THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE





CONVERGENCE OF DIVERSITY

GLOBAL CHINA STUDIES
環球中國研究

School of Humanities and Social Science



SHSS prepares students to be leading global citizens of the 21st century by cultivating the communication, critical thinking, moral reasoning, and analytical skills that are essential for thriving in a rapidly changing world. With the largest interdisciplinary program in the humanities and social science, SHSS courses span over fifteen academic disciplines and include creative arts offerings in music, writing, and film.

Some believe that "soft skills" are hard to learn, and yet, they are the most enduring ones that university students will retain years after graduation as they adapt to new employment opportunities and communities. SHSS embraces this reality. Our School is known for global best practice in undergraduate training through the use of innovative pedagogies, including blended on-line courses, digital technology, group projects, service learning, multi-media assessments, fieldwork, and research opportunities.

Our strategic partnerships with leading universities worldwide offer students and faculty ample international opportunities for collaborative research, in-residence exchanges, joint student training, and dual degree programs. The SHSS community extends well beyond HKUST's physical campus.

LEADING GLOBAL CITIZENS



World-Renowned Faculty

Our diverse faculty are recruited internationally and hold doctoral degrees from major research universities including Caltech, Cambridge, Chicago, Columbia, Cornell, Duke, Harvard, London School of Economics, MIT, Northwestern, NYU, Oxford, Princeton, Stanford, Tokyo, Toronto, UBC, UC-Berkeley, UC-San Diego, Yale, and so on.

In addition to being highly accomplished as scholars, SHSS faculty are professional, caring, and committed to bringing the best out of each student.

Research-Based Teaching

The content of SHSS courses reflects the expertise of faculty who are actively engaged in research in the humanities and social science. Our faculty regularly engage students to participate in their research projects as interns or assistants. The opportunity for undergraduates to partner with faculty in this manner is unparalleled among peer institutions. Furthermore, in their final year, SHSS students are individually mentored by faculty to develop an original piece of research as their capstone or thesis requirement.



Research Centers

- Center for Chinese Linguistics
- The Global China Center
- The South China Research Center

7th

IN CITATIONS PER PAPER IN ASIA IN SOCIAL SCIENCES & MANAGEMENT

QS World University Rankings 2025

12th

IN ASIA IN SOCIAL SCIENCES & MANAGEMENT

QS World University Rankings 2025

54th

IN THE WORLD IN SOCIAL SCIENCES & MANAGEMENT

QS World University Rankings 2025

13th

IN ASIA FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES

Times Higher Education 2024

OUR PROGRAM

GLOBAL CHINA STUDIES
環球中國研究

The BSc program in Global China Studies equips students with a unique portfolio of knowledge about China with a global outlook. This is achieved through a multi- and interdisciplinary curriculum in humanities and social science, and through training in comparative and advanced research methods. The program ensures that students acquire systematic and broad-based knowledge about China and its place in the modern world, while at the same time deepening their inquiry through focused tracks of study. The skills and capabilities learned in the program make our graduates suitable for positions in government, business, education, community organizations, media, and cultural institutions.

Interdisciplinary Curriculum

Humanities

Anthropology
Creative Arts
History
Linguistics
Literature
Music
Philosophy
Religion

Social Science

Demography
Economics
Political Science
Psychology
Quantitative History
Sociology

Diversity
10+ nationalities

Language
Multilingual training

Research
Capstone project in final year



GCS allows students to study a wide range of subjects and at the same time specialize in certain areas. It offers many opportunities for international exposure due to its reputation and connections with other overseas universities. The low student-to-faculty ratio means that I have many chances to talk with professors after class.

Kelly CHEUNG (GCS, Class of 2019)
SHSS Dean's Scholarship
Ng Hong Mun Educational Foundation Outstanding Student Scholarship



TRACKS

After the first year of foundational classes, students select one of two tracks: Social Science or Integrated Humanities & Social Science. There are ample free elective credits for students to develop their own study paths with flexibility. Students receive language training in both English and Chinese to develop the high-level communication skills that are essential for leadership. In their final year, all students complete a capstone project or honors thesis.





Integrated Humanities & Social Science

- Environment, Economy & Globalization
- Heritage, Community & Identity
- Political & Social Change
- Literature, Communication & Media

Social Science

- Economy, Politics & Society
- Research Methodology & Data Analysis

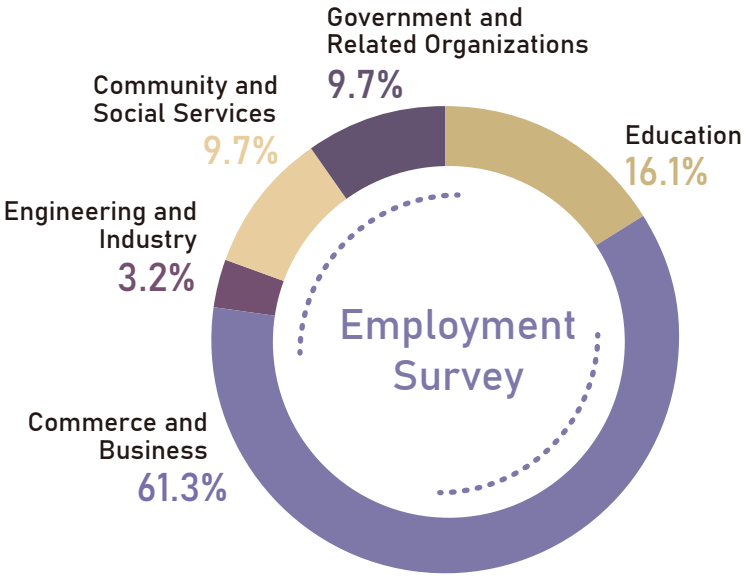
MAJOR

Students are also welcome to take additional major(s) or dual degree studies from other Schools.

