

2025-26

# Undergraduate Prospectus

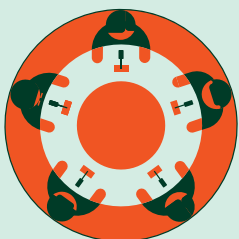
# HKU SOCIAL SCIENCES



GE●GRAPHY



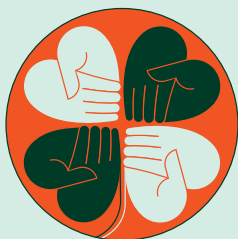
J●URNALISM AND  
MEDIA STUDIES



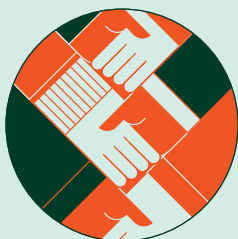
P●OLITICS AND PUBLIC  
ADMINISTRATION



PSYCHOL●OGY



SOCIAL WORK AND S●OCIAL  
ADMINISTRATION



SOCIOL●OGY

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# Table of Content

---

Faculty's Vision & Mission

---

Dean's Message

---

Departments

---

Curricula

6705 Bachelor of Psychology [BPsych]

6717 Bachelor of Social Sciences [BSocSc]

6731 Bachelor of Social Work [BSW]

6810 Bachelor of Social Sciences (Government and Laws)  
and Bachelor of Laws [BSocSc(G&L)&LLB]

6822 Bachelor of Journalism [B]

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Social Innovation and Global Citizenship (SIGC)

Internship Programmes

Student Exchange Programmes

SIGC Sharing

---

Dual Degree Programmes

---

Admissions Requirements

---

---

p.4

---

p.6

---

p.8

---

p.12

p.14

p.16

p.20

p.22

p.24

---

p.26

p.28

p.30

p.32

---

p.34

---

p.38

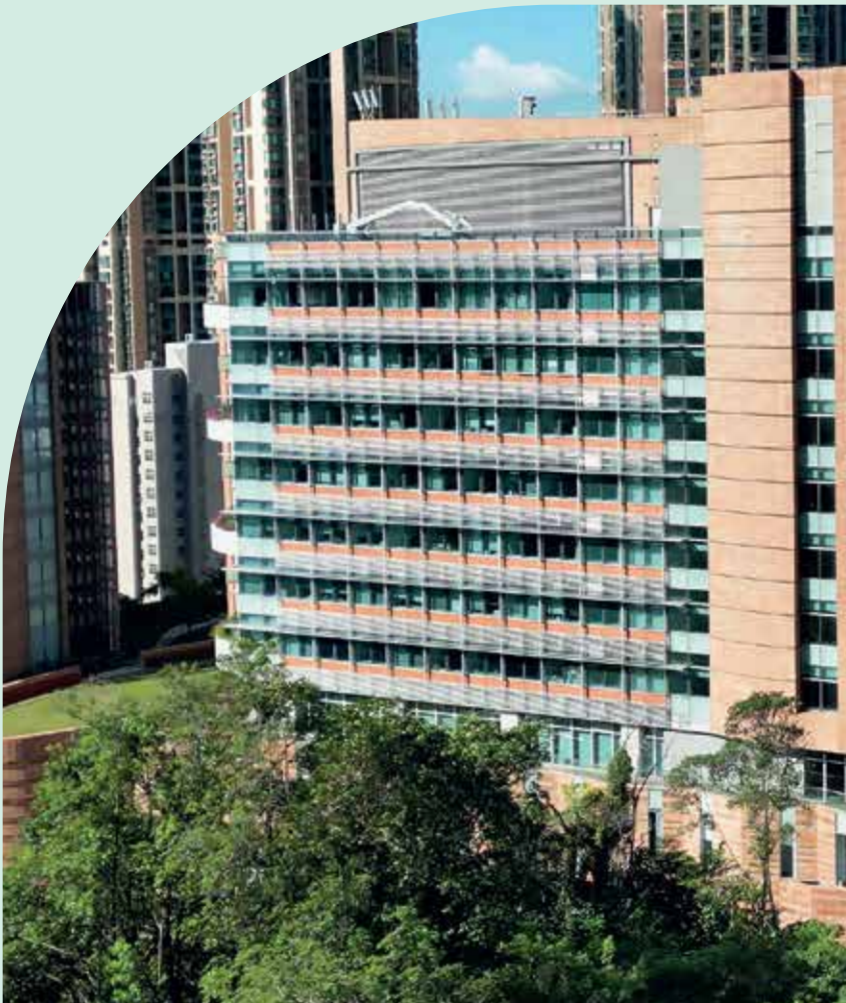
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# Faculty's Vision & Mission

