

Social sciences

Undergraduate Prospectus 2019-20



Faculty of
Social Sciences
The University of Hong Kong

香港大學社會科學學院

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SOCIAL SCIENCES

VISION AND MISSION

The Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Hong Kong seeks to contribute to the advancement of society, and the development of leaders through a global presence, regional significance and engagement with the rest of China. The Faculty strives to attract and nurture outstanding scholars in the social sciences from around the world through excellence and innovation in teaching and learning, as well as research and knowledge exchange. The Faculty aims to produce citizens with a global perspective who are socially aware, critical thinkers, ready to embrace diversity, seeking to make an impact on society.



DEAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Hong Kong. You have some difficult decisions to make but exciting times ahead. Coming to University is a chance for you to explore your future while learning about what kind of person you are and want to be. You can take the first steps in a long and prosperous career but you can also challenge your values and decide what is really important.

The Social Sciences are all about people; you will find the different ways we study people inside this prospectus. Our programmes also allow students to grow through new experiences. Our students all have an international experience during their studies, so that they need to leave Hong Kong and get a different perspective on the world. Our students also complete a "Social Innovation" internship, where they spend time in an organisation off-campus and help with real problems and issues in the community.

Our largest degree is the Bachelor of Social Sciences; we also offer this degree in a joint programme along with an LLB from the Faculty of Law, and in a new initiative will be offering it in a dual degree with top international universities, Columbia University and the University of California, Berkeley. We also offer Bachelor's degrees in Social Work (BSW) and Journalism (BJ).

This year, we are proud to launch an integrated Bachelor of Arts and Sciences degree in conjunction with the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science. Students will be free to study subjects from across the Arts, Sciences, and Social Sciences, and will learn how to harness interdisciplinary knowledge between them. We will offer individualised academic guidance to help students design a course of study that best suits them. If you want to take control of your learning, this programme may be for you.

Ultimately, we strive to help develop critical thinkers with strong values of inclusiveness, who see the value in diversity and taking someone else's perspective. We think our graduates will be well-placed to help tackle problems in their communities around them, as well as some of the biggest problems facing us all. After all, many of our problems are social. Climate change is a physical problem but the only barrier to a solution is getting everyone to agree on what to do. Health is increasingly an issue that is affected by social processes like migration, urbanization, nutrition, and physical activity.

Our graduates get jobs as social workers, psychologists, teachers, journalists, civil servants, data scientists, human resources professionals, and many more. If you're fascinated by how people live, work, and play, and want to help solve problems both big and small, then join us!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W Hayward', written in a cursive style.

Professor William G Hayward
Dean

DEPARTMENTS



GEOGRAPHY

The Department of Geography, established in 1954, is the first and foremost geography department in Hong Kong. Since its inception, the Department has trained nearly 3400 undergraduates including some world-class academics, prominent government officials, business leaders and senior professionals. In 2019, the Department will be celebrating its 65th Anniversary.

The Department offers well-structured courses to keep students abreast of the most up-to-date knowledge and contemporary issues in Hong Kong and in the world. With strong emphasis on people-environment interactions, students will have the opportunities to investigate various phenomena and dynamics, for instance, climate change, economic and regional development, ecosystem services, globalisation, natural hazards, public health, sustainable development, tourism, transportation and urbanisation and so forth, in the rapidly changing world.



POLITICS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The Department is a founding department of the Faculty. During the past decades, the Department has contributed to the development of its discipline both locally and internationally through dedicated teaching and research.

Students are exposed to basic concepts and general features of political systems, as well as the organisation and functions of government. The specialist streams comprise comparative politics, international politics, political theory and ethics, and public administration.

PSYCHOLOGY

The Department is the first department of psychology in Hong Kong. The pioneer spirit continues to push the Department to strive for excellence and break new grounds.

Through psychology, students can explore how the mind works, how we learn language and concepts, how family relationships affect our health, and how science can help us raise children more wisely.

SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Social Work and Social Administration is the first social work training institute in Hong Kong's history of professional social work education. Since 1950, it is our core mission to provide rigorous academic and professional training in social work, we are also a leader in counselling, behavioural health, expressive arts therapy, mental health and gerontology education. Our commitment to improving the quality of life of people has kept our social work education at the forefront of the changing social welfare landscape. Many of our graduates are now social work leaders in the region. Others became esteemed clinical practitioners, government officials, directors and senior managers in NGOs, as well as professors in major universities.

