

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



We all like the feel of paper. But this brochure will increase your carbon footprint. So share a copy with friends or read it online at your own leisure. Thank you for supporting the environment.

Cover (left): photo by Florian Wehde on Unsplash



EXCHANGE

For Visiting Students



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.

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 Medallist, 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 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 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.



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



17th
Worldwide

Times Higher
Education Most
International
Universities 2023

47th
Worldwide

QS World
University
Rankings
2023

1st
In Hong Kong

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

6th
In Asia

Times Higher
Education
Rankings
2023



HK's Most
Innovative
University
Reuters 2016-19

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 1965 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 their 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 7.41 million are from foreign countries, creating multicultural lifestyles that are unique to the city.¹



Learn about business and trade in the world's freest economy²

Hong Kong has exceptional autonomy in trade and business where many multi-national corporations establish Asian headquarters here. 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.

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.



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.

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



Explore the great outdoors in Hong Kong, Lau Shui Heung Reservoir.



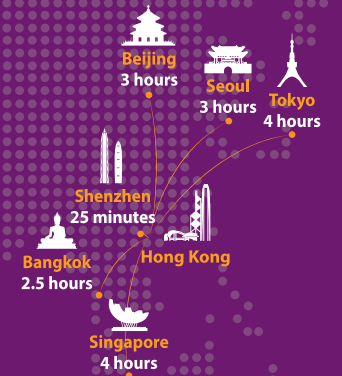
Chinese & English
are both official languages of Hong Kong



7.41 million
Total population¹
~8%
Foreign population¹



**Ranked The
World's Freest Economy²**



1,441
Multinational company
regional headquarters³



10th century CE
Chinese people
began settling in
Hong Kong



1842-1997
Hong Kong was
a British colony



40%
Area of country parks
and nature reserves¹



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 quick study break over the weekends.

Sources

1. <https://www.gov.hk/en/about/abouthk/facts.htm>
2. <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202209/08/P2022090800841.htm>
3. <https://www.censtatd.gov.hk/en/scode360.html>



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. An abundance of public transportation modes including subway, buses, minibuses, trams, ferries and taxis can take you to all corners of Hong Kong.

Living on campus

Living on the CUHK campus is convenient and affordable. OAL will place 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. 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 ties. 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 Schools 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 and their customs.



Learn more about
Life@CUHK



LIFE ON EXCHANGE



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



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 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:

Arts



Business Administration



Education



Engineering



Law



Medicine



Science



Social Science



Other Special Studies



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

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

- Sports Science and Physical Education

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

*Only available to law major students meeting individual course prerequisites

- Public Health and Primary Care

- Chemistry
- Life Science
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Statistics

- Architecture
- Economics
- Geography and Resource Management
- Government and Public Administration
- Journalism and Communication
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Sociology

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



Visit www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/getting_started/

for a comprehensive list of courses taught in English and available to exchange students.

Chinese Language Courses

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:

Global China

Youth in China

Innovation, Catch-up and China's Development

Art in Contemporary China

China on Screen

Chinese Culture and Society

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 our office 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.

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, health 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, varsity sports, drama nights, festive celebrations and language enhancement programmes. Dessert nights are not to be missed.

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.

“



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.

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

Estimated costs per term

	HKD	USD*	EUR*
Accommodation	8,000-10,000	1,019-1,274	941-1,176
Meals#	30,000	3,822	3,526
Books and Supplies	5,000	637	508
Local Transportation	3,100	395	365
Visa Application Fee	330-630	42-80	39-74
Administration Fee	1,100	140	129
Hostel Deposit (Refundable)	1,000	127	118
Caution Money (Refundable)	450	57	53
	51,280	6,532	5,949

* Based on an exchange rate 1 USD to 7.85 HKD and 1 EUR to 8.50 HKD.

Students assigned to Morningside, S.H. Ho & C.W. Chu Colleges will be charged a mandatory meal plan of HK\$2,500 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.



For additional information provided by the Education Bureau of the HKSAR



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.



Visit www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/application/ for the detailed application instructions for exchange students.

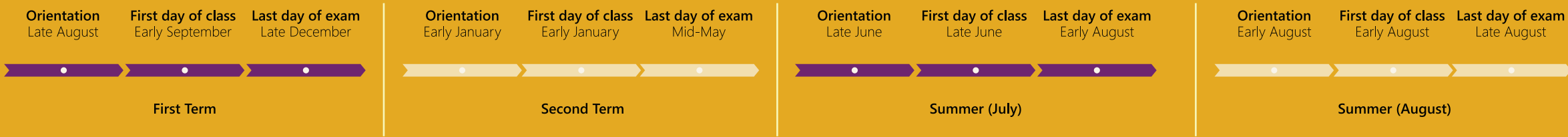
Exchange or Study Abroad?

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

Programme Calendar



Application Procedures

- Exchange students:



- Study abroad students:



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.

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.

