Research Studies at One of the Top Universities in the World
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Fellowships and Scholarships Available
- Hong Kong PhD Fellowships (HKPF) Scheme
  US$30,760 (HK$240,000) per year
- HKU University Postgraduate Fellowships (UPF)
  At least US$23,170 (HK$180,700) per year\(^1\)
- Postgraduate Scholarships (PGS)
  At least US$20,920 (HK$163,200) per year

\(^1\) Combined value of UPF and PGS
The University of Hong Kong (HKU) is Hong Kong’s oldest university. As an English-medium university with a history that stretches back more than 100 years, it has grown with and helped shape the city from which it takes its name.

Today, HKU is recognized internationally as a dynamic and comprehensive university of world-class standing. With its distinguished excellence in research and outstanding performance in teaching, it attracts first-class teaching and research staff and brilliant students from around the world.

The University’s research students enjoy opportunities to work with leading international researchers and a peer group of resourceful and committed students from different nations in advanced facilities, producing cutting-edge and internationally recognized research work, and developing skills essential for future careers and lifelong learning.

HKU ranked
Best university in Asia
22nd best university in the world
[Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2011]
Why Pursue an MPhil/PhD Degree at HKU?

- **High value placed on research postgraduate students at HKU**
  With HKU’s commitment to research excellence, research postgraduate students are an important and valued part of the University. They currently represent 12% of the total student population and make a valuable contribution to the University’s research work and environment.

- **Research excellence**
  HKU has won a proud reputation as a world-class comprehensive research university. Its research is of proven quality and utility, and it has a very successful record in the competitive local market for research funding. It has the highest number of awards among government-funded institutions, e.g. Areas of Excellence awards, General Research Fund awards, Croucher Foundation Senior Research Fellowships and academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. HKU also has the highest number of refereed publications per academic and research staff member.

- **World-class teaching**
  HKU has been consistently pursuing a vision of high quality education and it adopts a student-centred approach in research postgraduate education. Its academics are recruited from leading universities across the world, and many are highly regarded in the global academic community.

---

**Research Postgraduate Degrees**

HKU offers the following research postgraduate programmes in both full-time and part-time modes:
- Master of Philosophy (MPhil)
- 3-year Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- 4-year Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- Joint PhD Programme (between HKU and Imperial College London; and HKU and King’s College London)
International focus
The University has academic links with more than 400 overseas universities and hosts over 5,000 international students. About 55% of its academic staff come from overseas. Research postgraduate students have opportunities to take part in overseas training and international research collaboration.

Wide range of fields of study
HKU offers MPhil and PhD programmes in a wide range of subjects under the Faculties of Architecture, Arts, Business and Economics, Dentistry, Education, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Science and Social Sciences.

Use of English as the medium of instruction
A distinctive position as an English-medium university in Asia is one of HKU’s great strengths.

Well-designed coursework component
In addition to the long-established one-to-one mentorship system of supervision, a coursework element on discipline-specific knowledge, language and research skills is usually included to help students undertake their research work and prepare for thesis writing.

State-of-the-art support facilities
HKU’s students have access to first-class libraries (with over 2.90 million e-books, 55,000 e-journals and 680 e-databases) as well as computer, and sports and leisure facilities. The University also provides residential accommodation for a proportion of its students.

Career prospects
Many of HKU’s graduates are employed in high-level positions in universities, government, business and industry in Hong Kong and around the world. According to the most recent employment survey on postgraduates, over 78% of the respondents are employed and around 14% are furthering their studies.
Awards and Financial Assistance

Hong Kong PhD Fellowships (HKPF) Scheme

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

- New applicants to full-time PhD programmes in government-funded institutions in Hong Kong, irrespective of their country of origin and ethnic background, are eligible to apply.

- Applicants should demonstrate outstanding academic performance, research ability/potential, communication and interpersonal skills, and leadership abilities.

- The HKPF provides each awardee with a monthly scholarship of HK$20,000 (US$2,560) and a conference and research related travel allowance of HK$10,000 (US$1,280) per year for a period up to three years. For HKPF awardees who are admitted to a 4-year PhD programme in 2013–14, the University will provide a monthly scholarship and travel allowance at the same level as the HKPF for their fourth year of study.


Note: HKPF awardees will not concurrently be awarded UPF and PGS. HKPF does not cover Joint PhD programmes.
HKU University Postgraduate Fellowships (UPF)

HKU University Postgraduate Fellowships are available for selected full-time PhD applicants with an excellent academic record. The Fellowship is worth HK$70,000 (US$8,970), which is awarded on top of the Postgraduate Scholarship (see below).  