The Department also offers two majors/minors in 'Social Work & Social Administration' and 'Counselling' for the Bachelor of Social Sciences Programme to provide students with solid foundation in social sciences, social consciousness, effective communication and problem-solving skills. Graduates are best equipped for positions of Officers in the government which finances and administers the largest bulk of social services, or planning and management positions in non-governmental and private agencies etc. Graduates can also pursue further studies in practical cutting-edge evidence-based postgraduate programmes provided by the Department, namely Master of Social Work, Master of Social Sciences, and Master of Philosophy.

SOCIOLOGY

The Sociology department, founded in 1967, has a long tradition in research and teaching about local cultures and societies. With the advent of large scale social transformations, this sociological lens on everyday life and cultures has broadened, framed within a global context.

Sociology provides students with critical analytical and methodological skills for understanding individuals and their connection to communities and societies, across a range of social indicators - class, crime, economy, education, gender, marriage and family, media, punishment, and religion.

JOURNALISM AND MEDIA STUDIES CENTRE

Founded in 1998, the Journalism and Media Studies Centre (JMSC) brings professional journalism education to Hong Kong's premier university, creating an environment for vibrant interaction among students from Hong Kong, mainland China, Asia and the rest of the world.

The JMSC's vision is to promote civil society and an informed citizenry through a vibrant and professional news media, to enhance professional standards and bolster journalistic integrity. The JMSC pursues these goals through its teaching programmes, research and professional services.

DEPARTMENTS



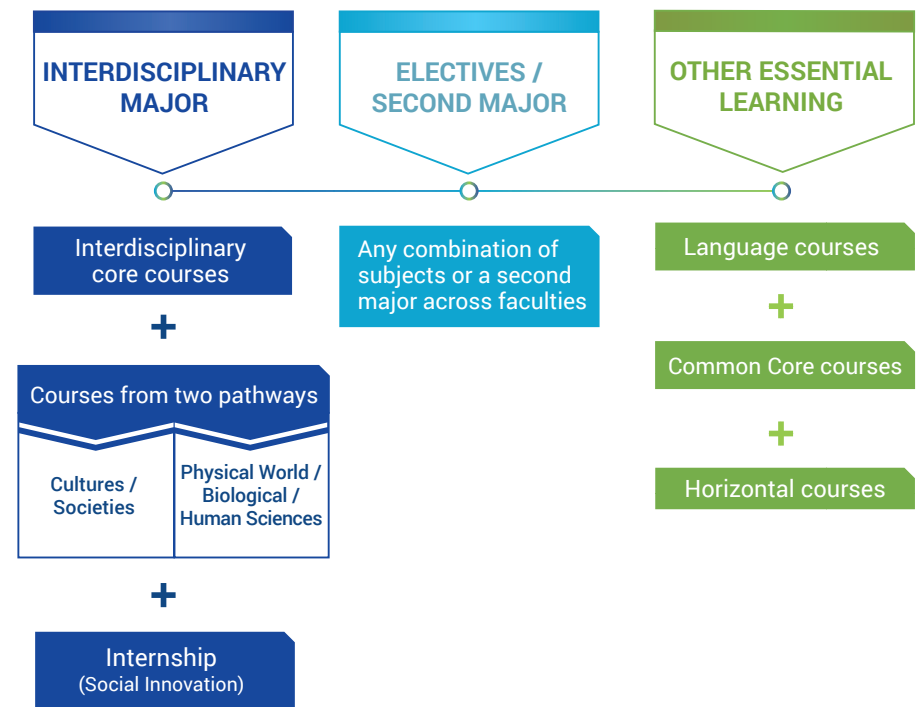


Bachelor of Arts & Sciences

Jointly offered by the Faculties of Social Sciences, Arts, and Science, the 4-year BASc curriculum is designed for intellectually ambitious students who want to take control of their learning and develop a broad set of scholarly skills. Students will have individual guidance from an academic tutor who will help them design their own course of study that meets their passions and provides a coherent course of academic study.

Traditional education trains students in particular disciplines, but the global problems seldom fit neatly into a single academic area. The intrinsically integrated BASc curriculum helps students to make connections and changes in the world with the interdisciplinary knowledge.

