



INNOVATING TODAY IMAGINING TOMORROW

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Postgraduate Prospectus 2021-22

“A place where **freedom** meets **discipline**  
and **vision** coincides with **innovation**.”

An institution where **research excellence** is  
a reality, and **‘dare to dream’** is our invitation.”





**Welcome to HKUST -**

a university of **choice** for talents,  
attractive to the **best global minds**.





**1st**  
among Top  
Young Universities  
in the **World**<sup>1</sup>



**27th**  
in the **World**<sup>2</sup>

## The HKUST Difference

We take pride in our institution not only because of our rankings, but because we celebrate our students' individuality – their backgrounds, their voices and their dreams. Diversity is a way of living and learning here.

**1st**  
Global Employability  
in Greater China<sup>3</sup>

**10th**  
Global Employability  
in the World<sup>3</sup>

**2nd**  
in the World<sup>4</sup>  
for Kellogg-HKUST  
Executive MBA  
Program

<sup>1</sup> THE Young University Rankings, 2020 <sup>2</sup> QS World University Rankings, 2021 <sup>3</sup> Global University Employability Ranking, 2019  
<sup>4</sup> Financial Times Global EMBA Rankings, 2019, QS Global Joint EMBA Rankings, 2020

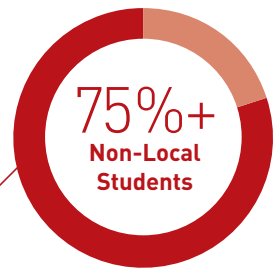




Truly Global, Proudly Diverse

**5800+**  
**Postgraduate Students**  
**at HKUST in 2019-20**

**Postgraduate**  
**Student Profile**



Coming from  
**70+**  
**Countries and Regions**



**North America**

Canada,  
 United States

**Central & South America**

Argentina, Brazil,  
 Chile, Colombia,  
 Dominican,  
 Mexico,  
 Peru

**Europe**

Austria,  
 Czech Republic,  
 Estonia, France,  
 Germany, Greece,  
 Hungary, Ireland,  
 Italy, Netherlands,  
 Poland, Portugal,  
 Russia, Serbia,  
 Slovakia, Slovenia,  
 Spain, Sweden,  
 Switzerland, Turkey,  
 United Kingdom

**Africa**

Algeria,  
 Cameroon,  
 Egypt, Ethiopia,  
 Gambia, Ghana,  
 Kenya, Liberia,  
 Mauritius,  
 Morocco, Nigeria,  
 South Africa,  
 Tunisia

**Asia Pacific**

Australia, Azerbaijan,  
 Bangladesh, China,  
 Hong Kong, India,  
 Indonesia, Iran, Israel,  
 Japan, Kazakhstan,  
 Lebanon, Macao,  
 Malaysia, Mongolia,  
 Myanmar, Nepal,  
 New Zealand,  
 Pakistan, Philippines,  
 Singapore,  
 South Korea,  
 Sri Lanka, Syria,  
 Taiwan, Thailand,  
 Turkmenistan,  
 Uzbekistan,  
 Vietnam

Data as of Dec 2019



# The Hong Kong Advantage

Hong Kong offers you the most exciting options and opportunities to jumpstart your journey to success. With its prime location in Asia, wealth of talents and international connectivity, this dynamic city presents endless possibilities arising from the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.



<sup>1</sup> QS Best Student Cities Rankings, 2019

- ▶ Strong resources and support for research development and start-up activities.
- ▶ Financial hub with the rule of law, a low tax system, a free flow of information and world-class infrastructure.
- ▶ Ranked in top 3 for economic freedom by the Heritage Foundation for over 2 decades and consistently ranked 1<sup>st</sup> on the Economic Freedom Index of the Fraser Institute.
- ▶ Abundant and forward-looking opportunities as Hong Kong plays a vital role in the development of the Greater Bay Area.
- ▶ English is widely used and also the medium of instruction in the university.
- ▶ A 24/7 character with a wide spectrum of outdoor activities, dining and entertainment options.

