Office of Academic Links
www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk

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EXCHANGE
For Visiting Students

香港中文大學
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
The beautiful CUHK campus is the city's largest, greenest and most sustainably designed campus.

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY
OF HONG KONG

As the second oldest university in Hong Kong, CUHK is a comprehensive research university with a global vision and mission to combine tradition with modernity, and to bring together China and the West. CUHK firmly rooted Chinese culture, multicultures and its unique college system set itself apart from other universities in Hong Kong and in the region.

CUHK has always been at the forefront of teaching and research, nurturing the next generation of leaders in all fields. The galaxy of distinguished scholars and researchers at CUHK include a Nobel Laureate, a Fields Medalist, a Turing Award winner, and countless academics with international recognition.

Hong Kong is a relatively small city conveniently connected by a subway and train system which is always on time. Situated in Sha Tin with its own train station, the University is just minutes away from one of the city's largest shopping malls, 25 minutes from the central business district on Hong Kong Island and 29 minutes from Lo Wu, the border to the Chinese Mainland. The campus, which overlooks the scenic Tolo Harbour and is surrounded by greenery, has grown over the years to become the city's largest, greenest, and most sustainably designed campus. A wide range of academic, residential, sports and leisure facilities provide an all-round campus experience for students studying at CUHK.

13th
Worldwide

47th
Worldwide

1st
In Hong Kong

1st
In Asia

10th
In Hong Kong

Times Higher Education Most International Universities 2024

QS World University Rankings 2023

U.S. News & World Report Best Global Universities Rankings 2023

Times Higher Education Rankings 2024

THE Impact Rankings
THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC LINKS

The Office of Academic Links (OAL) at CUHK serves as the international relations arm for the University. OAL drives internationalisation of the University in its research, teaching and learning programmes. It develops and manages global learning programmes to nurture students to have a high degree of intercultural sensitivity, acceptability and a global perspective and welcomes students from around the world to experience CUHK’s outstanding teaching and vibrant campus community.

Student exchange and study abroad programmes

The first student exchange programme at CUHK was launched in 1985 with the University of California system. Since then, CUHK has expanded its exchange partner network to receive students from over 270 institutions in more than 30 locations worldwide. With a population of over 2,500 international visiting students each year, CUHK is truly an international melting pot.

We are here for you

OAL will be your home department at CUHK and is the single point of contact to facilitate all aspects of your study at the University, both before and after arrival.

Exchange students promoting “Fruit home Institutions at the CUHK Study Abroad Fair”

2,500+ international visiting students
from 270+
institutions
at 30+
locations worldwide
ASIA’S WORLD CITY, CITY OF LIFE

Experience life in an international cosmopolitan
About eight percent of Hong Kong’s population of 7.5 million are from foreign countries, creating multicultural lifestyles that are unique to the city.

Learn about business and trade in one of the world’s freest economies
Hong Kong has exceptional autonomy in trade and business where many multinational corporations establish Asian headquarters here. Many people come to learn the secrets of Hong Kong’s success and to establish networks for their future careers.

Follow traces of Chinese and Western cultures
Traditional Chinese values such as loyalty to friends and family, and respect for the elderly are well preserved while its history as a former British colony has left a legacy of western ways.

HONG KONG

Hong Kong is not just another metropolitan city. It is the hub of Asia, a city that never sleeps with non-stop intensity. It is a perfect blend of fascinating contrasts where East meets West, where busy city pace meets natural countryside, and where endless skyscrapers meet traditional Lantau. Here, you can find a variety of rich and diverse experiences packed in an easy and fast to get around city.

Explore the outdoors
Escape the bustling city life and enjoy the wide variety of outdoor activities available just minutes away from the urban centre.

Eat and shop around the clock
Street stalls and shopping malls offer great bargains and operate until late in the evening. Chinese and international cuisines are available and delicious night snacks can be found at 24-hour eateries.
Chinese & English are both official languages of Hong Kong.

7.5 million
Total population

8%
Foreign population

40%
Area of country parks and nature reserves

1,441
Multinational company regional headquarters

10th century CE
Chinese people began settling in Hong Kong

1842-1997
Hong Kong was a British colony

Travel within East Asia in a breeze
Hong Kong is within 5 hours from most major cities in East Asia. With convenient and extensive connections to Chinese Mainland and nearby countries, there are many options for a quiet study break over the weekends.

Sources:
Getting around the city
CUHK has its own train station, connected to the city’s extensive MTR subway and train network. The nearby suburban town of Sha Tin, the urban centres of Mong Kok, Tsim Sha Tsui and Central, and the border with the Chinese Mainland are all within reach in 25 minutes. An abundance of public transportation modes including subway, buses, minibus, trains, ferries and taxis can take you to all corners of Hong Kong.

Living on campus
Living on the CUHK campus is convenient and affordable. OAK will guarantee and place undergraduate exchange students in on-campus accommodations (hostels), where there are plenty of opportunities to integrate with locals through the many formal and informal activities organized by the hostels. A wide range of facilities, including world-class libraries, art museum, music halls, swimming pool, sport fields, tennis courts, squash courts, water sports centre and gymnasiums provide an all-round campus experience.