MINOR

Students may choose to enhance their learning experiences through enrolling in different minor programs offered by other Schools.

CAREER PROSPECTS



* Graduate Employment Survey 2025, Career Center, HKUST.
**School-level data; employment sector distribution excludes graduates pursuing further studies.

Undergraduate Placements

Employment

- American Chamber of Commerce
- Bank of China
- Bloomberg L.P.
- China Telecom Corp
- Goldman Sachs (Asia)
- HK Monetary Authority
- HSBC

Graduate School

- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- London School of Economics
- New York University
- Princeton University
- University of Amsterdam
- University of Warwick

ADMISSION DETAILS

Requirements

JUPAS Applicants

Applicants with Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) results must meet the following entrance requirements.

ENGLISH	CHINESE	MATHS	CS*	X1	X2/M1/M2
3	3	2	Attained	3	3

*Citizenship and Social Development

Weighting : English x 2, Chinese x 1.5

Program	GCS
JUPAS Code	JS5411



Applicants with International Qualifications

SHSS considers the following elements in admission selection:

- Public examinations and academic performance
- Non-academic achievements
- Personal statement
- Referees' reports
- Interview performance

Scholarships

The University and SHSS offer various scholarships for students who demonstrate academic and non-academic excellence upon entry and during the years of program study.

shss.hkust.edu.hk/ug/major/gcs

gcspgm@ust.hk

@hkust.shssug

Application and submission details **http://join.hkust.edu.hk**

MTPC-G23855



AMBASSADOR SCHEME

The Student Ambassador Scheme nurtures future leaders and enriches students' personal connections through recruitment activities and School-level events. Student Ambassadors gain experience with event management and organisation under the School's support.

DDP

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

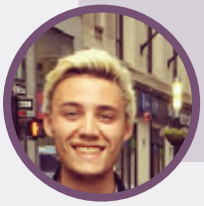
The Dual Degree Program is a collaboration between HKUST and Waseda University. Selected applicants will commence their study at Waseda in the Fall term of their fourth year of study and will stay in Japan for 1.5-2 years. After a total of 4.5-5 years of study in HKUST and Waseda, students will earn a BA degree awarded by Waseda in addition to obtaining the BSc degree issued by HKUST.



The knowledge I learned in SHSS provided me with a strong foundation for delving deeper into economics in Waseda. The Dual Degree program also allowed me to enrich my knowledge with real life experience.

Lily LIN (GCS, Class of 2019)
Waseda: BA in Economics

I have been able to engage in a one-of-a-kind opportunity, allowing me to sharpen my analytical skills and apply what I have learned in my studies.



Fernando GARCIA ALBERO (GCS, Class of 2020)
Internship at New York State Assembly Office

SPONSORSHIP

With the generous support of Mr. Liu Sing Cheong, a sponsorship for SHSS has been established to support overseas learning experiences. The Sponsorship is designed to provide financial support to undergraduates in GCS and QSA who are engaged in learning opportunities outside Hong Kong.

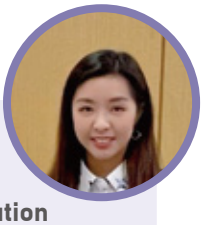
UROP

The Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program provides students with invaluable academic research experience and engagements under the guidance and supervision of the University's faculty members.

INTERNSHIP

We encourage students to develop their career connections through working experiences. We provide wide-ranging internship possibilities in a variety of sectors including public service organizations, media, NGOs, firms, museums, and research institutes. Students also receive one-on-one advising to help identify their career interests and build their career paths.





During her 2-month internship, Jessie assisted in the development of Constitution and Basic Law promotional campaigns and provided administrative support for the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme. From this experience, she came to realize that accuracy, cautious planning and evaluation in the allocation of public resources are significant for the prudent management of public finances. She also has had more profound understanding of government operations and public policy process. Jessie thanks especially her AO mentor also being a GCS graduate for giving support and guidance for her professional and personal growth.

Jessie LEUNG (GCS, Class of 2023)
Administrative Service Internship in
Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

EXCHANGE

Our program aims to enrich students' learning through global experiences. We have partnerships with prestigious universities in North America, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, which enable us to provide students with ample exchange opportunities.



Tracy found her exchange experience valuable as she had the opportunity to gain insight into her area of interest from a broader perspective and live independently in a foreign country. She has had new understanding of different social topics, such as inequality in different EU member states and Hong Kong, through cross-cultural discussions in lectures. She has also become more inclusive through day-to-day interactions with people from around the globe. She enjoyed the springtime of the Netherlands where tulips blossomed everywhere.

Tracy MA (GCS, Class of 2024)
Utrecht University, the Netherlands



>90% of SHSS students receive offers to study abroad

國立臺灣師範大學 National Taiwan Normal University
SciencesPo.
北京大学 PEKING UNIVERSITY
上海交通大学 SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY
YORK UNIVERSITY
EBERHARD KARLS UNIVERSITÄT TÜBINGEN
國立臺灣大學 National Taiwan University
Universiteit Leiden
UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN
Utrecht University
Erasmus University Rotterdam
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
US UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX
האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM
JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY IN KRAKÓW
ie UNIVERSITY Driving Innovation