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The Faculty of Social Sciences of The University of Hong Kong seeks to make a positive social contribution through a global presence, regional significance and engagement with the rest of China. The Faculty delivers impact through internationalization, innovation and interdisciplinarity. It attracts and nurtures global scholars through excellence in research, teaching and learning and knowledge exchange. The Faculty aims to produce citizens with a global perspective who are critical thinkers, socially aware, ready to embrace diversity, and seek to make an impact on society.





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# Dean's Message

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Thank you for considering the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Hong Kong as your potential academic home. We are committed to nurturing you into compassionate, critical thinkers, and change-makers within society. As you embark on your academic journey with us, you can anticipate a plethora of opportunities that will shape your future positively and enable you to make significant contributions to the world.

Within our vibrant and intellectually stimulating community, you will have access to a network of esteemed faculty members, fellow students, and alumni. This dynamic network will serve as a valuable resource for mentorship, collaboration, and career prospects. We foster a supportive environment that fosters growth, innovation, and the exchange of ideas.

By becoming a part of the Faculty of Social Sciences, you will join a community that values diversity, inclusivity, and global perspectives. Engaging with peers from various backgrounds and cultures will broaden your horizons, challenge your assumptions, and deepen your understanding of the complex issues facing our world today. The relationships you forge here will endure a lifetime.

Our alumni have embarked on successful careers across diverse sectors, including private, public, and non-profit organizations. The knowledge, skills, and experiences acquired through our programs prepare them to excel in various professional fields. Whether your aspirations lie in research, policy-making, advocacy, or community development, our faculty provides a robust foundation for making a meaningful impact.

Thank you once more for considering the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Hong Kong as your college destination. We are enthusiastic about the opportunity to welcome you into our vibrant community of learners, thinkers, and change-makers.

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**Professor Ming Wen**





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# Departments

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Geography

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Geography has a long tradition at HKU since 1931. Today the Department is a flourishing and expanding academic community dedicated to training world-class graduates for the challenges and opportunities of a changing world. Our training embraces philosophies and methodologies from the natural and social sciences as well as the humanities.





## Journalism and Media Studies Centre

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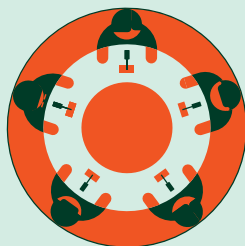


The Journalism and Media Studies Centre (JMSC) is dedicated to serving civil society and fostering an informed citizenry through a vibrant and professional news media. Our focus lies in upholding professional standards, reinforcing journalistic integrity, and help students build essential skills, which are invaluable for any future career.

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# Politics and Public Administration

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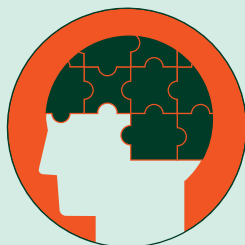


The Department of Politics and Public Administration is a founding department of the Faculty. During the past decades, the Department has contributed to the development of its discipline both locally and internationally through dedicated teaching, research and knowledge exchange.

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# Psychology

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HKU Psychology is ranked among the top three in Asia. Our professoriate staff consist of experts in different fields of psychology. Our students are trained to apply psychological principles in addressing important social issues. Our research expertise also allows us to offer two multi-disciplinary programmes in Cognitive Science and Neuroscience.