Individualised guidance to help students design their **own course of study.**



社會科學學士

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES [BSocSc]

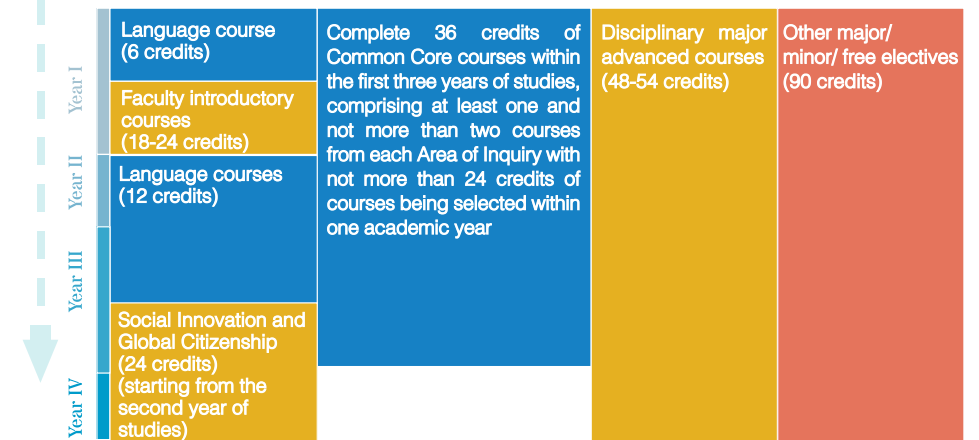
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Students in this curriculum may choose to major in one of the six core disciplines: China Studies, Geography, Politics and Public Administration, Psychology, Social Work and Social Administration, and Sociology. Students may also opt for a double major in multidisciplinary options such as Cognitive Science, Counselling, Criminology, Media and Cultural Studies, Neuroscience, and Urban Governance as well as other majors offered by the University. Students can choose to combine a major with one or two minors.

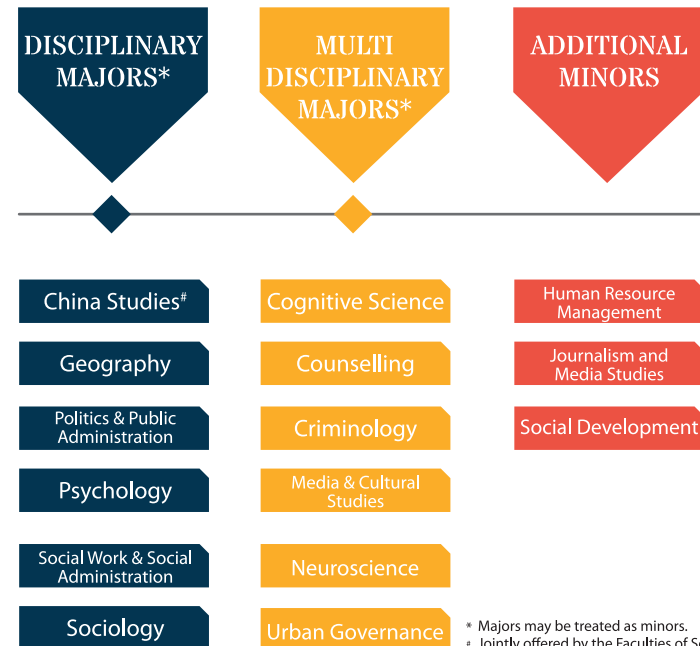
The Bachelor of Social Sciences curriculum requires all students as a condition of graduation, to undertake 24 credits (equivalent to 4 courses) of off-campus learning. 12 credits each must be taken in two areas: **Social Innovation** and **Global Citizenship**.



BSocSc CURRICULUM STRUCTURE



PROGRAMME WITHIN BSocSc



* Majors may be treated as minors.
[#] Jointly offered by the Faculties of Social Sciences and Arts.

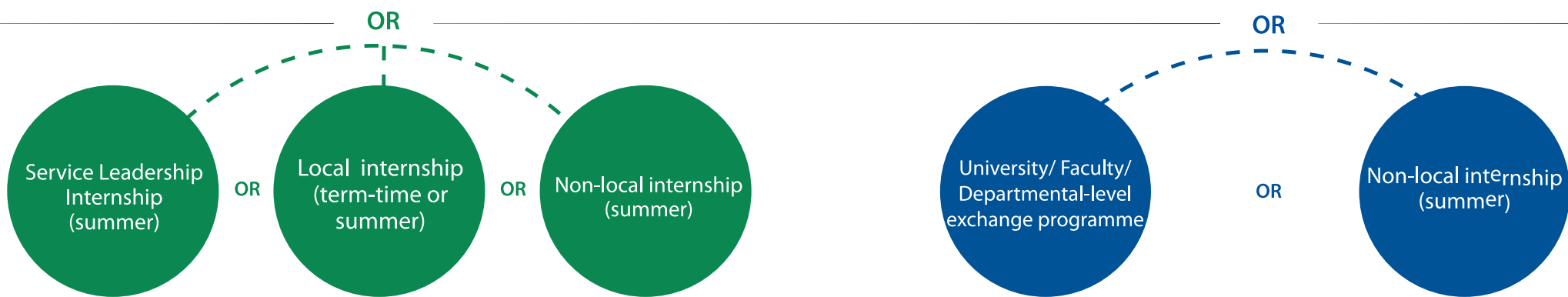
SOCIAL INNOVATION AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