Read more about the success stories of our students:  
[pg.ust.hk/sharing](http://pg.ust.hk/sharing)



**Keira Lee RICE**  
from United Kingdom

PhD Student in Life Science

I enjoy my postgraduate study here because I have found comfort in our beautiful seaside campus equipped with great research facilities and lab-mates. I can always count on my inbox for news about exciting seminars, conferences and other opportunities not only taking place on campus, but also in Hong Kong and abroad. I look forward to strengthening my technical skills as a scientist and growing up to be a more mature person, and HKUST is the perfect place for me to do so.

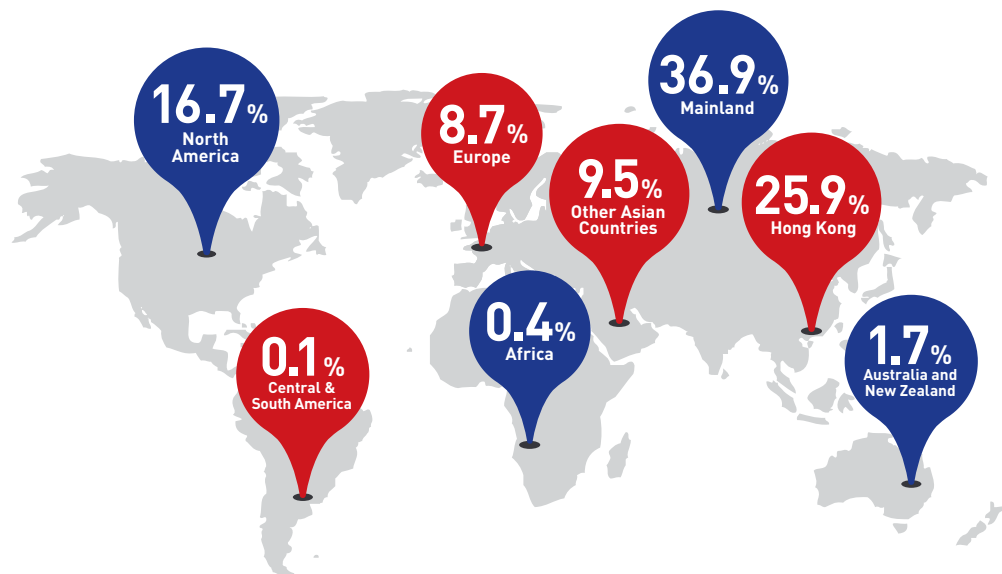


# Where Great Minds Converge

The greatest place is made up of the greatest people. Our outstanding faculty are distinguished scholars, dedicated teachers and passionate life explorers, who nurture you, challenge you, and inspire you to fulfill your dreams.