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## Social Work and Social Administration

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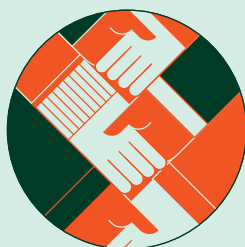


The Department of Social Work and Social Administration is the first social work training institute in Hong Kong's history of professional social work education. Our commitment to improving the quality of life of people has kept our social work education at the forefront of the changing social welfare landscape. Many of our graduates are now social work leaders, government officials, directors and senior managers in NGOs and professors in major universities.

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## Sociology

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The Department of Sociology is one of the leading sociology departments in the world. 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, family, gender, health, media, religion and technology.

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# Curricula

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## **Generic Components of the Undergraduate Curricula**

At HKU, students are required to complete Common Core Curriculum courses, Language Enhancement courses in Chinese and English, and a non-credit bearing course “Introduction to the Constitution, the Basic Law and the National Security Law” as stipulated in the Regulations for First Degree Curricula in order to graduate.



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## 01

### Common Core

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The Common Core Curriculum is a series of self-selected interdisciplinary courses across five Areas of Inquiry (Aoi)

- i) Scientific, Technology and Big Data
- ii) Arts and Humanities
- iii) Global Issues
- iv) China: Culture, State and Society
- v) Artificial Intelligence\*

\* New Aoi subject to the University's approval.

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## 02

### English Language Enhancement Courses

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English Language Enhancement courses include a Core University English course and an English in the Discipline course.

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## 03

### Chinese Language Enhancement Courses

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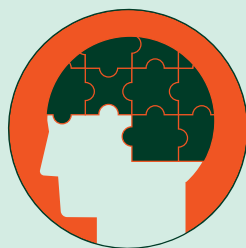
Students can choose to take one Chinese Language Enhancement course out of five courses that are designed for Cantonese, Mandarin and non-Cantonese speakers to cater the specific needs of students from different backgrounds.

JUPAS Code

6705

Bachelor of  
Psychology

心理學學士



The BPsych curriculum aims to enhance students' understanding of psychological phenomenon and principles through experiential and research-intensive learning. It fosters critical analysis and self-reflection, making our graduates valuable in the job market.

The curriculum provides an internationally-recognised qualification in Psychology allowing students to pursue both professional training in applied aspects of Psychology (e.g. Educational Psychology or Clinical Psychology), and advanced research training in all related areas, including Cognitive Science and Neuroscience.



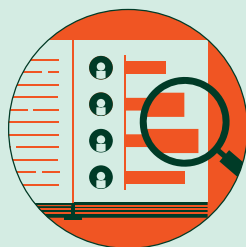


JUPAS Code

6717

Bachelor of  
Social Sciences

社會科學學士



## Career Prospects

Civil Services

6%

Commerce & Industry

28%

Community, Social & Personal Services

17%



Students in this BSocSc curriculum may choose to major in one of the five core disciplines: Computational Social Science<sup>^</sup>, Geography, Politics and Public Administration, Social Policy and Social Development, and Sociology. Students may also opt for a double major in second options as well as majors offered by other Faculties of the University. Students can choose to combine a major with one or two minors.

<sup>^</sup> New major subject to the University's approval.

#### Education

19%

#### Further Studies and Others

30%



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## Bachelor of Social Sciences Course Structure

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### 1st Majors\*

offered by Social Sciences  
(Compulsory major)

Students are offered great flexibility to explore their academic interests during the first year of studies by taking different social sciences introductory courses. Starting from the second year of studies, students may declare one of the following five majors as their first major and further study on the selected discipline.

