

Office of Academic Links

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cuhkoal

EXCHANGE

For Visiting Students

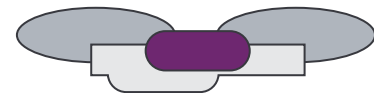


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香港中文大學
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



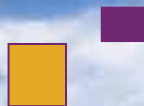
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

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's firmly rooted Chinese culture, multiculturalism and its unique college system set itself apart from other universities in Hong Kong and in the region.

Hong Kong is a relatively small city conveniently connected by a subway and train system which is always on time. Situated in Shatin 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 20 minutes from Lo Wu, the border to Mainland China. 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.



The beautiful CUHK campus is the city's largest, greenest and most sustainably designed campus.



13th
Worldwide
Times Higher Education Most International Universities 2024

36th
Worldwide
QS World University Rankings 2025

1st
In Hong Kong
U.S. News & World Report Best Global Universities Rankings 2024

2nd
In Hong Kong
THE Impact Rankings 2024

6th
In Asia
QS World Universities Rankings 2025

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.



Around **2,000** international visiting students
from **280** institutions
at **37** locations worldwide



Student exchange and study abroad programmes

The first student exchange programme at CUHK was launched in 1965 with the University of California system. Since then, CUHK has expanded its exchange partner network to receive students from over 280 institutions in more than 37 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 their home institutions at the CUHK Study Abroad Fair.

The view of the Victoria Harbour is one of the most spectacular sights of Hong Kong.

ASIA'S WORLD CITY, CITY OF LIFE

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 lifestyle. Here, you can find a variety of rich and diverse experiences packed in an easy and fast to get around city.



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.¹



Learn business and trade in one of the world's freest economy²

Hong Kong has exceptional autonomy in trade and business. Many people come to learn the secrets of Hong Kong's success and to establish networks for their future career.



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.



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.

Sources
1. <https://www.gov.hk/en/about/abouthk/facts.htm>
2. <https://www.censtatd.gov.hk/en/code360.html>



Mesmerising view of Hong Kong from the famous Victoria Peak.



Chinese & English

are both official languages
of Hong Kong



7.5 million

Total population¹

~8% Foreign
population¹



40%

Area of country parks
and nature reserves¹



1,441

Multinational company
regional headquarters²



10th century CE

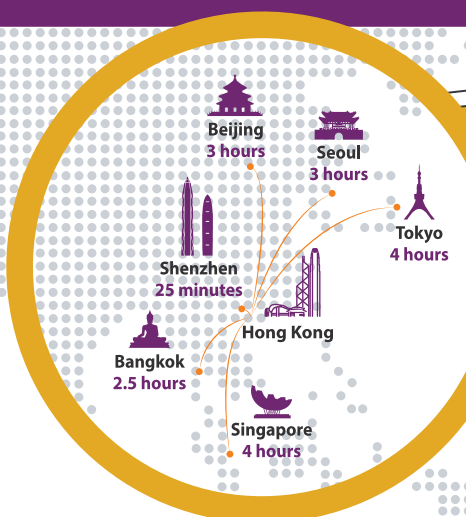
Chinese people began
settling in Hong Kong



156 yrs

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 Mainland China and nearby countries, there are many options for a quick study break over the weekends.

Sources

1. <https://www.gov.hk/en/about/abouthk/facts.htm>

2. <https://www.censtatd.gov.hk/en/code360.html>

LIFE ON EXCHANGE

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 Shatin, the urban centres of Mong Kok, Tsim Sha Tsui and Central, and the border with Mainland China are all within reach in 25 minutes.

Living on campus

Living on the CUHK campus is convenient and affordable. OAL 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 organised by the hostels.

Studying about China and other disciplines

CUHK is the ideal place to learn about China given Hong Kong's special geographical and cultural context, and CUHK's rich Chinese traditions, culture and ties. This is reflected across various disciplines, including humanities, social science, business and the sciences. CUHK's Business, Engineering, Law and Medical Schools are reputable training grounds for professionals 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 and their customs.

