

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE**

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN
ADMISSION for 2025**

Applications are invited for admission in September 2025 to read for the degree of Master of Science in Sustainable Environmental Design.

To be eligible for admission to the programme, a candidate shall satisfy both the University Admissions Requirements and the Programme Specific Requirements as listed below:

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula; and
- (b) shall hold a Bachelor's degree in architecture, engineering, surveying, environmental science, geography or related fields of this University; or a qualification of equivalent standard of this University or another university or comparable institution accepted for this purpose; and preferably a professional qualification in the architecture, building engineering, surveying or related fields; and
- (c) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if required; and
- (d) for a candidate who is seeking admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution outside Hong Kong of which the language of teaching and/or examination is not English, shall satisfy the University English language requirement applicable to high degrees as prescribed under General Regulation G2(b).

An application for exemption from the above requirements shall be considered on a case by case basis.

The Division of Landscape Architecture admits 25 to 35 local and international students to the Master of Science in Sustainable Environmental Design (SED) programme each year, and welcomes applications from students with a broad range of academic and cultural backgrounds. The SED programme is an advanced, research-focused, and design-based degree in sustainable environment. The programme provides students with the foundational knowledge of the methods, technologies and related theories in smart city design and environmental design analytics. With the focus on multidisciplinary practices in the design and management of smart cities and city resilience, the SED programme will enhance students' understanding of the complexity of the challenges in achieving urban sustainability and environmental resiliency and broadening their appreciation of the possibilities and constraints in design, technology, management and strategic policy at multiple scales.

The pedagogy of SED programme combines lecture-based teaching to build technical and theoretical knowledge and design thinking approaches, with problem-based workshops which will provide practical experience in applying knowledge and techniques to achieve sustainable

solutions. Classes are held in intensive blocks and taught by an international team of teachers from the top universities and research institutions around the world.

The SED programme will focus on the challenges of changing climate and critical environmental issues in rapidly developing high-density cities and mega-urban regions that have the potential to impact more than three billion people. It also embraces innovation and new technology to address world-wide issues of disaster resilience, energy efficiency and low-carbon development, and reduction of demand for scarce land-natural resources towards a sustainable development.

The SED programme provides full-time (one year) and part-time (two years) study modes. The curriculum and syllabuses can be found at the Faculty of Architecture website (<http://www.arch.hku.hk/>).

The composition fee for the full-time programme of the 2025-26 academic year is **HK\$ 250,000*** and part-time programme is **HK\$ 125,000 per year*** (excluding expenses for overseas field trips and joint studios). (*Subject to approval). Application fee is non-refundable and non-transferrable.

After submitting an online application via the University's online application system (<https://admissions.hku.hk/tpg/programme-list>), applicants will receive an email from the Faculty and be requested to submit supporting documents in soft copies via the Faculty's MSED. Application Documents Submission System (<https://admission.arch.hku.hk/>) **by 12:00 noon (HKT), 2 January 2025**. Applicants will only be requested to submit hard copies of supporting documents when they receive admission offers from the Faculty.

Admission is both rigorous and competitive. Candidates should show that they:

- Have a bachelor's degree in architecture, engineering, surveying, environmental science, geography or related fields;
- Have a strong interest in issues relating to the smart city and sustainable environments;
- Have critical thinking and quantitative analysis capabilities
- Have an aptitude for design and its representation in built environments.

The SED Admissions Panel selects suitable candidates on the basis of their academic background, working experience, letters of recommendation, and personal statement. Admission is offered on the basis of their submissions and academic background.

Notes on student visa applications

(1) The processing time for application of a student visa requires approximately 10 WEEKS. Students should submit their visa application immediately either they have received the Firm Offer of Admission or the Conditional Offer of Admission from HKU.

(2) Upon successful application, a "Notification Slip for Entry Visa / Permit" (e-Visa) will be granted by ImmD. Admission Office will send students through email a link for downloading the

e-Visa. However, the email with the e-Visa will ONLY be sent after they have uploaded a copy of the Firm Offer of Admission to the application system.

(3) For mainland students should apply for an “Exit-entry Permit for Travelling to and from Hong Kong and Macao” (EEP) 【往来港澳通行证】 and a relevant Exit Endorsement 【逗留簽注 D】 from the relevant Mainland authorities. They should bring along the EEP bearing the relevant Exit Endorsement and the e-Visa to enter Hong Kong for activation of the student visa.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The University of Hong Kong has not entered into any agreement or collaboration with any intermediary agencies for overseas studies in respect of a mechanism of “quota for direct admission”. Applicants are strongly advised not to engage any agency to submit an application or any application materials on their behalf. Applicants should prepare and submit their applications and supporting documents directly to HKU.

25 September 2024