Flexible

Free  
Choice

No  
Quota

No  
Selection

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### 2nd Majors\*

offered by Social Sciences

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### Minors

offered by Social Sciences

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### Others

Students may also opt for major/  
minor offered by other Faculties

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- **Computational Social Science<sup>^</sup>**

#ComputationalMethods #BigData  
#MachineLearning #AI

- **Geography**

#SustainableDevelopment #HumanGeography #Urbanization #GIS

- **Politics and Public Administration**

#ComparativePolitics #InternationalPolitics  
#PoliticalTheoryandEthics #PublicAdministration

- **Social Policy and Social Development**

#SocialDevelopmentIssues #SocialPolicy  
#SocialIssues #Non-profitsectors

- **Sociology**

#Society #Culture #Relationships #Behaviour

\* All major programmes offer a minor option for students.

<sup>^</sup> New major subject to the University's approval.

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- **Cognitive Science**

- **Neuroscience**

- **Counselling**

- **Psychology**

- **Criminology**

- **Urban Governance**

- **Media & Cultural Studies**

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- **Human Resource Management**

- **Journalism and Media Studies**

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- **Architecture**

- **Engineering**

- **Arts**

- **Medicine**

- **Business**

- **Science**

- **Education**

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JUPAS Code

6731

Bachelor of  
Social Work

社會工作學士



## Career Prospects

Civil Services

31%

Community, Social & Personal Services

61%



Our BSW curriculum covers various disciplines including social welfare and social policy, social work theory and practice, human behaviour and social environment, social research, law etc. Students are arranged to undertake two fieldwork placements in local or overseas agencies under professional supervision. Our graduates are eligible for professional registration with the Hong Kong Social Workers Registration Board.

#### Education

5%

#### Further Studies and Others

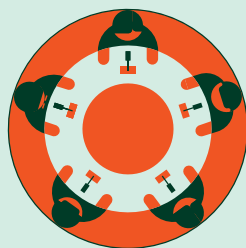
3%



JUPAS Code

6810

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



社會科學學士  
(政治學與法學)及法學



**Career Prospects**

Civil Services

10%

Commerce & Industry

10%





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Jointly offered by the Department of Politics and Public Administration and the Faculty of Law, the 5-year curriculum enables students to study two programmes and be awarded the degrees of Bachelor of Social Sciences (Government and Laws) and Bachelor of Laws upon completion. The curriculum consists of a combination of Social Sciences and Law courses. Students may opt out at the end of the second year to exit with only a Bachelor of Social Sciences (Government and Laws) degree upon completion of the fourth year of study.

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#### Education

10%

#### Further Studies and Others

70%



JUPAS Code

6822

Bachelor of  
Journalism

新聞學學士



## Career Prospects

Civil Services

8%

Commerce & Industry

43%



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The Bachelor of Journalism programme is a communications-focused, double-major degree curriculum for the digital age. Students combine multimedia skills and critical thinking with their chosen complementary major, creating a personalized degree. The diverse faculty and student body ensure a lively learning environment that fuels curiosity.

Along with internship and exchange opportunities, the programme's focus is on hands-on, real-world learning. By the end of the four-year curriculum, graduates excel in producing accurate and thoroughly-researched written pieces, crafting compelling video, and creating impactful, data-driven online journalism.

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Community, Social & Personal Services

26%

Further Studies and Others

23%



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# Social Innovation & Global Citizenship

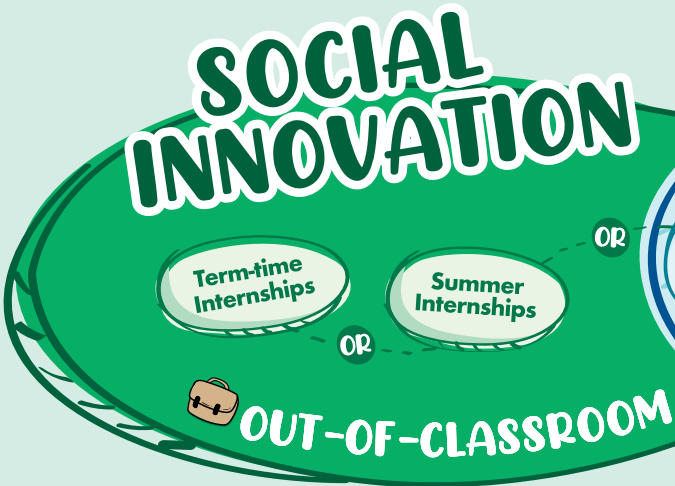
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Social Innovation (SI) and Global Citizenship (GC) graduation requirements will take you out of classroom and go beyond the local boundary for your experiential learning of social issues.



