

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

To: All new full-time undergraduate Social Sciences students

Notes for New Social Sciences Students

I am pleased to welcome you to the Faculty of Social Sciences. I hope you will find the coming years both intellectually stimulating and academically rewarding.

Registration Documents

The dates for completing the registration and course selection formalities are given in document SS49/718, which also includes information of major events in this academic year.

Regulation and Syllabus

When you read all the details concerning registration, University regulations and so on, the next and most important thing you have to do is to choose courses you wish to study in the coming year. Course list and regulations governing the selection of courses are stated in the “Regulations for First Degree Curricula” and the “Regulations and Syllabuses for the respective Degrees” at http://www.socsc.hku.hk/current_students.html, please click “*Regulations and Syllabuses*” for undergraduate. To facilitate your course selection, please refer to the above website and click “*Course Selection*” → “*Required Courses for Full-time Students (4-year curriculum)*”.

Course Selection

The first semester of the 2018-2019 academic year begins on Monday, September 3, 2018, and you are expected to attend lectures, tutorials, etc. from that day onwards. Please visit the departmental website(s) from which you have selected your courses and pay attention to the emails sent from the departments, as they will give further details with regard to timetables of courses, books to be used and so on. You should also check the location of the lecture theatres and tutorial rooms in advance.

The course selection period for the 2018-2019 academic year is **from August 23 (10:00am) to August 28 (4:00pm), 2018**, you are required to complete the course selection for the whole academic year via the HKU Portal.

If for any reason you subsequently wish to make changes in your course selection, you may do so in the first and second weeks of the semester [i.e. **from September 3 (10:00am) to September 17 (4:00pm), 2018 for the first semester**]. This should again be done through the HKU Portal.

Some courses are offered twice a year and you are required to indicate the exact semester as well as the sub-class you wish to take when completing your online course selection. However, your preferred sub-class may need to be changed to

achieve a more even distribution of students for a particular course. You are advised to check the course selection status online via HKU Portal before the semester begins. In planning your studies, you should also note that, in addition to lectures, courses may consist of tutorials, seminars, exercise classes or laboratory work; information on these will be given by the departments at the beginning of the semester. Such groups may meet at any time during the week, provided that they do not clash with the lecture hours of the students participating in a particular group. Attendance is obligatory.

Language Enhancement and Common Core Courses

According to the graduation requirements prescribed in UG5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula, students are required to successfully complete the following courses:

- i) a 6-credit Chinese language enhancement course [CSSC9001 / CUND9002 (for Putonghua-speaking students) / CUND9003 (for Putonghua-speaking students)];
- ii) a 6-credit Core University English course (CAES1000);
- iii) a 6-credit English in the Discipline course;
- iv) 36 credits of courses in the Common Core Curriculum within the first three years of study, comprising at least one and not more than two courses from each Area of Inquiry with not more than 24 credits of courses being selected within one academic year except where candidates are required to make up for failed credits (non-BSocSc(Govt&Laws)&LLB students only); and
- v) 24 credits of courses in the Common Core Curriculum within the first three years of study, comprising not more than one courses from each Area of Inquiry (BSocSc(Govt&Laws)&LLB students only).

Exemption of CAES1000

Students obtained the following qualifications are exempted from the requirement (ii) in the above, and Core University English (CAES1000) is optional. Those who do not take this course should take a 6-credit elective course in lieu.

- i) achieved Level 5 in the English Language paper in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination
- ii) holder of Bachelor's degree from an English-medium university
- iii) achieved Grade A or above in English Language GCE Advanced Level (AL)/ Advanced Subsidiary Level (ASL)
- iv) achieved an overall IELTS score of no less than 7 AND with all sub-scores no less than 6.5 on the Reading, Speaking, Listening and Writing Tests
- v) achieved an overall TOEFL Internet-based test score of no less than 94 AND no less than a 24 on the writing, a 20 on the speaking, a 20 on the listening, AND a 19 on the reading sections
- vi) achieved in International Baccalaureate (IB) Grade 4 or above in English A1/ English Language A/ English A: Literature/ English A: Language and Literature (HL); or Grade 5 or above in English B/ English Language B (HL); or Grade 5 or above in English A1/ English Language A/ English A: Literature/ English A: Language and Literature (SL)
- vii) achieved Grade 4 or above on the Advanced Placement (AP) English Language/ English Language and Composition/ English Literature and Composition Test
- viii) achieved a NEW Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) score of 35 or above on both the Writing & Language Test and Reading Test (from 2016)

- ix) achieved Grade B or above in H1 General Paper at the Singapore GCE A-level
- x) achieved Grade A or better in English language at Malaysia SPM examination
- xi) achieved Grade A2 or better in Malaysia UEC-Senior English Language
- xii) attained merit (3 points) or above in each set of credits in New Zealand NCEA Literacy (10 credits made up of 5 credits in reading and 5 credits in writing)
- xiii) achieved a score of 95% or better in English at All India Senior School Certificate Examination / Higher School Certificate
- xiv) achieved a final score of 90% or better in English at Grade 12 Canadian high school curriculum.
- xv) achieved Grade B or better in English Language at Sri Lanka Ordinary examination
- xvi) achieved a score of 90 or better in English in the Russian Unified State Exam (Единый государственный экзамен, ЕГЭ, Yediniy gosudarstvenniy ekzamen, EGE)

The exemption shall be granted automatically to eligible students based on the academic results provided for admission. The record of exemption for CAES1000 will be shown on the Degree Audit Report in Student Information System (SIS) starting from **August 20, 2018**. For other students who have satisfied the above criteria but do not see the exemption record, please inform the Faculty office by submitting an online application **on or before September 3, 2018** via the link at http://www.socsc.hku.hk/academic_matters.html. (please click “Year I Students” → “Exemption of CAES1000 Core University English Course”.)