24 CREDITS



The Faculty has identified two overarching themes for its undergraduate curricula: **Social Innovation** and **Global Citizenship**. Students are required, as a condition of graduation, to undertake the following credits of off-campus learning under these twin themes:

1-year 3 Campus East Asia Programme in Tokyo, Seoul and Hong Kong



Curriculum

- BASc
- BEd & BSocSc / BSocSc
- BJ
- BSocSc (G&L) & LLB
- BSW

Graduation Requirements

- Social Innovation** | 12 credits
- Social Innovation** | 12 credits AND **Global Citizenship** | 12 credits
- Global Citizenship** | 12 credits
- Social Innovation** | 12 credits OR **Global Citizenship** | 12 credits
- Nil (Free Elective)

For more information, please visit the Faculty's Social Innovation and Global Citizenship website: www.socsc.hku.hk/sigc.



社會科學學士 (政治學與法學) 及法學士 (雙學位課程)

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
(GOVERNMENT AND LAWS)
AND BACHELOR OF LAWS
[BSocSc(G&L)&LLB]

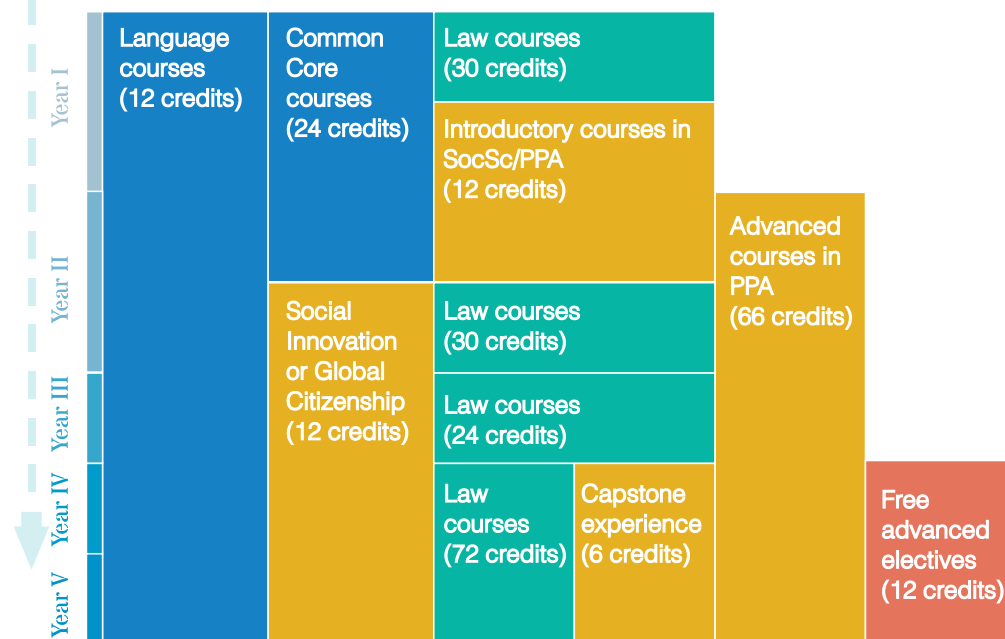
Code: 6810

Jointly offered by the Department of Politics and Public Administration and the Faculty of Law, the programme enables students to study two curricula and be awarded two degrees upon completion. The curriculum consists of a combination of Social Sciences and Law courses.

Satisfactory completion of five years in the programme leads to the award of the degrees of Bachelor of Social Sciences (Government and Laws) and Bachelor of Laws (LLB). Students may also choose at the end of the second year to exit with a Bachelor of Social Sciences (Government and Laws) only after completing the fourth year of study. The study of the fifth year for the two degrees is on a self-funded basis and the tuition fee is set at a higher level.