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**SIGC Options**  
24 Credits



Graduation Requirements

Social Innovation

Global Citizenship

BPsych

✓

&

✓

BSocSc

✓

&

✓

BSW

Nil (Free Electives)

BSocSc(G&L) & LLB

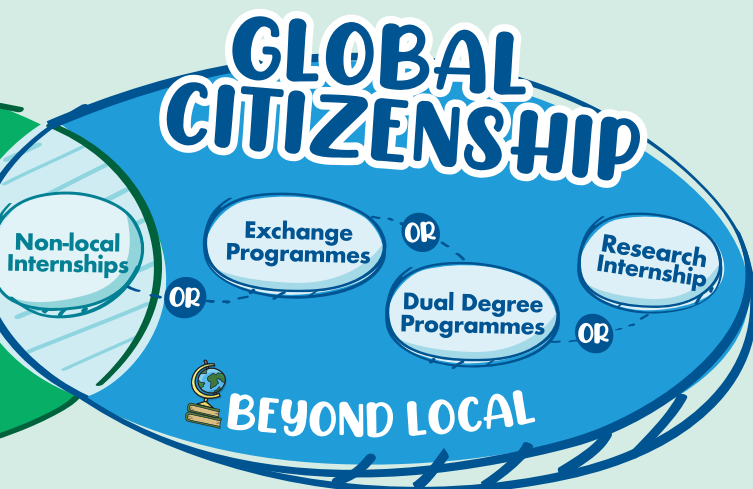
✓

or

✓

BJ

✓



# Internship Programmes

The Internship Programmes are specifically designed to encourage students to maximise their full potential by transcending the boundaries of campus, academic discipline, and geographical limitations. The programmes consist of:

- Placement-based Internships
- Community-engaged Research Internships
- GC@Home Internships
- GLoCal Internships
- Global Bay Areas Impact Lab





and more





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# Student Exchange Programmes

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The University and Faculty offer different exchange opportunities to students with outstanding academic performance and good standing. Through the exchange programmes, students will study at partner institutions for one semester or one academic year to get a taste of studying abroad and to facilitate cultural exchange.

Students may also apply for credit transfer in order to fulfil the degree requirements at HKU. Scholarships and sponsorships will be provided to students according to their academic standing and financial needs.



Bocconi



Cornell University



McGill  
UNIVERSITY



北京大学  
PEKING UNIVERSITY



UNSW  
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES



University of  
St Andrews



UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO



WASEDA  
University

and more



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# SIGC Sharing

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From  
Community  
Partners



## The Human Rights League

Our HKU Interns were a great asset to our team and contributed to our mission to protect the rights and strengthen the status of refugees and foreigners in Slovakia. The photo was captured at the organisation's booth at the Festival Pohoda.

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## Rise Wise Foundation

Our intern students participated in our therapy dog service, connecting with a diverse range of beneficiaries, including the elderly, youth, and children. Their involvement not only provided valuable support but also enriched the lives of those they served. The bonds formed between the interns, our therapy dogs, and the beneficiaries showcased the power of compassion and connection.

From  
Students



**LAM Suet Wing**  
**BPsych II**

Psychological Services Unit  
Fire Services Department

This photo is taken after the Crisis Event Pressure Response (CEPR) Training Video shoot with the Fire Services Department (FSD) filming crew and Psychological Services Unit. The CEPR project imparts Psychological First Aid skills to FSD members through role-playing. I am honoured to participate in this project.