Studying about China and other disciplines
CUHK is the best place for you to learn about China given Hong Kong’s special geographical and cultural context, and CUHK’s rich Chinese tradition, culture and city. This is reflected in a wide variety of disciplines at the University, including humanities, social science, business and the sciences. CUHK’s Business, Engineering, Law and Medical School are reputable training grounds for professionals in their respective fields as well as centres of seminal research.

Experiencing the unique college system
CUHK is the only university in Hong Kong with a collegiate system. The nine colleges offer a plethora of non-formal learning opportunities to complement the formal curricula. Undergraduate exchange students are affiliated with one of the colleges and benefit from the college community, through which they get to know the locals.

The fantastic support I got from my student advisor was really helpful, and there were so many activities to enrich my exchange experience!

Kate MOFAT
University of Melbourne, Australia

All the staff at CUHK are very friendly and helpful. They really go above & beyond to take care of all your needs. I had a great experience!

Samuel MONTAGUT AGUDELO
Stanford University, USA

Immerse in the local environment and make life-long friends here in CUHK.
### ACADEMICS

At CUHK, you can tailor-make your study plan from more than 100 major and minor options available. The majority of courses are taught in English. You can further your major or minor studies, explore a completely new discipline or concentrate on language and cultural studies. Areas of study open to exchange students include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arts</th>
<th>Business Administration</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Engineering</th>
<th>Law</th>
<th>Medicine</th>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Social Science</th>
<th>Other Special Studies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

With a history of over half a century, the Yale-China Chinese Language Centre (CLC) at CUHK is at the forefront of Chinese learning techniques and is one of the largest centres of its kind worldwide. The CLC offers Putonghua and Cantonese courses, from beginner to advanced levels. As an undergraduate exchange student, you can take up to 6 units of approved Chinese language courses per term as part of your study programme.

### Centre for China Studies

Courses offered in the Chinese Studies Programme at the CUHK Centre for China Studies are all taught in English and are popular among exchange students who are either looking to deepen their knowledge on China or just want to catch a glimpse of Chinese culture or society irrespective of what majors they are. A sample of the many courses include:

- History of China
- Modern China
- Contemporary China
- China and the World
- Chinese Language for Non-native Speakers
- Chinese Culture and Modern Chinese Development

For a comprehensive list of courses taught in English and available to exchange students, visit [www.cuhk.edu.hk/getting_started](http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/getting_started)
Outside and extra-curricular activities are integral parts of your exchange at CUHK besides classroom education. A wide range of activities are available outside the classroom for you to connect with local and exchange students, explore Chinese culture, experience Hong Kong and enjoy your time in Hong Kong.

Orientation
The orientation prepares you for your time at CUHK and covers orientation information for surviving on campus and in Hong Kong. It is an excellent opportunity to network with fellow exchange students.

Cultural and extra-curricular activities
Field trips and excursions around town, gatherings, and classes in Chinese martial arts, calligraphy and cooking are just some of the many activities available to exchange students at CUHK.

Community service programme
Opportunities are available to international students to engage in community service. For example, The Rural School Service Project brings you to teach English or Pinyin to at least primary school and gives you a chance to join cultural activities organised by the schools.

Accommodation
Undergraduate exchange students live in shared accommodation at one of the nine colleges. They are located across the campus and are easily accessible with the on-campus bus system. Living with a local roommate is the quickest way to adapt to the new environment and culture.

Meeting the locals
There will be many opportunities to meet local students at classes, carnivals, student club, hiking trips, and other social gatherings. Be curious, open-minded and daring.

Student organisations
CUHK boasts a variety of student organisations, from Chinese martial arts to photography to drama. Those within academic departments and colleges are often the most active. Exchange students are welcome to tryout for college sports teams.

Student services and facilities
A range of facilities, resources and support services are available to support your time at CUHK. They include computing labs, libraries, medical clinic, counselling services, sports facilities, canteens, bookstores, supermarket, banks and even a hair salon.

College activities
The colleges organise a variety of activities, including singing contests, variety shows, drama nights, festival celebrations and language enhancement programmes. Dessert nights are not to be missed.

In Hong Kong, you can hike the mountains and get to the beach in an instant. It is very diverse with different landscapes, people and food. The public transport is clean, efficient and takes you everywhere at a low cost.

Ruel MANNETTE
University of Hawaii at Manoa, USA

CUHK is quite vegetarian-friendly because there is a vegetarian canteen on campus, and each canteen has at least one choice of vegetarian food.

Maua ROS
University of Leeds, UK
COST OF LIVING

Generally speaking, living in Hong Kong can be expensive, however living at CUHK is extremely affordable as on-campus accommodation and meals at student canteens are heavily subsidised. Traveling and sojourn around town are also inexpensive. The table below shows the approximate living costs at CUHK for an undergraduate student for one term.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>HKD</th>
<th>USD*</th>
<th>EUR*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td>8,000-10,000</td>
<td>1,091-1,274</td>
<td>941-1,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals*</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>4,022</td>
<td>3,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and Supplies</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Transportation</td>
<td>3,100</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>39.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visa Application Fee</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration Fee</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostel Deposit (Refundable)</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cautions Money</td>
<td>51,280</td>
<td>6,532</td>
<td>5,949</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Based on an exchange rate of 1 USD to 7.88 HKD and 1 EUR to 8.47 HKD
# Students assigned to Mongkok, 3M, Po & C.W.U. Colloids will be charged a mandatory meal plan of around HK$3,500 for three meals per week.