**690+** Faculty from **35+** Countries and Regions



Data as of June 2020

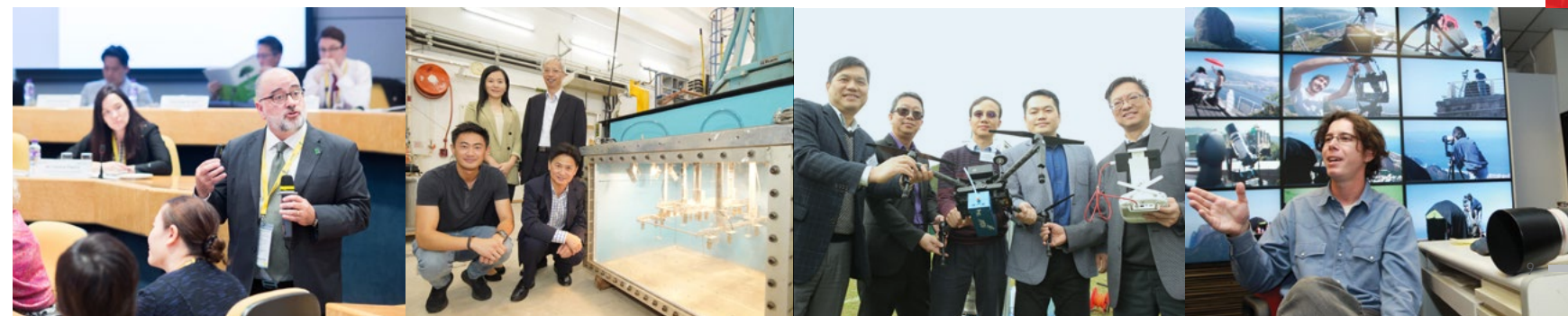


\*Tenure-track faculty (Assistant Professor or above) and research-track faculty

## Majority coming from world-renowned universities

Boston	Brown	Cambridge	Carnegie-Mellon
Chicago	Columbia	Cornell	Duke
Harvard	Illinois	London	Maryland
Michigan	MIT	New York	Northwestern
Oxford	Pennsylvania	Princeton	Purdue
Southern California	Stanford	Toronto	UBC
UC Berkeley	UCLA	Washington	Yale

**Including HKUST**



## Where Research Flourishes

An inquisitive mind is at the heart of HKUST, and research is the soul of this institution. Our robust research infrastructure, in Hong Kong and Mainland, demonstrates our commitment to extending the boundary of knowledge and making this world work better for everyone.

### Strong Research Infrastructure

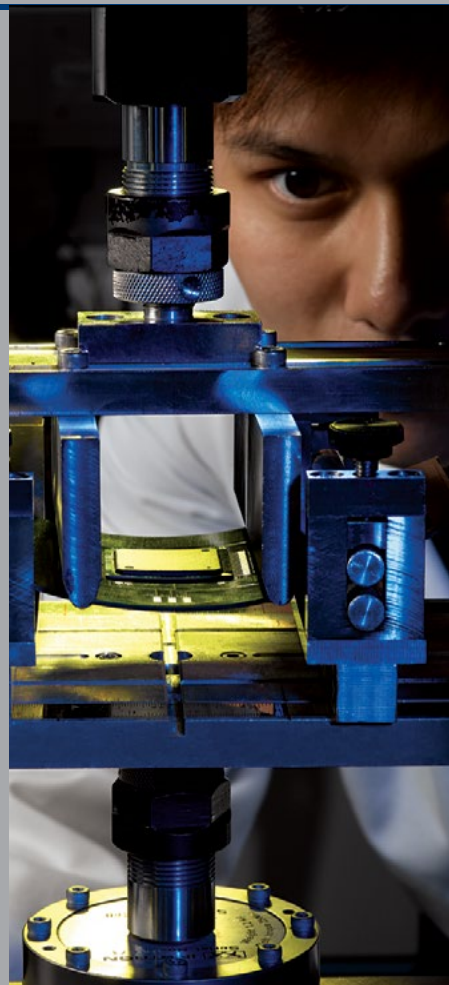
 **85+** Research Institutes, Centers and Joint Labs

#### Key Research Institutes in Hong Kong

- Biotechnology Research Institute
- Big Data Institute
- Energy Institute
- GREAT Smart Cities Institute
- Institute for Emerging Market Studies
- Institute for the Environment
- Robotics Institute
- Sino Software Research Institute
- William Mong Institute of Nano Science and Technology

#### Key Research Institutes in Mainland

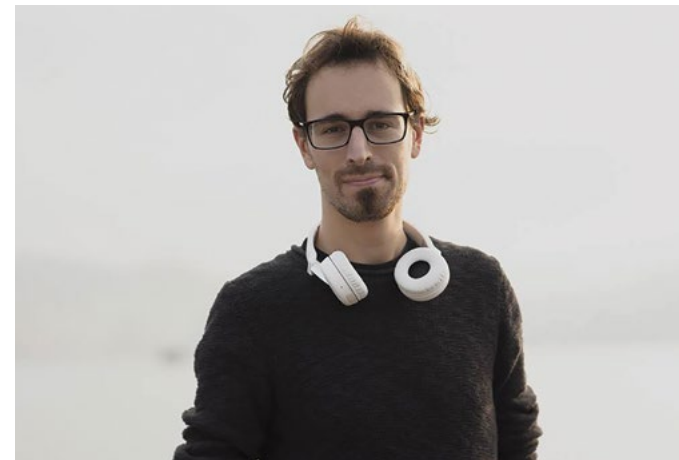
- Guangzhou HKUST Fok Ying Tung Research Institute
- HKUST Shenzhen Research Institute
- HKUST Shenzhen - Hong Kong Collaborative Innovation Research Institute
- HKUST LED-FPD Technology R&D Center