**Kaur HARMANJIT**  
**BSocSc III**

The Zubin Foundation

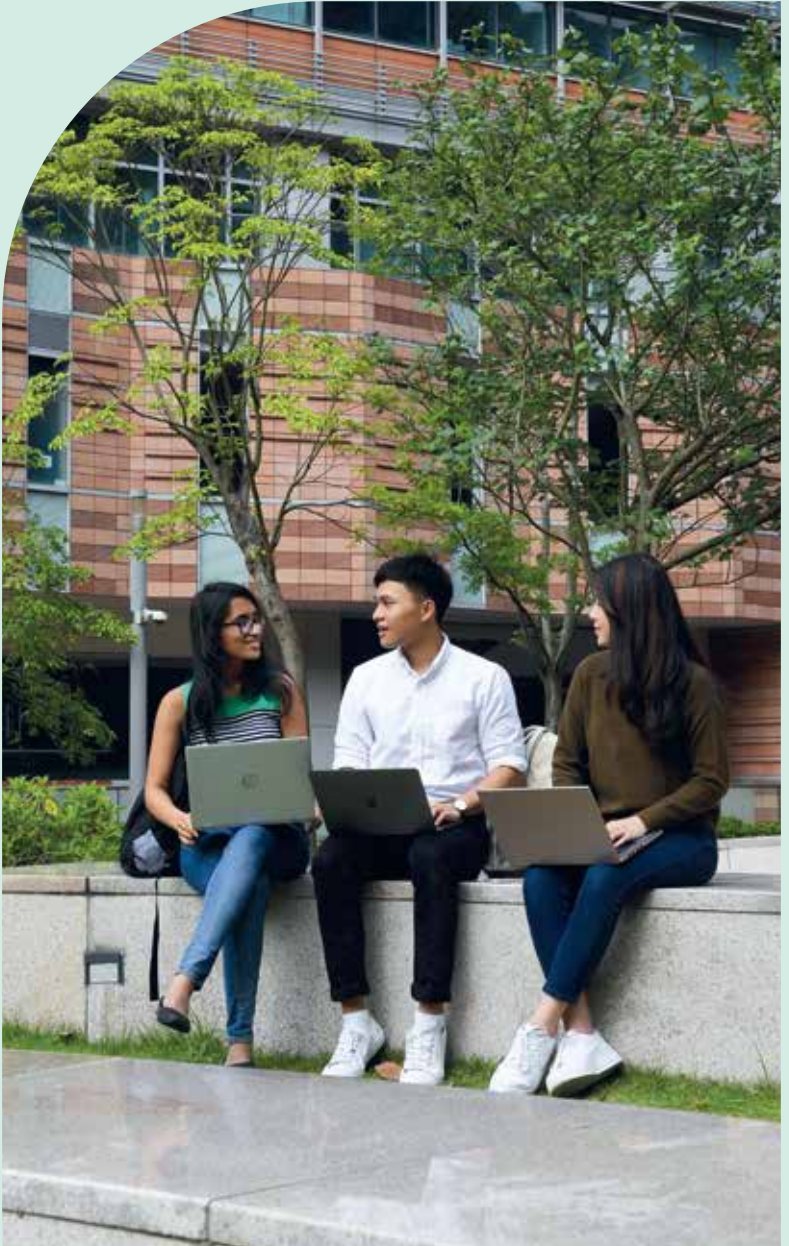
This photo is from an elderly workshop at Zubin Family Centre, organised with Food Link. I eagerly helped attendees learn to make healthy granola bars. A favourite moment was working with a sweet elderly man, despite the language barrier. We bonded over gestures and laughter preparing the granola. Seeing his joy assembling his snack was heart-warming. Intergenerational initiatives promoting healthy habits and cross-cultural connections are so crucial.



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# Dual Degree Programmes

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2 years  
HKU

+

2 years  
Sciences Po

This 4-year undergraduate degree programme will give students two Bachelor's degrees from two highly respected international universities – one from Europe – Sciences Po – and one from Asia – HKU. Students will spend the first two years in France and the third and fourth years in Hong Kong.