BSocSc(G&L) & LLB CURRICULUM STRUCTURE



社會工作學學士

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK [BSW]

Code: 6731

The curriculum covers various disciplines, including social welfare and social policy, specialised social work theory and practice, human behaviour and social environment, social research, law, sociology, and psychology. In the second and third years of study, students are required to complete two skills laboratory courses and two theory courses all of which adopt the problem-based learning model. Students will have a field work placement arranged by the Department of Social Work and Social Administration in the summer between the third and fourth years of the curriculum. The placement, which lasts for ten weeks, takes place in local or overseas agencies under professional supervision. There is a second placement in the fourth year of study. On successful completion of the programme, students are eligible to apply for registration as Registered Social Workers with the Hong Kong Social Workers Registration Board.



BSW CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

Year I	Language course (6 credits)		Common Core courses (18 credits)	
	Introductory core courses (36 credits)		Free elective (6 credits)	
Year II	Language courses (12 credits)	Common Core courses (12-18 credits)		Advanced core courses (24 credits)
	Disciplinary elective (6 credits)		Free elective (0-6 credits)	
Year III	Advanced core courses (39 credits)		Common Core course (0-6 credits)	
	Disciplinary elective (6 credits)		Free electives (6-12 credits)	
Year IV	Advanced core courses (33 credits)		Free electives (24-30 credits)	

教育學士及社會科學學士

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION AND BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES [BED & BSocSc]

Code: 6195

The double degree offers a qualification equivalent to a four-year honours degree in Social Sciences plus a one-year Postgraduate Diploma in Education. Students may major in one of the six core areas in the social sciences: China Studies, Geography, Politics and Public Administration, Psychology, Social Work and Social Administration, and Sociology. The curriculum is designed for students to complete two degrees in five years.

This double degree gives students a more integrated experience in Social Sciences and Liberal Studies education, allowing broader career prospects.



BED & BSocSc CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

Year I	Language course (6 credits)	Professional core courses (Liberal Studies Education) (12 credits)	
	Introductory courses in SocSc (18 credits)	Common Core courses (12 credits)	Free electives (12 credits)
Year II	Language course (6 credits)	Professional core courses (Liberal Studies Education) (12 credits)	
	Social Innovation and Global Citizenship (normally taken in Years 2-4) (24 credits)	Common Core courses (12 credits)	Free electives (6 credits)
Year III	Social Innovation and Global Citizenship (normally taken in Years 2-4) (24 credits)	Professional core courses (Liberal Studies Education) (18 credits, including 6 credits in Professional Practicum)	
		Advanced courses in SocSc (30 credits)	Free electives (12 credits)
Year IV	Social Innovation and Global Citizenship (normally taken in Years 2-4) (24 credits)	Professional core courses (Liberal Studies Education) (48 credits, including 12 credits in Professional Practicum)	
		Language course (6 credits)	Advanced course in SocSc (6 credits)
Year V	Professional core courses (Liberal Studies Education) (30 credits, including 12 credits in Professional Practicum)		Free electives (12 credits)
	Advanced courses in SocSc (18 credits, including 6 credits in capstone experience)		

新聞學學士

BACHELOR OF JOURNALISM [BJ]

Code: 6822

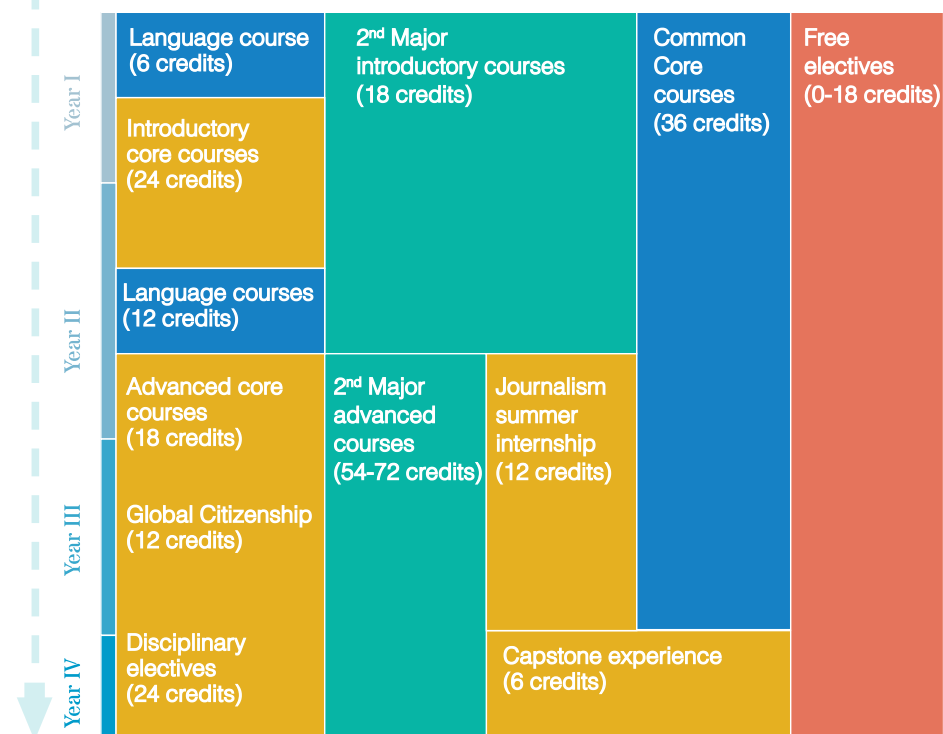
The Bachelor of Journalism programme is a communications-focused double-major curriculum for the digital age. Students use the journalism component of the programme to build critical thinking and communications skills across multiple media; by the end of the four-year programme they will be able to produce accurate and deeply researched written work on a variety of subjects, shoot and edit compelling video documentaries, and create data-driven online journalism.