2 US$2,990 per year x 3 years or US$2,242 per year x 4 years, depending on whether it is 3- or 4-year PhD programme.

HKU Postgraduate Scholarships (PGS)

Full-time MPhil and PhD students who hold a first degree with second-class honours first division (or equivalent) or above are normally considered eligible to receive a Postgraduate Scholarship during the normative study period. Candidates’ results in Master’s degrees may also be considered. The basic level of PGS is HK$13,600 (US$1,740) per month (subject to revision).

Other Scholarships and Financial support for conference attendance/travel

The University administers a number of scholarships that are awarded to postgraduate students for outstanding academic achievements. MPhil and PhD students are also eligible for financial support for conference attendance and/or travel.

Composition Fees

HK$42,100 (US$5,400)* per year for full-time studies and HK$53,000 (US$6,790)* per year for part-time (self-funded mode) studies.

*Subject to revision
High quality supervision

At HKU, supervisors are dedicated to providing guidance and support to their research postgraduate students in the pursuit of research excellence.

What our students say*

“What is most fascinating about Dr Kuehn is that when you work with her, you can feel she grows with you, that you are her equal when you have intellectual exchanges. It is from her liberal-mindedness that I learn that teaching is a reciprocal process in which she learns from students and respects their thoughts. It is under Dr Kuehn’s guidance that we lead ourselves forth to the fullest of our potential.”

Mary LO, MPhil student of Dr Julia Christine KUEHN, School of English

“I have known Bennett as a lecturer and mentor since I first began studying for my Bachelor’s degree. Yet his greatest influence, and the most precious moments for me, occurred during his supervision of my efforts to earn my doctoral degree. During this period, he became more than an exemplary teacher; he turned into an inspiration and deeply appreciated source of support. Bennett constantly goes the extra mile to stimulate my research interests and ideas, as well as to offer valuable opportunities that enable me to sharpen my research skills and expertise.”

Kimmy CHAN Wa, PhD student of Professor Bennett C.K. YIM, School of Business

“Professor Loo’s approach has been extremely useful in helping me accustoming myself quickly to the standards and expectations of academia. Within the first year of my doctoral studies, I already made three presentations at local and overseas conferences. This experience, made possible by Professor Loo, is important because it has helped me recognize my potential as a productive research student.”

Alice CHOW, PhD student of Professor Becky P.Y. LOO, Dept of Geography

“Professor Man cares a lot about the future of young researchers. He has clearly fostered an environment for his students to be independent, while knowing that he is always there to provide guidance and support. I am truly thankful for the trust that Professor Man has in his students, and for the support and counsel that he has so generously given to us during the frustrating periods of research.”

Susan LEUNG, PhD student of Professor Ricky Y.K. MAN, Dept of Pharmacology & Pharmacy

“Professor Chan pays considerable effort in encouraging her students to take part in her research projects and providing her students with sponsorship to attend international conferences so as to enable her students to explore the cutting edge of science and develop networks for collaboration with international experts. Her passion for research has influenced us and given us positive reinforcement to work hard, while enjoying the learning process. I am deeply impressed by her spirit of never giving up.”

David C.N. WONG, PhD Student of Professor Sophia S.C. CHAN, School of Nursing

“Professor Zhou has extensive contacts with research institutes and universities in China and countries in the West, enabling some of his students to gain research experience in laboratories in addition to those at HKU. For instance, I had several opportunities to work in laboratories in the United States and China as part of my PhD studies, which were very useful in establishing links to researchers that I am currently collaborating with.”

K.N. PANG, PhD student of Professor Meifu ZHOU, Dept of Earth Sciences

Application Period for Admissions 2013-14

Hong Kong PhD Fellowships (HKPF) Scheme

Initial application to the Research Grants Council (RGC):
Early September* – December 1, 2012 noon

Full application to the University:
September 1 – December 1, 2012

Main round application
September 1, 2012 – December 1, 2012

1st clearing round
December 2, 2012 – April 30, 2013

2nd clearing round
May 1, 2013 – August 31, 2013

* Exact date to be announced by the RGC at its website (http://www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd)

Further information
Please visit www.hku.hk/gradsch/apply for admission requirements, application procedures and other programme details.

Enquiries
Graduate School
Room P403, Graduate House
The University of Hong Kong
Pokfulam, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2857 3470
Fax: (852) 2857 3543
Email: gradsch@hku.hk
Homepage: www.hku.hk/gradsch