**SciencesPo**



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2 years  
HKU

+

2 years  
UC Berkeley

By spending the first two years at HKU and the third and fourth years at UC Berkeley, students shall obtain a Bachelor of Social Sciences from HKU, and a Bachelor of Arts from UC Berkeley upon successful completion of this 4-year undergraduate dual degree programme.



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**Berkeley**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA







3 years  
HKU  
BSOCSC

+

2 years  
GENEVA MA

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. Students will complete 3 years of study at HKU and apply to Geneva for admission to one of their designated MA programmes\*.

Students will complete their HKU 4<sup>th</sup> year of study in Geneva by taking graduate-level courses at Geneva, the credits of which will be transferred back to the HKU BSocSc degree. After successfully completing their 4<sup>th</sup> year of study in Geneva, students may obtain the BSocSc degree from HKU and stay on for an additional year to obtain an MA degree from Geneva.

\*Anthropology and Sociology or International Economics or International History and Politics or International Law or International Relations/Political Science or Development Studies

GENEVA  
GRADUATE  
INSTITUTE



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# Admissions Requirements

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# JUPAS

## University Entrance Requirements

Level 3	English Language
Level 3	Chinese Language
Level 2	Mathematics
Attained A	Citizenship and Social Development
Level 3	Elective Subject 1
Level 3	Elective Subject 2

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## Explanatory Notes

- The Faculty recognises Best 5 subjects in Category A or C in HKDSE.
- The result of the Mathematics Extended Part (Modules 1 or 2) will be recognised as equivalent to that of a full elective in fulfilling the University Entrance Requirement on the condition that one of the elective subjects must be a Senior Secondary Subject (i.e. Category A Subject).
- Other Language subjects will be used as unspecified elective subjects. The minimum requirement is Grade E.
- 6810 Bachelor of Social Sciences (Government and Laws) and Bachelor of Laws requires Level 5 and Level 4 or above in the English Language and Chinese Language respectively, and Level 3 or above in Mathematics Compulsory Part.
- The Faculty accepts combined certificates of HKDSE with no penalty. The best attempt of HKDSE subjects within latest 2 years (i.e. 2024 and/or 2025) will be counted.



Find out more:  
<https://www.jupas.edu.hk/en/>

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# Non-JUPAS

The Faculty welcomes applications for undergraduate admissions through the Non-JUPAS Admissions Scheme from candidates who come from non-mainstream schools in Hong Kong and are applying for admission on the strength of qualifications other than the HKDSE.

Due to the differences in educational systems, school-leaving qualifications for entry to universities abroad may not necessarily be accepted by HKU. Details of the general university entrance requirements in respect of qualifications from different countries, please refer to [www.admissions.hku.hk](http://www.admissions.hku.hk).

Please note that admission is on a competitive basis. There are no fixed quotas for non-JUPAS applicants, and thus, the number of students admitted may vary every year. Candidates having satisfied the minimum entrance requirements do not necessarily guarantee admission to the University.

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**Expected Lower Boundary  
for Admissions^**

Curriculum	IB Diploma
Bj	32
BPsych	35
BSocSc	32
BSocSc(G&L)&LLB	40
BSW	32

GCE A-level/ International A-level	SAT/ AP
3A	3AP (Grade 3) + SAT 1380 Or 5AP (Grade 3)
3A	3AP (Grade 4) + SAT 1380 Or 5AP (Grade 4)
3A	3AP (Grade 4) + SAT 1380 Or 5AP (Grade 4)
3A*	3AP (Grade 5) + SAT 1530 Or 5AP (Grade 5)
3A	3AP (Grade 3) + SAT 1380 Or 5AP (Grade 3)

^ Attaining academic achievements better than the expected lower boundary stated is not a guarantee for admissions to the University. For qualifications that are not listed, reference information can be found on [www.admissions.hku.hk](http://www.admissions.hku.hk).

## Admissions Enquiry

Admissions Office:  
MG14, Ground Floor, Main Building, The University of Hong Kong

Telephone: (852) 3917 5886  
Enquiries: [www.admissions.hku.hk/contact-us](http://www.admissions.hku.hk/contact-us)



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