholarship Fund
  - Jessie & George Ho Charitable Foundation
  - Philip K.H. Wong Foundation
  - Hui Pun Hing Endowment Fund

- UPF is worth **HK$70,000**
  on-top of the Postgraduate Scholarship
  *(PGS is not less than HK$18,030/month for 2020-21)*

- HKPF applications to HKU are **automatically**
  considered for UPF
**Postgraduate Scholarships (PGS)**

- **Not less than HK$18,030 per month**
  - (100 hours of services /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>

The University of Hong Kong
# Conference/Travel Support

| MPhil      | Conference support once **or** Travel support once  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>(One international or Mainland experience)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| PhD        | Conference support twice **or** Conference support once and travel support once  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>(One international or Mainland experience)</em></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

The University of Hong Kong
Application
Supporting Documents

- Research Statement or Research Proposal
- Transcript
- Certificate of degree qualification
- Two recommendation letters
- 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)
- Research plan and Vision statement (for HKPF and UPF)
- Detailed requirements at [www.gradsch.hku.hk](http://www.gradsch.hku.hk)
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>$\geq 550 + \text{TWE Score } \geq 4$</td>
<td>$\geq 80 + \text{Writing Score } \geq 25$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others^</td>
<td>$\geq 550$</td>
<td>$\geq 80$</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>$\geq 5.5$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others#</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$\geq 5.5$</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, 2020 noon
Full Application to HKU: December, 2020

*HKPF applications automatically considered for University Postgraduate Fellowships (UPF).

**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>2021-22</td>
<td>December 1, 2020</td>
<td>April 30, 2021</td>
<td>August 31, 2021</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)

The University of Hong Kong
Videos - Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Awardees @ HKU

Contact Information

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The University of Hong Kong
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Fax: (852) 2857 3543
Email: gradsch@hku.hk
Homepage: www.gradsch.hku.hk
Connect with us: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or YouTube