

CUHK-EHESS PhD Student Exchange Programme 2026-27

1. Preamble

The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, EHESS) are committed to fostering research collaborations across a diverse array of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences. The PhD Student Exchange Programme has been established to enable PhD students from both institutions to engage in research visits for exploration and development of collaborative research, thereby advancing scholarship and critical thinking to respond to the challenges of the contemporary world.

2. About CUHK

As a comprehensive research-led university, CUHK aims to advance knowledge to benefit humanity and achieve excellence purposefully and responsibly. The University is home to a talented team of international scholars and scientists who are well-known globally for their cutting-edge research in a wide array of disciplines. Interdisciplinary collaboration in both education and research is a hallmark of the University. Innovation is fully integrated into the learning experience and the research environment. Strong links with institutions of higher learning in Chinese mainland and around the world create opportunities to foster not only knowledge production and scientific breakthroughs but also a deeper understanding between China and the West.

CUHK serves as a vibrant center for humanities education and research in Asia. The study of cultures, creative arts, languages, history, economics, policy science, and social dynamics cultivates a humanistic spirit and enhances engagement with a diverse global community. The University offers a wide array of courses designed to present current research from multiple disciplines. It takes pride in being the intellectual home of many world-renowned scholars, especially in the study of Chinese thought and culture.

3. About EHESS

EHESS aims to apprehend societies in their complexity. It represents a research hub for researchers and students from all over the world with the purpose of articulating all the disciplines of the social sciences.

A graduate research institution, EHESS is one of the major research hubs dedicated to the humanities and the social sciences¹ in Europe. The research developed at the EHESS is the result of an intense and permanent dialogue established between all the disciplines of the humanities and social sciences. They are conducted in partnership with the French National Centre of Scientific Research (CNRS) as well as other major national institutions. With numerous partnership agreements with foreign universities and research institutions as well

¹ These cover history, anthropology, sociology, economics, geography, linguistics, psychology, demography, cognitive science, political science, philosophy and mathematics.

as an ambitious programme of Visiting Professors - with nearly 150 scholars every year - the EHESS highly contributes to the circulation of social sciences in France and in the world. Research at EHESS takes place in an exceptional environment created by the institution's research labs, many of them being internationally recognized in their fields, a third of which are dedicated to major cultural areas.

4. PhD Student Exchange Programme

CUHK and EHESS send up to two PhD students as exchange students to the other institution to undertake a short-term research attachment with the aim of developing research skills and knowledge in a chosen area of research annually.

	CUHK PhD students	EHESS PhD students
4.1 Eligibility		
a.	Students should be registered full-time PhD students at their home institution at the time of application and during the exchange period and have completed the candidacy requirements or equivalent.	
b.	Students shall undertake the visit within their normative study period, and prior to the submission of their final thesis.	
c.	Students should present a clear research proposal for high impact research under the supervision of a host supervisor.	
d.	Students shall have a good disciplinary record and standing.	
e.	Students visiting EHESS should have a good command of French or English.	Students visiting CUHK should have a good command of English or Chinese.
4.2 Application Procedures		
a.	Students may make connection with a host supervisor directly. Alternatively, they may contact the following coordinators at their home institution to help identify a host supervisor.	
	Please contact the International Relations Office of EHESS at simi@ehess.fr .	Ms. Olivia Kwok, Programme Manager (Global), CUHK Office of Academic Links (oliviakwok@cuhk.edu.hk)
b.	Students should work with the host supervisor to devise a plan for the visit, including activities to be undertaken and people they will meet. Applications should also include details of the specific proposed research collaboration with the host supervisors.	
c.	Applications should be sent to the international office at their home institution.	
	An online application form should be completed and submitted together with the following documents to the Office of Academic Links: ▪ An invitation letter from the host supervisor at EHESS ▪ A support letter from the home supervisor at CUHK ▪ All transcripts of academic report of postgraduate studies at CUHK ▪ Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae of the applicant (max 2 pages)	An online application form should be completed. The link is sent to the student by the EHESS International Relations Office.
d.	▪ Application deadline: 16 Mar 2026 ▪ Result announcement: May 2026	For details regarding the application timeline and result announcement, please contact the International Relations Office of EHESS at simi@ehess.fr .

	CUHK PhD students	EHESS PhD students
4.3 Visit and Scope of Support		
a.	Students are encouraged to undertake the exchange for one term or one academic year, while a shorter duration of less than one term is also welcome.	
	<u>Term Dates of EHESS</u> First term: Oct – Jan Second term: Feb – Jun	<u>Term Dates of CUHK</u> First term: Sep – Dec Second term: Jan – May
b.	CUHK will provide financial support ranging from HK\$28,000 to HK\$50,000 to selected PhD students (based on the duration of the visit) to cover part of the costs associated with the visit.	EHESS will provide financial support to selected students to take part in the programme. The financial support is calculated in accordance with the EHESS regulation on the awarding of grants.
c.	EHESS does not offer on-campus housing; however, it collaborates with a network of housing providers. Assistance can be provided. Please refer to the website for details.	- CUHK will provide free on-campus housing on a shared room basis for up to one term. - The cost of accommodation beyond one term will be borne by the visiting student, which is approximately HK\$12,500 (€1,500) per term (subject to annual adjustment).
4.4 Selection Criteria		
Selection will be competitively assessed according to a number of criteria, including, for example: - Academic merit of the proposal - Potential contribution of the PhD student's attachment in facilitating the research collaboration between the host and home supervisors - Potential of developing high impact research at international level - Potential contribution to the home university's research development and global engagement		
4.5 Academic Activities		
a.	Students will conduct research under the supervision of a host supervisor and may attend, seminars, lectures, and other academic activities as deemed appropriate.	
b.	EHESS provides free courses of French as Foreign Language Applied to Social Sciences. For details, please refer to the website .	CUHK provides free credit-bearing Chinese Language Courses (Cantonese and Putonghua). For details, please refer to the website .
4.6 Fees		
a.	Students will pay normal tuition and fees to the home institution.	
b.	Students will be responsible for all costs associated with the exchange, including without limitation expenses involving travel, housing, meals, educational materials, local transportation, passport, and visa application. The use of non-academic or non-obligatory facilities, services, and functions at the host institution may require the payment of fees by the exchange students to the host institution.	

CUHK PhD students		EHESS PhD students	
4.7 Practicalities			
a.	Non-EU incoming students are required to apply for a student visa. Please refer to the information on the Campus France website .	▪ Students will be registered as associate students at CUHK and will be required to apply for a student visa for the visit at their own expense (exempted if the student is a Hong Kong resident). ▪ CUHK Office of Academic Links will provide assistance in visa application.	
b.	▪ It is mandatory for all students to have a personal health insurance. ▪ Visiting non-EU students at EHESS must be affiliated to the French Social Security.	▪ The University Medical Service at CUHK provides free primary health care and clinical services to all exchange students. ▪ Exchange students should arrange additional accidental and medical insurance at their own cost during their stay in Hong Kong.	
4.8 Reporting			
Students should submit a post-visit report outlining the activities conducted, outcomes, project impact and opportunities for future collaboration within one month upon completion of the exchange visit.			
4.9 Enquiries			
Please contact Ms. Olivia Kwok, Programme Manager, Office of Academic Links, CUHK at oliviakwok@cuhk.edu.hk .		Please write to the EHESS International Relations Office at simi@ehess.fr .	

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