**Alison LI**  
from Hong Kong

PhD Student in Atmospheric Environmental Science

I believe major challenges in the environmental sciences require multidisciplinary solutions. Postgraduate programs at HKUST are well-designed with great flexibility, enabling me to engage in both scientific analysis and project management. Besides conducting research, I also get to cooperate with top researchers, consultants and fellow students of various backgrounds. Together, we aim to develop the world's first mobile app that helps manage personalized real-time informatics and reduce our individual exposure to air pollutants.



**Federico MAGNI**  
from Italy

PhD Student in Management  
HK PhD Fellowship Awardee

Feeling the desire to be challenged and to explore a world out of my comfort zone, I decided to pursue further studies at HKUST after working in business consulting. The unique experience offered by Hong Kong, and HKUST's stellar academic reputation made my decision of where to study a simple one. Also, I am lucky enough to work with a variety of professors with different working styles and approaches to research.





# Expanding Frontiers, Converging Minds

Creating your tomorrow means forging new paths today. With an unprecedented cross-disciplinary academic structure, HKUST(Guangzhou) is established with the mission to transform education to meet the ever-changing needs of our global community. Join us to fulfill your passions.



## Thinking Forward

HKUST(GZ) strives to reinvent education and open up new frontiers of knowledge and research to address unfolding needs and challenges in the world.



## Breaking Grounds

Adopting an innovative pedagogical model, HKUST(GZ) allows faculty and students to bridge diverse knowledge from multiple disciplines and break new grounds for cross-disciplinary research.

