



2015-16

MPhil & PhD
studies @ Faculty of
Social Sciences, HKU



香港大學社會科學學院

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES • THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

The logo for the University of Hong Kong, consisting of the letters 'HKU' in white, bold, sans-serif font, set against a red, curved background element.

The University of Hong Kong

Founded in 1911, the University of Hong Kong, as a leading international institution of higher learning in Asia, strives to attract and nurture outstanding postgraduate students from around the world. The University is organized into more than 100 teaching departments and sub-divisions of study, and currently has over 27,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students who come from over 80 countries. Among these, about a third of students come from Mainland China and overseas. The University's faculty is truly international, with over half coming from overseas or Mainland China. The University seeks to contribute to the advancement of society and the development of leaders through a global presence, scholarly activities with a regional impact and significant engagement with the rest of China.

The logo for the Faculty of Social Sciences, consisting of the letters 'FOSS' in white, bold, sans-serif font, set against an orange, curved background element.

Faculty of Social Sciences

The Faculty of Social Sciences was established in 1967 and has since then undergone rapid expansion and significant transformation. Through over 45 years of development and growth, the Faculty has become one of the leading schools in social and political science education and research globally. The Faculty takes great pride in its academic and professional excellence, diversity of its faculty and students, and contribution to the well-being of the community and international networking.

Today, the Faculty stands with top social sciences universities in the world. In 2014, we are ranked first in Asia and 29th in the world according to the Times Higher Education World University Rankings. In QS World University Ranking 2014, three of our core disciplines, Geography, Politics and Public Administration and Psychology, have been ranked in top 30 subjects in the world respectively.

The Faculty currently comprises 5 core departments and 6 multidisciplinary research centres. All units aim at promoting and leading multi-disciplinary and international collaborative research endeavours. The Faculty has achieved recognition in four strategic research areas that it seeks to grow: China Studies, Non-profit Management and Civil Society; Public Policy; and Social and Cognitive Neuroscience.

Research Areas

There are about 290 research postgraduate students in the Faculty pursuing degrees of Master of Philosophy or Doctor of Philosophy in the following research areas of the Faculty:

- **China Studies** *
 - Comparative Asian and International Studies
 - Criminology
 - Culture and Heritage
 - Environment, Urban Planning and Sustainable Development
 - Interpersonal Relationships
 - Media
 - Methodology
 - **Non-profit Management and Civil Society** *
 - Political Theory and Philosophy
 - Population and Mental Health
 - Psychosocial Intervention and Processes
 - Public and Social Policy, and Governance
 - **Public Policy** *
 - **Social and Cognitive Neuroscience** *
 - Transnationalism and Global Migration
- * *Faculty's 4 Strategic Areas*

Specialist Areas

Related Strategic Research Themes @ HKU

- Ageing
- Cancer
- Contemporary China
- Neuroscience



**Department of
Geography**

Major Research Areas

- Climate change and paleoclimate studies
- Climate-man relationship and environmental issues
- Climate change, geomorphology and quaternary science
- Cultural heritage management; urban planning and environmental management
- Environmental/ecological economics; urban forestry and urban ecology; environmental management
- Environmental science and management
- Geographical information systems and cartography
- Globalisation, economic development and spatial transformation in China
- Hydrology and sediment studies
- Soil science and biogeography
- Spatial analysis-statistic, geographic information science and population geography
- Tourism and recreation geography
- Transport, e-technologies and society
- Transportation geography and container port systems
- Urban and regional development in China, and economic geography

<http://geog.hku.hk>

Postgraduate Admissions Advisor

Dr. P. C. Lai

Tel: 3917 2830

Fax: 2559 8994

Email: pdai@hku.hk

Major Research Areas

- Comparative politics
- International relations
- Political theory
- Public administration and public policy

Postgraduate Admissions Advisor

Professor J. C. W. Chan

Tel: 3917 8361

Fax: 2858 3550

Email: jcwchan@hku.hk

**Department of
Politics and Public
Administration**



<http://ppaweb.hku.hk>

**Research
Areas**

Specialist Areas



Department of
Psychology

<http://psychology.hku.hk>

Major Research Areas

- Clinical psychology
- Cognition and perception
- Educational psychology
- Social psychology

Postgraduate Admissions Advisor

Professor C. Cheng

Tel: 3917 4224

Fax: 2858 3518

Email: ceci-cheng@hku.hk

Major Research Areas

- Families and children
- Ageing and gerontology
- Health and welfare in China
- Health and mental health
- Population studies
- Social policy, planning and community building
- Gender and sexuality

- Others:
Dance-movement therapy;
psychoneuroimmunology; newly arrived
immigrants; social work education including IT
development; psycho-autopsy study.