For students who have not taken any of the above tests, you can apply for exemption by sitting for the CAES Academic Writing and Speaking test scheduled on **August 31, 2018**. Details of the test are available at <https://learning.hku.hk/caes1000/>. Please submit your application **on or before August 23, 2018** via the link at http://www.socsc.hku.hk/academic_matters.html. (please click “Year I Students” → “Exemption of CAES1000 Core University English Course”.)

Exemption of CSSC9001

To fulfil the Chinese language enhancement requirement, students should take CSSC9001 “Practical Chinese for Social Sciences students” in the second semester of the Year II studies.

However, students who have not studied the Chinese language during their secondary education or who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language enhancement course may apply for exemption and take a 6-credit Cantonese or Putonghua language courses offered by the School of Chinese (especially for international/exchange students), or an elective course in lieu. Such students are required to apply for exemption at http://www.socsc.hku.hk/academic_matters.html (please click “Year I Students” → “Exemption from the Chinese Language Enhancement Requirement”), **by September 14, 2018**. Late application will not be considered.

After the aforementioned date, students are required to complete and submit a hard copy of the application form, which is available at http://www.socsc.hku.hk/students/ug/pdf/forms/Exempt_CSSC9001_form.pdf, to the Faculty Office before the second semester of the Year II studies.

Academic Advising

To ensure that your transition to the University is going well, each new student will have a Faculty Academic Adviser (FAA). You are required to sign up for your FAA **from 6:00pm, August 10, 2018 (Friday) to 11:59pm, August 15, 2018 (Wednesday)** at <https://ugaa.hku.hk/signup-faa.php>. If you do not sign up by August 15, 2018, the System will randomly assign one to you.

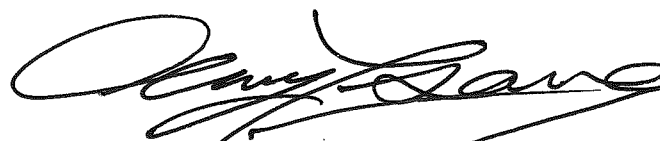
All students are required to meet with her/his assigned Academic Adviser at least twice in the first semester and once in the second semester in their first year of study to discuss their academic progress.

Information Technology Services Guide

For details of the services provided by the Information Technology Services, please refer to <http://www.its.hku.hk/>.

Enquiries

If you have any queries concerning the degree regulations and syllabuses, your choice of courses or any aspect of University life, you are welcome to contact the Faculty Office either in person, or by telephone at 3917 1212 [BSocSc] / 3917 1218 [BJ and BSW] / 3917 1214 [BSocSc(Govt&Laws)&LLB]. The Office is pleased to assist you whenever possible.



(Mrs.) Amy Tsang
Faculty Secretary

AT/VS/GC/jt
August 2018

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
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To: All new full-time undergraduate Social Sciences Students

Lockers

Lockers are now available for allocation to all new full-time undergraduate students in the Faculty of Social Sciences. In case the number of lockers is insufficient, the Faculty will draw lots for allocation. Students who wish to apply for lockers are required to register at <http://www.socsc.hku.hk/lockers/> **by noon August 29, 2018.**


Application results will be announced via HKU email in early September 2018. Successful applicants shall collect the locker keys from September 10 to 17, 2018 during office hours (Saturday and Sunday are exclusive). Those who fail to collect their keys during the assigned period are assumed to withdraw from their applications.

Before submitting the online locker application, you are required to note the following:

- (a) Each full-time student will be eligible for the allocation of a locker by the Faculty Office at the first registration. Allocation, however, will be subject to the availability of lockers.
- (b) The allocation is valid during the study period that the student is registered, or until cessation of studies before completion of the curriculum, whichever is earlier.
- (c) A student who is allocated a locker is required to return the key to the Faculty Office normally by June 30 of his/her final year of studies, or if necessary at an earlier date that is notified by the Faculty. Personal belongings remaining in lockers after the due date for return of keys will be disposed of at the University's discretion.
- (d) The University disclaims all liability for damage or loss of the contents from any cause whatsoever.
- (e) No duplication of keys is allowed.
- (f) The user is responsible for all damages to the locker beyond normal wear and tear.
- (g) No food or inflammable goods and other substances attractive to insects or obnoxious to humans by way of smell etc. should be kept in the locker.
- (h) The door of the locker must be kept locked at all times.
- (i) Loss of key must be reported immediately to the Faculty Office. The following charges will be made as appropriate:

Loss of key	\$150
Non-return of key by due date	\$150
Replacement of key	\$30

- (j) In case of emergency and in case of non-observance of the rules, the Dean is authorised to open a locker, provided such action is reported immediately to the registered user.


(Mrs.) Amy Tsang
Faculty Secretary