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
- Global Business and Management
- Society and Human Interaction
- Understanding China
- Chinese Language (Putonghua and Cantonese)

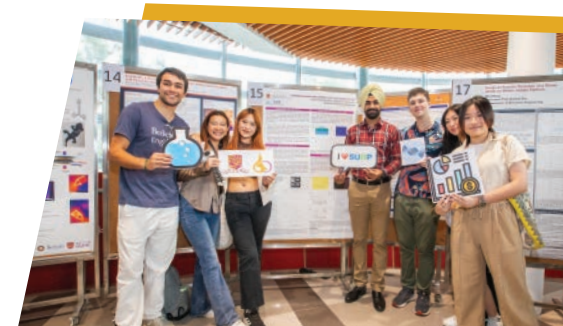
August Session

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.



Summer Undergraduate Research Programme

The Summer Undergraduate Research Programme (SURP) provides an opportunity for undergraduate exchange students to undertake research attachments for 8 weeks at CUHK and earn 3 credits upon successful completion of the programme.

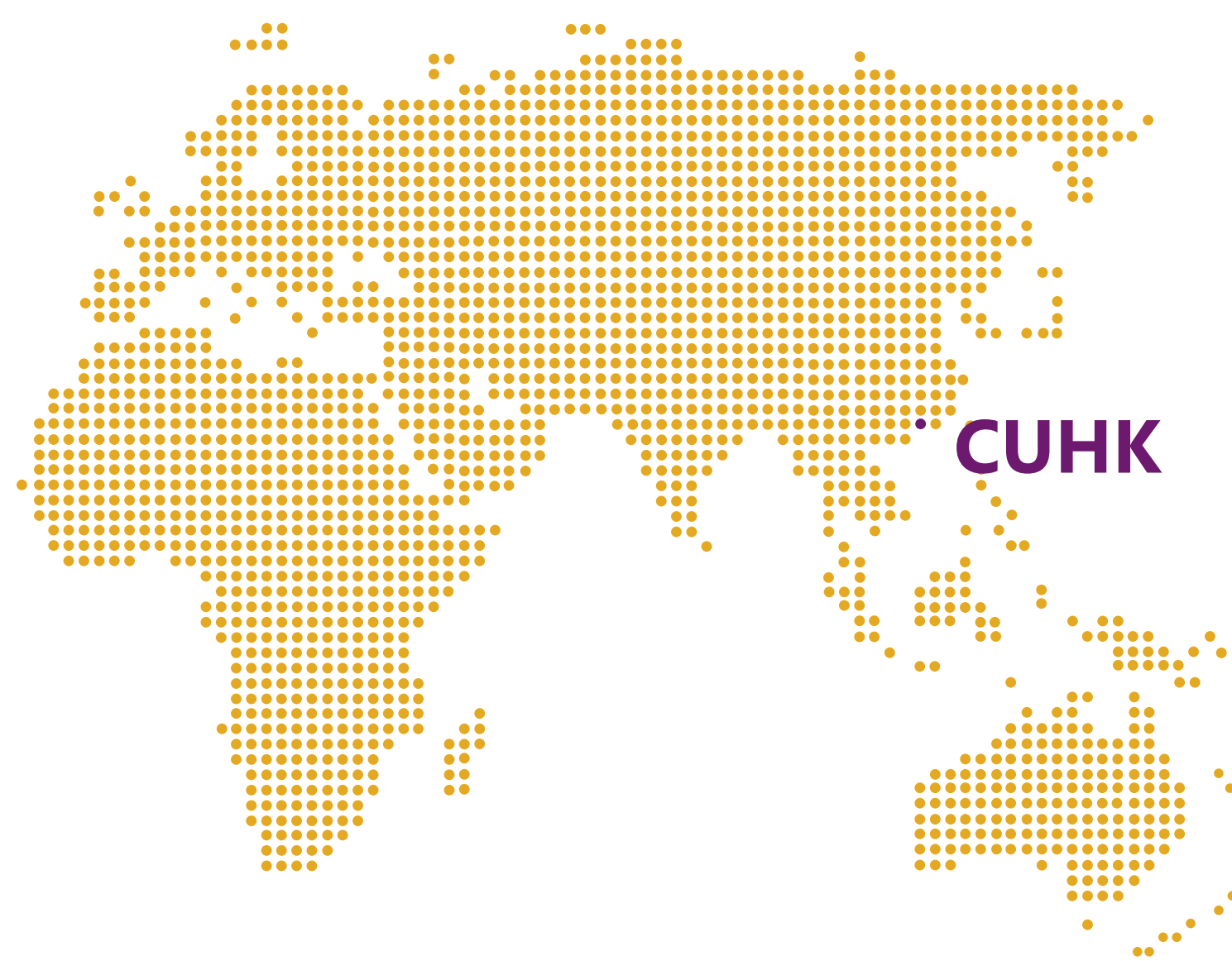


Visit www.summer.cuhk.edu.hk/surp

for more details on the Summer Undergraduate Research 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
- Immerse in the local culture through activities and excursions
- Live on campus with other local and international students



Office of Academic Links

i-Centre

 1/F, Yasumoto International Academic Park
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Shatin, New Territories
Hong Kong SAR
People's Republic of China

 852 3943 7597
 iasp@cuhk.edu.hk
 www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk
 [cuhkoal](https://www.instagram.com/cuhkoal)

Disclaimer: The information provided in this publication was correct at the time of printing.
The Chinese University of Hong Kong reserves the right to alter any of the information without prior notice should the need arise.
This publication was printed in November 2023.

Copyright © 2023. All Rights Reserved. The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