Postgraduate Admissions Advisor

Dr P. S.Y. Ho

Tel: 3917 2091

Fax: 2858 7604

Email: psyho@hku.hk

Department of Social
Work and Social
Administration



<http://www.socialwork.hku.hk>



Department of
Sociology

<http://www.sociodep.hku.hk>

Major Research Areas

- Asian societies and globalisation
- Criminology
- Media and culture

Postgraduate Admissions Advisor

Dr C.S.C. Chan

Tel: 3917 4341

Fax: 2857 4074

Email: socidept@hku.hk

Major Research Areas

- Inter-Asian connections
- Science, technology and medicine in Asian societies
- Hubs, mobilities and the Asian urban
- Spirituality and religion in Asia

Postgraduate Admissions Advisor

Professor A.K.C. Leung

Tel: 3917 5822

Fax: 2559 6143

Email: angela-leung@hku.hk

Hong Kong Institute
for the Humanities
and Social Sciences
(Incorporating the
Centre of Asian
Studies)



<http://www.hkihss.hku.hk>



Journalism and
Media Studies Centre

<http://jmsc.hku.hk>

Major Research Areas

- Business and financial journalism
- Cultural studies of journalism and the media
- Digital media
- Environmental journalism
- International journalism
- Journalism education
- Journalism in Greater China
- Literary journalism
- Media law and ethics
- Public culture
- Public health communication

Postgraduate Admissions Advisor

Professor Y.Y. Chan

Tel: 3917 1155

Fax: 2858 8736

Email: jmsc@hku.hk

Major Research Areas

- Corporate environmental governance and business-environment issues
- Environment education and community engagement
- Environmental policy studies in Hong Kong and the Asia-Pacific region
- Managing sustainable cities and regions
- Planning sustainable communities
- Sustainability assessment methods
- Sustainable development
- Sustainable energy

Postgraduate Admissions Advisor

Professor P.R. Hills

Tel: 2219 4768

Fax: 2857 2521

Email: kadinst@hku.hk

<http://www.kadinst.hku.hk>

Kadoorie Institute



Social Sciences
Research Centre

<http://www.ssrc.hku.hk>

Major Research Areas

- Bayesian statistics
- Compositional data analysis
- Computerised survey data collection
- Internet and world-wide web policy
- Longitudinal surveys
- Opinion and electoral polls
- Privacy and data protection
- Social and medical statistics
- Telephone survey methodology

Postgraduate Admissions Advisor

Professor J.H. Bacon-Shone

Tel: 3917 1600

Fax: 2858 4327

Email: johnbs@hku.hk

Awards and Financial Aid

Hong Kong PhD Fellowships (HKPF)

- HK\$20,000 (US\$2,560)/month scholarship
- HK\$10,000 (US\$1,280)/year conference or travel grant

For details, please visit <http://www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd>

Postgraduate Scholarship (PGS)

- Basic level of HK\$14,350 (US\$1,830)/month (upgrade to HK\$14,860/month with effect from the following calendar month after his/her probation is fully confirmed)

University Postgraduate Fellowships (UPF)

- HK\$70,000 (US\$8,970) for entire studies on top of the Postgraduate Scholarship

Scholarships and Conference/Travel Grants

- CRCG Conference Grants for Research Postgraduate Students
- CRCG Travel Grants for Research Postgraduate Students
- Research Grants Council (RGC) Postgraduate Student Conference / Seminar Grants, etc.
- Dovis Zimmern HKU-Cambridge Hughes Hall Scholarship

For more information: <http://www.gradsch.hku.hk/gradsch/web/apply/guide1516>

Awards &
Financial
Aid

Facilities at Faculty of Social Sciences and HKU

Postgraduate Hub (Faculty-based)

The Faculty sets up a huge postgraduate hub, which spreads over two levels, exclusively for our postgraduate students. With individual workstation for each student and shared common space, supervisors and students from different disciplines can come together to interact in a dynamic learning environment to nurture research excellence.