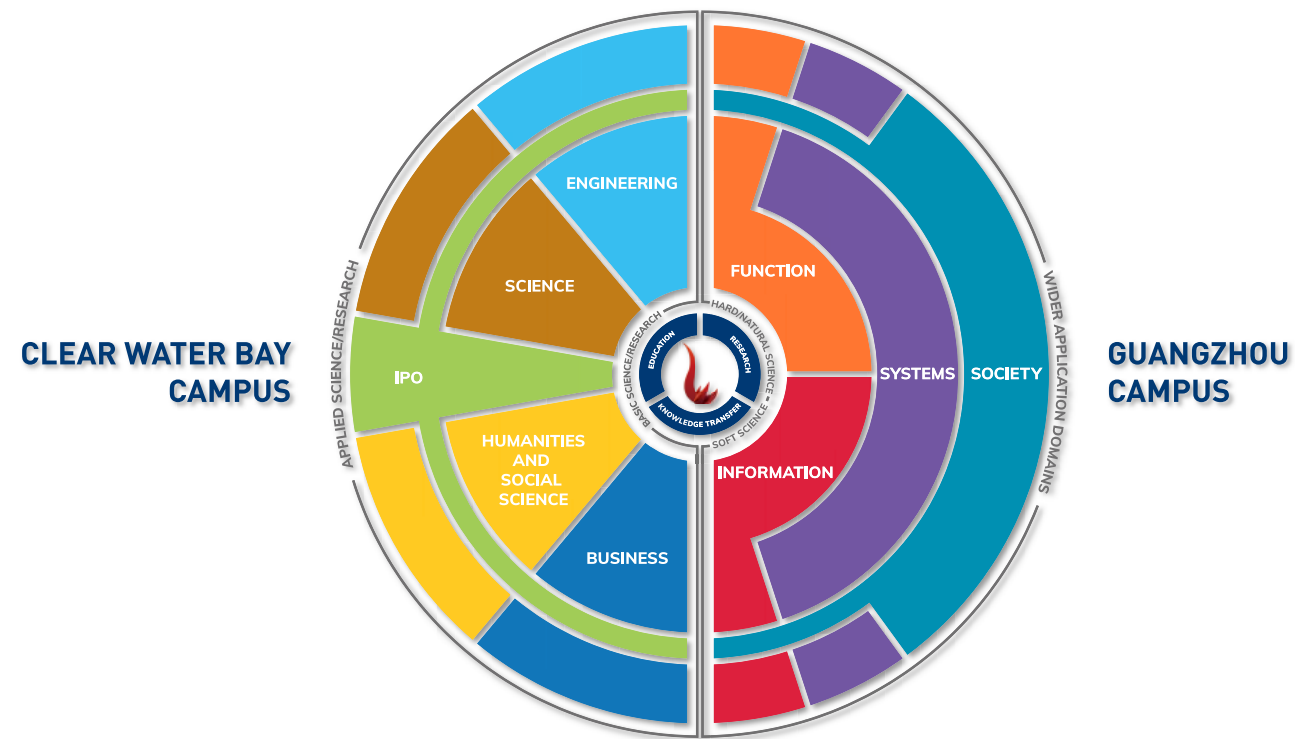


## Bridging Gaps

Conveniently located in Nansha, south of Guangzhou, HKUST(GZ) helps facilitate the development of the Greater Bay Area, a strategic hub for the combined talents from HKSAR, Macao SAR and Guangdong Province.

## HKUST Distinctive Academic Structure

While capitalizing on the well-established disciplinary foundation at the Clear Water Bay campus, HKUST(GZ) will chart new territories in higher education pedagogy through a unique and non-conventional Hub structure consisting of four Academic Hubs and a wide spectrum of cutting-edge Research Thrust Areas.



## Wide Selection of Programs

HKUST currently offers two types of postgraduate studies:

	Research Programs	Taught Programs
<b>Degree Type</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master of Philosophy (MPhil)</li> <li>• Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)</li> <li>• Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA)</li> <li>• Master of Business Administration (MBA)</li> <li>• Master of Arts (MA)</li> <li>• Master of Science (MSc)</li> <li>• Master of Public Management (MPM)</li> <li>• Master of Public Policy (MPP)</li> <li>• Postgraduate Diploma (PGD)</li> </ul>
<b>Program Requirements</b>	Involve the completion of coursework and independent research, and successful defense of thesis	Fulfill coursework requirements and projects, if any
<b>Normative Study Duration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 years for MPhil studies (Full-time)</li> <li>• 3 or 4 years for PhD studies (Full-time), depending on entry qualifications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 to 2 years (Full-time)</li> <li>• 1.5 to 4 years (Part-time), depending on individual programs</li> </ul>





2021-22  
Postgraduate Programs

	Research Programs		Taught Programs		
	Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)	Master of Philosophy (MPhil)	Master of Science (MSc)	Master of Arts (MA)	Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)/ Master of Business Administration (MBA/EMBA)
<b>Science</b>					
Analytical Chemistry			●		
Biotechnology			●		
Chemistry	●	●			
Data-Driven Modelling			●		
Financial Mathematics			●		
Life Science	●	●			
Mathematics	●	●			
Mathematics for Educators			●		
Nano Science and Technology	●	●			
Physics	●	●			
<b>Business and Management</b>					
Doctor of Business Administration					●
Kellogg-HKUST Executive MBA					●
HKUST Executive MBA					●
HKUST-NYU Stern MS in Global Finance			●		
HKUST-SKOLKOVO Executive MBA Program for Eurasia					●
MBA					●
Accounting	●		●		
Business Analytics			●		
Economics	●		●		
Finance	●		●		
Financial Technology			●		
Global Operations			●		
Information Systems	●				
Information Systems Management			●		
International Management			●		
Management	●				
Marketing	●				
Operations Management	●				
<b>Humanities and Social Science</b>					
Chinese Culture				●	
Global China Studies			●		
Humanities	●	●			
International Language Education				●	
Social Science	●	●		●	