The above table is for reference only. Costs are based on on-campus living. Costs may change due to inflation and will vary depending on individual lifestyles and preferences.

For additional information provided by the Education Bureau of the HKSAR.
**Admission & Application**

**Exchange or Study Abroad?**

You will be considered as an exchange student if your home institution has a formal bilateral student exchange agreement with CUHK. In other cases, you will be considered as a study abroad student. Check with the international office of your home institution to find out if you can come to CUHK on an exchange or study abroad basis.

**Admission Requirements**

- Completed at least two terms of university studies
- Be in good academic standing with a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (90 average or better); applications with a slightly lower GPA will be carefully assessed
- With good disciplinary record and standing

**Application Procedures**

1. **Exchange students:**
   - Complete CUHK online application

2. **Study abroad students:**
   - Complete CUHK online application
   - Submit supporting documents to CUHK

3. Apply through home institution

4. Be nominated by home institution

**Programme Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Orientation</th>
<th>First day of class (Early September)</th>
<th>Last day of exam (Late December)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First Term</td>
<td>Second Term</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Orientation</th>
<th>First day of class (Late June)</th>
<th>Last day of exam (Early August)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First day of class (Early August)</td>
<td>Last day of exam (Late August)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer (July)</td>
<td>Summer (August)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Application Deadlines**

- First Term / Year (September): 1 April
- Second Term (January): 2 October
- Summer (July): 30 April
- Summer (August): 31 May

**Fee Payment Arrangements**

- **Exchange Students:** Application Fee Waived
- **Study Abroad Students:** Application Fee To CUHK
- Tuition To CUHK
- Accommodation Fees To CUHK
- Administration and Other Miscellaneous Fees To CUHK

*Exceptions apply to some institutions.

You can apply to CUHK either as an exchange or study abroad (fee-paying) student, and study for one term, one year (two terms) or one summer. Application is open to university students worldwide. Prior knowledge in Chinese is not required.
CUHK International Summer School

Established in 2004, the CUHK International Summer School (ISS) has been one of the most popular undergraduate summer programmes in the region. Each year, numerous international and local students join the July and August Sessions of the ISS to experience its interactive academic sessions and Chinese culture immersion in a multicultural learning environment. This is a great opportunity for you to gain a unique Hong Kong and Asian perspective from your peers and to explore Chinese culture through classroom learning, activities and field trips. Participation in ISS can be an exchange or study abroad (fee-paying) basis.

**July Session**
In the five-week programme, you can take up to two 3-credit courses, with 42 contact hours, taught entirely in English. Areas of study include:
- Environment, Science and Technology
- Global Business and Management
- Society and Human Interaction
- Understanding China
- Exploring Hong Kong
- Chinese Language (Putonghua and Cantonese)

**August Session**
In the three-week programme, you can take two 3-credit courses of intensive Chinese language training in Putonghua at various levels. The programme will provide an opportunity for you to acquire pragmatic competence in the Chinese language through classroom learning and immersion activities.

**June-August**

Visit www.summer.cuhk.edu.hk for more details on the CUHK International Summer School.

**Available in Summer 2024**

Exploring Hong Kong: From Preservation of Cultural Heritage to Fostering Creativity in Urban Landscapes

Understand how Hong Kong is both preserving its cultural heritage and cultivating dynamic creative communities through two courses packed with immersive field trips. Investigate theories that underpin these efforts, and venture into the vibrant streets of this city to witness firsthand the transformative power of cultural preservation and creative urban development.

**Take on Hong Kong: The Revitalisation and Interpretation of Hong Kong’s Cultural Heritage**
This course delves into the exploration of cultural heritage in local context, where students will reflect on the selection and definition of heritage while exploring sustainable operational practices, and will gain insights into interpreting cultural heritage from a local perspective and its connection to community engagement.

**Creative Cities and Urban Cultural Life**
This course explores the interactions between urban culture, the creative economy, and the development of large-scale urban regions in the context of Hong Kong. Discover how cultural industries contribute to social well-being, intercultural dialogue, and the transformation of urban spaces.

**Summer Undergraduate Research Programme**
The Summer Undergraduate Research Programme (SURP) under ISS provides an opportunity for undergraduate exchange students to undertake research attachments for 5 weeks at CUHK and earn 3 credits upon successful completion of the programme.

**June-August**
- Develop expertise in a specific research area of interest
- Join a world-class research team and work alongside leading experts
- Experience postgraduate studies first-hand
- Establish professional networks for future career
- Spend the summer in the vibrant city of Hong Kong
- Immune in the local culture through activities and excursions
- Live on campus with other local and international students

Visit www.summer.cuhk.edu.hk for more details on the Summer Undergraduate Research Programme.