Immerse in the local culture and make life-long friends at CUHK.

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



Kate MOFFAT
University of Melbourne,
Australia

Samuel MONTAGUT AGUDELO
Stanford University, USA

“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!”

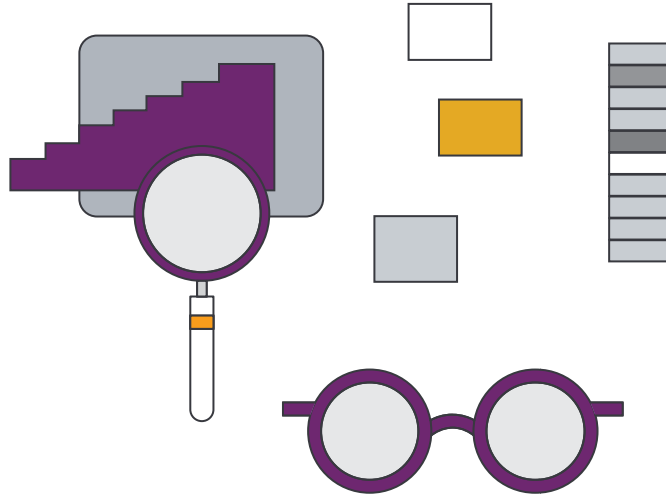


ACADEMICS

At CUHK, you can tailor-make your study plan from more than 150 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 studies open to exchange students include:



Chinese Language Courses

With a history of over half a century, the Yale-China Chinese Language Academy (CLA) at CUHK is at the forefront of Chinese learning techniques and is one of the largest centres of its kind worldwide. The CLA 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:



Arts



- Anthropology
- China Studies
- Chinese Language and Literature
- Cultural and Religious Studies
- English
- Fine Arts
- History
- Japanese Studies
- Linguistics and Modern Languages
- Music
- Philosophy
- Translation

Business Administration



- Accountancy
- Decisions, Operations and Technology
- Finance
- Hotel and Tourism Management
- Management
- Marketing

Education



- Sports Science and Physical Education

Engineering



- Biomedical Engineering
- Computer Science and Engineering
- Electronic Engineering
- Information Engineering
- Mechanical and Automation Engineering
- Systems Engineering and Engineering Management

Law



* Only available to law major students meeting individual course prerequisites

Medicine



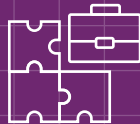
- Public Health and Primary Care

Science



- Chemistry
- Life Science
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Statistics

Social Science



- Architecture
- Economics
- Geography and Resource Management
- Governance and Policy Science
- Journalism and Communication
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Sociology

Other Special Studies



- Chinese Language for Non-native Speakers
- General Education
- Global Studies
- Independent Research on International Studies



Visit www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/academics/ for a comprehensive list of courses taught in English and available to exchange students.

OUTSIDE

THE CLASSROOM

Cultural and social experiences 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.



Join cultural activities organised by the OAL to fully immerse in the local community.

Orientation

The orientation prepares you for your time at CUHK and covers extensive 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 Schools Service Project brings you to teach English or Putonghua at local primary schools 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, canteens, student clubs, 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 collegiate sport 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, bookstore, supermarket, banks and even a hair salon.

College activities

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



Ruel MANNETTE
University of Hawaii at Manoa, USA

“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.”



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



Maeva ROS
University of Leeds, UK

COST OF LIVING

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 eating around town can also be inexpensive. The table below shows the approximate living costs at CUHK for an undergraduate student for one term.



For additional information provided by the Education Bureau of the HKSAR

Estimated costs per term



Accommodation
Meals#
Books and Supplies
Local Transportation
Visa Application Fee
Administration Fee
Hostel Deposit (Refundable)
Caution Money (Refundable)

HKD

8,000-10,000
30,000
3,500
3,000
330-630
700
1,000
450

49,280

USD*

1,026-1,283
3,847
449
385
42-80
90
128
57

6,319

EUR*

944-1,181
3,542
413
355
39-74
83
118
53

5,819

* Based on an exchange rate 1 USD to 7.80 HKD and 1 EUR to 8.47 HKD.