	Research Programs		Taught Programs		
	Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)	Master of Philosophy (MPhil)	Master of Science (MSc)	Master of Public Management (MPM)/ Master of Public Policy (MPP)	Postgraduate Diploma (PGD)
<b>Engineering and Technology</b>					
Aeronautical Engineering			●		
Big Data Technology			●		
Bioengineering	●	●			
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering	●	●	●		
Civil Engineering	●	●			
Civil Infrastructural Engineering and Management			●		●
Computer Science and Engineering	●	●			
Electronic and Computer Engineering	●	●			
Electronic Engineering			●		
Engineering Enterprise Management			●		
IC Design Engineering			●		
Industrial Engineering and Decision Analytics	●	●			
Information Technology			●		
Intelligent Building Technology and Management			●		
Mechanical Engineering	●	●	●		
Technology Leadership and Entrepreneurship			●		
Telecommunications			●		
<b>Environmental Studies</b>					
Atmospheric Environmental Science	●	●			
Environmental Engineering	●	●			
Environmental Engineering and Management			●		●
Environmental Health and Safety			●		
Environmental Science and Management			●		●
Environmental Science, Policy and Management	●	●			
Marine Environmental Science	●	●			
<b>Public Policy</b>					
Public Management				●	
Public Policy	●	●		●	
<b>Interdisciplinary Studies</b>					
Individualized Interdisciplinary Program (Research Area)	●	●			

For programs offered under HKUST(GZ) Pilot Scheme, please refer to P.19.

Program Details: [pg.ust.hk/programs](http://pg.ust.hk/programs)



# A New Horizon: HKUST(GZ) Pilot Scheme



Real-world problems cannot be solved with one equation. To intervene, we must meet them where they are. The pioneering academic structure at HKUST(GZ) breaks down disciplinary silos and welcomes students from different backgrounds to integrate ideas boldly, solve problems innovatively, and work collaboratively — without borders — to address global challenges.



## Program Features:



**Innovative Cross-Disciplinary**  
Research Postgraduate Studies



**Cutting-Edge Research Thrust Areas**  
Combining Hard, Natural and Soft Sciences



**Same Admission Requirements**  
as other HKUST Programs



Start in Hong Kong in 2021 & Move to **New Guangzhou Campus in 2022**

## University Support:



**Postgraduate Studentship:**  
HK\$216,360 (~US\$27,700) per year



**Guaranteed University Accommodation:**

- On Clear Water Bay Campus in 2021/22
- Entire Normative Period of Study on Guangzhou Campus



**RedBird PhD Scholarship:**  
Renewable Scholarship of HK\$40,000 (~US\$5,100) per year for excellent PhD students

The amounts of **tuition fee** and **studentship** are the **same as** other **HKUST MPhil/PhD programs**. Please refer to P.20-21 for more details.

## MPhil/PhD Programs Offered under HKUST(GZ) Pilot Scheme



### Function

- Advanced Materials
- Earth, Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences
- Microelectronics
- Sustainable Energy & Environment



### Information

- Artificial Intelligence
- Computational Media & Arts
- Data Science & Analytics
- Internet of Things



### Society

- Financial Technology
- Innovation, Policy & Entrepreneurship
- Urban Governance & Design



### Systems

- Bioscience & Biomedical Engineering
- Intelligent Transportation
- Robotics & Autonomous Systems
- Smart Manufacturing



**Nan XU**  
from China

**PhD Student in Individualized Interdisciplinary Program**  
**First Cohort of Guangzhou Pilot Scheme**

HKUST offers not only a rigorous, elite education but also an interactive cross-disciplinary learning atmosphere. With an innovative project-based learning and research pedagogy, the individualized interdisciplinary program at HKUST(GZ) allows me to team up with passionate students from diverse backgrounds and conduct field investigations outside of campus. I am encouraged to brainstorm beyond the lab and articles, identify the real pain points, match them with advanced research and, collaboratively, discover solutions that have significant social impact.