In their second year, each student will choose another academic major to combine with the journalism component, thus creating a bespoke degree that will allow them to explore fully their unique intellectual interests. Throughout the programme, the emphasis is on experiential real-world learning. All students will complete at least one summer internship at a media publication or other communications-focused organisation.

A diverse faculty and student body ensures a lively learning environment that feeds students' curiosity about the world. Class size is kept small, to foster classroom discussion as well as the family feeling that makes the JMSC a very special place at HKU.



BJ CURRICULUM STRUCTURE



INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMES



The University offers different kinds of exchange opportunities to all full-time undergraduate students with good academic and disciplinary standing. Students may apply for credit transfer and scholarship for their exchange studies.

Besides the University-level exchange programmes, the Faculty has also established undergraduate exchange programmes with universities in the Mainland and overseas to broaden students' exposure and facilitate cultural exchange. Each year, more than 300 students benefit from exchange programmes.

In addition to regular exchange programmes, the Faculty has established other innovative programmes in collaboration with international universities such as 3 Campus East Asia and dual degrees in undergraduate and postgraduate level.



The 3 Campus East Asia is an initiative jointly launched by:

- Faculty of Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong, China
- International Centre, Keio University, Japan
- Underwood International College, Yonsei University, South Korea

Under this Programme, each institution selects a maximum of 5 second-year students to undertake one year of study at the 3 campuses, spreading across 3 semesters.

Students will be on regular semester exchange in Japan and South Korea in the first two semesters, and undertake a 2-week course plus a 6-week internship in the summer semester at HKU, where provides students the opportunity to work at English-speaking environment as well as gain real world experience and practical skills.

Students from renowned overseas universities such as Cornell, Geneva, King's College London, Princeton, University of Southern California, etc., will also join the participants in South Korea and Hong Kong, which give an invaluable opportunity to students in establishing a worldwide network with excellent students from top universities.



2 years + 2 years

HKU-Sciences Po

Undergraduate Dual Degree

This 4-year undergraduate dual degree, leading to the award of the Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSocSc) from HKU and a bachelor's degree from Sciences Po, is offered. The total credit requirement is 300. Students will spend the first two years at Sciences Po (150 credits) and the final two years at HKU (150 credits).

Programmes at Sciences Po are taught in English (no French requirements for being admitted) with intensive French language classes for all non-francophone students. The goal of the dual degree is to become at least trilingual and proficient in both English and French.

The learning experience at Sciences Po not only facilitates your understanding and builds bridges between Asia and Europe, but also enhances your prospects further with multinational companies.



<http://www.socsc.hku.hk/hku-sciences-po.html>

The Graduate Institute

HKU + GENEVA

BSocSc + MA

3 years + 2 years

In collaboration with the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies Geneva (Geneva), the Faculty offers a concurrent degree "Bachelor of Social Sciences + Master of Arts" to BSocSc students. BSocSc students will complete 3 years of study at HKU and apply to Geneva for admission to one of their designated MA programmes, such as International Relations, International Economics, and International Law, etc. On admission, they will complete their HKU 4th year of study in Geneva taking graduate-level courses at the Graduate Institute, the credits for which will be transferred back to HKU. After successfully completing their 4th year of study for the BSocSc degree in Geneva, students may obtain the Bachelor degree of Social Sciences from HKU and stay on for an additional year to obtain an MA degree from Geneva. The learning experience at the Graduate Institute, which will include an internship in one of the 40 international organisations based in Geneva, can facilitate graduates to pursue careers in one of these organisations such as various UN Offices, WTO, and organisations in labour, telecommunications, human rights, HIV/AIDS etc.