Students assigned to Morningside, S.H. Ho & C.W. Chu Colleges will be charged a mandatory meal plan of around HK\$3,000 for three dinners 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.



Plenty of open spaces on campus for discussions and socialising.

ADMISSION & APPLICATION

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.

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 (B average or better); applications with a slightly lower GPA will be carefully assessed
- With good disciplinary record and standing

Application Procedures

Exchange students:

- 1 Apply through home institution
- 2 Be nominated by home institution
- 3 Complete CUHK online application
- 4 Submit supporting documents to home institution

Study abroad students:

- 1 Complete CUHK online application
- 2 Submit hardcopy of supporting documents to CUHK

Programme Calendar

Orientation
Late August

First day of class
Early September

Last day of exam
Late December

First Term

Orientation
Early January

First day of class
Early January

Last day of exam
Mid-May

Second Term

Orientation
Late June

First day of class
Late June

Last day of exam
Early August

Poster Session
Mid-August
(for SURP only)

Summer (July)

Orientation
Early August

First day of class
Early August

Last day of exam
Late August

Summer (August)

Application Deadlines

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

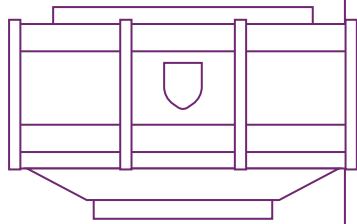
Fee Payment Arrangements

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

* Exceptions apply to some institutions.

SUMMER

@CUHK



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 intensive academic sessions and Chinese culture immersion in a multicultural learning environment. This is a great opportunity for you to gain a 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 on exchange or study abroad (fee-paying) basis.



July Session

In the five-week programme, you can take up to two 3-credit courses, each with 42 contact hours, taught entirely in English. Areas of study include:

- Environment, Science and Technology
- Exploring Hong Kong
- Global Business and Management
- Society and Human Interaction
- Understanding China
- 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.



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



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 first-hand 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 intersections 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 students to undertake research attachments for 8 weeks at CUHK and earn 3 credits upon successful completion of the programme.



SURP Research Projects

Over 90 research projects across different disciplines are available for SURP participants. For the most updated list of topics available, please visit the programme website. Here are some research projects from SURP 2024.

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
- Immerse in the local culture through activities and excursions
- Live on campus with other local and international students



Arts

1. Cognitive Neuroscience of Language Learning and Speech Perception
2. Infant Speech Perception and Language Development
3. Revisiting the Fou(r)th Foo(r): Sociolinguistic Variation and Change in Postvocalic /r/ in Spoken-style English in Hong Kong



Education

1. Neural Mechanism of Emotion Regulation and Decision Making
2. The Role of Social and Emotional Learning
3. Detection of Verbal and Non-Verbal Communication Impairments in Autistic Children Using AI



Engineering

1. AI-Based Multimodal Guidance for Snake Robot in Confined Environments
2. Augmented Reality Training Platform to Improve Brain Function
3. Photonics Based on Two-Dimensional Nanomaterials



Law

1. The Future of International Law
2. Understanding Globalisation



Medicine

1. Cancer Burden in Low- and Middle-Income Countries
2. Food Immunotherapy for Food-Allergic Children
3. My Heart will Go On: Targeting the Multi-Faceted Mitochondria in the Myocardium to Prevent Death



Science

1. Genetic Control of Blood-Cerebrospinal Fluid Barrier Development and Functioning in the Brain
2. Plasmonic Control of Two-Dimensional Excitons
3. Modification of Ultrasmall Nanomaterials for Biomedical Applications



Social Science

1. Navigating Contexts: The Association between Parental Employment Characteristics and Child Development
2. Journalism Innovation: Global Perspectives and Asian Cases
3. Empirical Analysis of Text Data in Economics and Finance



Visit www.summer.cuhk.edu.hk/surp

for more details on the Summer Undergraduate Research Programme.