# Your Action – Admissions

## Generous Scholarship



### Postgraduate Studentship

- HK\$216,360 (~US\$27,700) per year
- Up to **2 years** for full-time MPhil students and up to **4 years** for full-time PhD students



### Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme

- A prestigious award for the best PhD students from around the world
- **Stipend: HK\$319,200 (~US\$40,900) per year** for 4 years
- **Excellent Research Award: HK\$40,000 (~US\$5,100)** in the first year
- **Conference Travel Allowance: HK\$13,300 (~US\$1,700) per year** for 4 years
- Application deadline: 1 Dec 2020



### RedBird PhD Scholarship

- A scholarship for excellent PhD candidates, in recognition of their outstanding academic performance and research capacity
- Renewable scholarship of **HK\$40,000 (~US\$5,100) per year**



### Asian Future Leaders Scholarship Program

- A scholarship program for young East, Southeast and South Asian scholars to pursue postgraduate studies and cross-cultural enrichment



### Tuition Waiver Scheme for Local MPhil and PhD Students

- HK\$42,100 (~US\$5,400) per year
- Up to **2 years** for full-time MPhil students and **4 years** for full-time PhD students



### Overseas Research Award & Greater Bay Area Research Award

- **HK\$10,000 (~US\$1,280) per month** for an overseas attachment
- **HK\$5,000 (~US\$640) per month** for a Greater Bay Area attachment
- For PhD students to engage in research attachment outside Hong Kong



### Research Travel Grant

- To support full-time students to present research papers at conferences and professional meetings



### Targeted Taught Postgraduate Programmes Fellowships Scheme

- A fellowship for meritorious local students pursuing postgraduate studies in priority areas that are beneficial to society
- Tuition waiver up to **HK\$120,000 (~US\$15,400)**



**Guaranteed university accommodation for full-time research postgraduate students in the first 2 years of studies**

More Details: [pg.ust.hk/funding](http://pg.ust.hk/funding)



## Tuition Fees

**Research Postgraduate Programs (MPhil & PhD)**  
HK\$42,100 (~US\$5,400) per year (full-time/part-time)

**Taught Postgraduate Programs (DBA, EMBA, MBA, MA, MSc, MPM, MPP, PGD)**  
Fees vary for each program. Details at: [pg.ust.hk/programs](http://pg.ust.hk/programs)



### Charikleia STOURA from Greece

PhD Student in Civil Engineering  
HK PhD Fellowship Awardee

Research life here is incredible. HKUST gives me an excellent platform to pursue research on train-bridge systems. It also offers me necessary supplies and equipment for the research. I don't have to worry about resources; instead, I can just focus on my work — that is not often the case in other universities. Also, I am very thankful to my supervisor, who has motivated me to do the best that I can in my own research.

[pg.ust.hk/sharing](http://pg.ust.hk/sharing)





# Submit Your Application

Ready to submit your application and seize the infinite opportunities at HKUST?

## Admission Requirements

### 1 General Admission Requirements

#### For all applicants seeking postgraduate admission

- a bachelor's degree from a recognized institution, or an approved equivalent qualification

#### For PhD applicants (additional to the above)

- a proven record of outstanding performance from a recognized institution or presented evidence of satisfactory work at the postgraduate level on a full-time basis for at least one year, or on a part-time basis for at least two years

### 2 English Language Requirements<sup>1</sup>

You have to fulfill the English Language requirements with one of the following proficiency attainments<sup>2</sup>:

Proficiency Test	Minimum Scores
<b>TOEFL – Internet-based Test (iBT)</b>	80 <sup>3</sup>
<b>TOEFL – Paper-based Test (pBT)</b>	550
<b>TOEFL – Revised paper - delivered test</b>	60 (total scores for Reading, Listening and Writing sections)
<b>IELTS (Academic Module)</b>	Overall score: 6.5 and all sub-scores: 5.5

<sup>1</sup>The University accepts alternative English Tests (Duolingo English Test, IELTS Indicator, TOEFL-iBT Home Edition) in meeting the University English Language admission requirements under the COVID-19. Visit [pg.ust.hk/covid-19](http://pg.ust.hk/covid-19) for details.

<sup>2</sup>You are not required to present TOEFL or IELTS score if your first language is English, or your bachelor's degree (or equivalent qualification) was awarded by an institution where the medium of instruction was English.