Postgraduate Housing

Student Housing is provided exclusively for postgraduate students at various locations and able to accommodate nearly 500 students. Online application is available through the website of CEDARS at http://apps.cedars.hku.hk/pg_housing/

Student Services

HKU fosters a whole-person approach to education. Centre of Development and Resources for Students (CEDARS) provides provide guidance and assistance in financial matters, accommodation, disability issues, visas, student activities and any general concern students have on campus life.

University Health Service

All entitled students may use the University Health Service (UHS). Students with physical disability affecting mobility, sight or hearing etc. should report to the UHS and CEDARS so that assessment could be made for the need of special assistance during their time at the University.

Sports

HKU has two sports centres including two swimming pools through the operation of Institute of Human Performance. The Institute also provides a wide range of activities to students at nominal fee.

Facilities



Faculty Academic Activities

Overseas Experience for RPg Students

Full-time PhD students are encouraged, with possible funding support, to gain overseas exposure by undertaking research courses or short-term stay at laboratories of partner universities to enhance their research skills.

Annual Research Postgraduate Conference

This multidisciplinary Conference provides a valuable platform for Faculty's research postgraduate students and academics for cross-disciplinary and international research interaction.

HKU Postgraduate Summer School: Social Science Research Methods (SSRM)

SSRM is designed to expose postgraduate students and researchers to advanced methodologies for conducting social science research. Covering both qualitative and quantitative techniques, the courses offer students and researchers a unique opportunity to meet leading scholars in their areas, to develop professional networks and to broaden their set of research skills.

Public Lecture

- Contemporary China Studies Public Lecture
- Social and Cognitive Neuroscience Public Lecture
- Public Policy Public Lecture



Activities

Quick Glance about the Faculty of Social Sciences (FOSS)

Departments

Geography
 Politics and Public Administration
 Psychology
 Social Work and Social Administration
 Sociology

Multidisciplinary Research Centres

Sau Po Centre on Ageing
 Centre on Behavioral Health
 Centre for Civil Society and Governance
 Centre for Criminology
 International Centre for China Development Studies
 The HKJC Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention

Service Centre

Social Sciences Research Centre

Professoriate Staff No. (2014): 86

Student No. (2014)

	Student No.
Undergraduate Students	1472
Taught Postgraduate Students	1091
Research Postgraduate Students	
MPhil	56
PhD	234
Total	2853

Quick Glance

Employment / Career Prospect

In 2012, 80% of HKU research postgraduate graduates successfully secured employment after graduation and 13.7% of graduates decided in pursuing further studies. Education continued to be the largest employment sector for HKU research postgraduate graduates and 59.2% of graduates joined the education sector. In education, "Teaching and Research Profession" was the most popular occupational group (53.1%).

Prospect

Admission

General Qualifications for Admission

The basic qualification necessary for admission to research postgraduate studies is a good honours degree from this University or an equivalent qualification from a comparable institution. Qualifying examinations to test the applicants' abilities to follow the prescribed courses and/or interviews may be conducted.

English Requirement (for applicants holding a first degree from a university where the language of teaching and/or examination is not English)

- (a) an overall score of 550 or above (paper-based test) or 80 or above (internet-based test) in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL); or
- (b) a minimum overall band of 6 with no subtest lower than 5.5 in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) (Academic module); or
- (c) grade C or above in the Overseas General Certificate of Education (GCE), International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE), or Cambridge Test of Proficiency in English Language (CPE);

Application deadline

Application Round	Application Period
Hong Kong PhD Fellowships (HKPF)	Initial application to the Research Grant Council (RGC)*: September 1 noon – December 1, 2014 noon Full application to HKU: September 1 – December 1, 2014
Main Round	September 1 – December 1, 2014
1 st Clearing Round	December 2, 2014 – April 30, 2015
2 nd Clearing Round	May 1 – August 31, 2015

* For details on the HKPF, please visit RGC's website at <http://www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd>.

Contact Us

Faculty of Social Sciences

The University of Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 3917 1234

Fax: (852) 2517 0806

Email: socscpg@hku.hk

Website: <http://www.socsc.hku.hk>

Graduate School, HKU

The University of Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2857 3470

Fax: (852) 2857 3543

Email: gradsch@hku.hk

Website: <http://www.hku.hk/gradsch>