<http://www.socsc.hku.hk/hku-geneva.html>

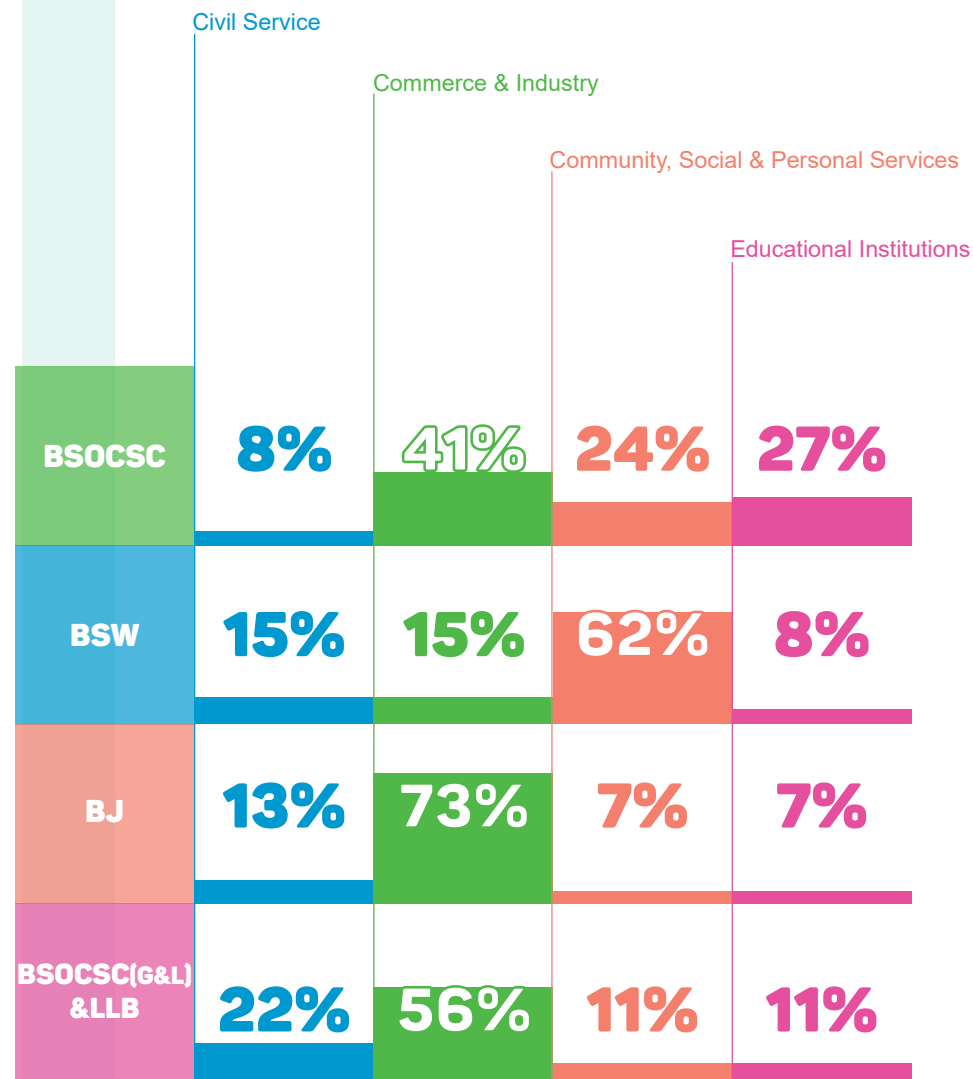
CAREER PROSPECTS

The Faculty of Social Sciences aims at achieving not only academic excellence but also young leaders with personal attributes which are valued by employers. Graduates are well equipped to pursue careers in government, politics, public corporations, community organisations, media, and the private sector. Career prospects are promising for social science graduates, and this is fully reflected in the outstanding achievements of our alumni in various sectors of society. Graduates who choose to further their studies are often accepted, with scholarships, by distinguished universities worldwide.

Graduates from the BSW programme are qualified for registration as Registered Social Workers. They are also competent to work as professional social workers in government or non-government organisations.



EMPLOYMENT SECTORS IN 2017



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

JUPAS

6212 Bachelor of Arts and Sciences

6717 Bachelor of Social Sciences

6810 Bachelor of Social Sciences (Government & Laws) and Bachelor of Laws

6731 Bachelor of Social Work

6195 Bachelor of Education and Bachelor of Social Sciences

6822 Bachelor of Journalism

To satisfy the minimum requirements for entrance to the University, each applicant shall gain the following in the HKDSE:

- (A) Level 3 or above in English Language;
- (B) Level 3 or above in Chinese Language;
- (C) Level 2 or above in Mathematics;
- (D) Level 2 or above in Liberal Studies; and
- (E) Level 3 or above in Two Elective Subjects.

Notes:

1. 'Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education' is referred to as 'HKDSE'.
2. 'Attained with Distinction' obtained prior to 2018, or 'Attained with Distinction (I)' or 'Attained with Distinction (II)' obtained in or after 2018, in Applied Learning subjects (other than Applied Learning Chinese) will be used as additional supporting information. In the meantime, student learning experiences in Applied Learning subjects may be considered within the context of other learning experiences in their application.
3. Other Language subjects will be used as unspecified elective subjects. The minimum requirement is Grade E.

4. There is no additional requirement other than the University's minimum entrance requirements for 6717 Bachelor of Social Sciences, 6731 Bachelor of Social Work, 6195 Bachelor of Education and Bachelor of Social Sciences, and 6822 Bachelor of Journalism.
5. 6212 Bachelor of Arts and Sciences requires Level 5 in English Language, and Level 3 or above in Extended Module 1 or 2 of Mathematics is preferred (but not required). Candidates with level 4 in English Language and good results in other subjects will be exceptionally considered on a case by case basis. If these candidates are admitted, they will be required to take 6 additional credits in University English to complete their degree studies.
6. 6810 Bachelor of Social Sciences (Government and Laws) and Bachelor of Laws requires Level 5 and Level 4 or above for the English Language and Chinese Language respectively, and Level 3 or above in Mathematics Compulsory Part and Liberal Studies.
7. The Faculty accepts combined certificates of HKDSE with no penalty. The best attempt of HKDSE subjects will within 2 years (including year applying for admissions) will be counted.

How to apply

If you are a student in a local school and wish to apply for admission on the strength of your HKDSE qualifications, you should make your application through the Joint University Programmes Admissions Systems (JUPAS) and refer to the JUPAS Guide for information on JUPAS procedures.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS NON-JUPAS

Faculty of Social Sciences at The University of Hong Kong welcomes applications for admission through the Non-JUPAS Admissions Scheme to our undergraduate programmes from international and local candidates who are not students in the mainstream schools in Hong Kong and who are not applying for admission on the strength of Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education.

Due to the differences in educational systems, school-leaving qualifications that are acceptable for entrance to universities abroad may not necessarily be acceptable for entry into HKU. Details of the general university entrance requirements in respect of qualifications from different countries, please refer to <http://www.aal.hku.hk/admissions>. If you are in doubt of your eligibility for undergraduate admission, please send details of your qualifications to admissions@hku.hk for advice.

Please note that admission is on a competitive basis. There are no fixed quotas for non-JUPAS applicants, the number of students that are admitted being a function of the number and quality of students applying each year from both the JUPAS and non-JUPAS schemes. Candidates having satisfied the minimum entrance requirements are eligible to apply for admission, which however does not necessarily guarantee admission to the University.

How to apply

Applicants should submit their online applications via



<http://www.aal.hku.hk/admissions>

JUPAS AND NON-JUPAS ENQUIRIES

Admissions: G14, Ground Floor, Main Building
Office: The University of Hong Kong

Telephone: (852) 3917 5886

Enquiries: Local students
<http://www.aal.hku.hk/admissions/local/contact-us>

International students
<http://www.aal.hku.hk/admissions/international/contact-us>

Mainland students
<http://www.aal.hku.hk/admissions/mainland/contact-us>

While every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this prospectus is correct at the time of printing, applicants should note that changes may be made before the start of an academic year.

This prospectus does not form part of a contract between the applicant and the University.



NOTES



Faculty of Social Sciences • The University of Hong Kong

Address: 11/F, The Jockey Club Tower, Centennial Campus, The University of Hong Kong, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong

Website: www.socsc.hku.hk

Tel: (852) 3917 1234

Fax: (852) 2517 0806

E-mail: socsc@hku.hk