<sup>3</sup>refers to the total score in one single attempt

### 3 Program-Specific Admission Requirements

Some programs may stipulate additional requirements for admissions. For details, please visit [pg.ust.hk/programs](http://pg.ust.hk/programs).

For the most up-to-date admission requirements and information, please refer to [pg.ust.hk](http://pg.ust.hk).

## Admission Timeline

2021/22 Fall Intake	
<b>1 September 2020</b>	Applications open
<b>1 December 2020</b>	HKPFS applications close
<b>December 2020 onwards</b>	The closing dates for individual programs vary. Please check the program closing dates at <a href="http://pg.ust.hk/timeline">pg.ust.hk/timeline</a> and apply well before the respective deadlines
<b>January to August 2021</b>	Admission offers will be issued according to individual program's admission schedule
<b>Mid-August 2021</b>	Program registration
2021/22 Spring Intake	
<b>September 2021</b>	Applications open
<b>Mid-December 2021</b>	Applications close
<b>Mid-January 2022</b>	Program registration

Apply Online:  
[pg.ust.hk/apply](http://pg.ust.hk/apply)



# Nurturing the Entrepreneur

We know how it is to build something great from nothing. With state-of-the-art facilities and ample resources, we offer a place to nurture your entrepreneurial spirit and let it soar. This is where your ideas can be transformed into action.

## Resources to Transform Your Ideas into Action:



### Funds & Awards

Entrepreneurship Acceleration Fund  
HKUST Entrepreneurship Fund  
Yeung Wing Yee Entrepreneurs Fund  
U\*Star Award  
Tech-Ship Award



### Competitions

hackathon@HKUST  
One Million Dollar Entrepreneurship Competition



### Facilities

HKUST Entrepreneurship Center  
HKUST Technology Transfer Center  
HKUST R and D Corporation Limited

Explore More:  
[pg.ust.hk/entrepreneurship](http://pg.ust.hk/entrepreneurship)



### Kenneth Au

Co-founder & Lead developer, UMIx Music Limited  
MPhil Student in Computer Science and Engineering

### Benjamin Lai

Co-founder & Lead designer, UMIx Music Limited  
MPhil Student in Electronic and Computer Engineering

***“HKUST has a well-constructed academic atmosphere, eco-system and network, providing us with many opportunities to turn our ideas into reality.”***

Kenneth and Benjamin, who both are enthusiastic about music and technology, teamed up to develop UMIx, a portable music production app which allows users to compose music anywhere at any time, as well as reducing the complexity of the process.

The pair believes that their postgraduate studies at HKUST provided them with excellent technical skills and knowledge base, as well as a sound academic foundation that assisted them in conducting the necessary research and development involved in creating such a complex app.

Kenneth and Benjamin also cite the diverse learning environment and hands-on style of education at HKUST as being crucial to their success. They appreciated the opportunities to participate in different engineering projects, like robotics, software design at HKUST which helped them to widen their vision and combine their engineering know-how with the business acumen necessary for a start-up.

UMix has garnered them numerous industry awards, including the Grand and Gold Awards at the Hong Kong ICT Awards in 2018. They plan to keep improving the app through further technical development, which will enable them to secure the talent and funding necessary to expand their business.

# Mapping Your Career

You may already know exactly what you want to do. Or you may still be exploring the possibilities. Regardless, your time here will help you find your niche and strategize a career roadmap that leads you to where you are meant to be.

## Career Highlights



**#1** in Greater China

**#10** in the World

Global University Employability  
Ranking 2019

**390**   
**Recruiters**

from international and local companies in Business,  
Engineering, Education and other industries

Be inspired by the successful stories of our alumni!



I started my company in the first year of my PG studies and received lots of help from professors who believed in my dream.

**Frank WANG**

Founder and CEO at DJI  
MPhil Graduate in Electronic and Computing Engineering

My time at HKUST has provided me with a solid academic and technical foundation, which is vital to my professional career development.

**Lydia LEUNG**

CEO at Belun Technology  
MPhil & PhD Graduate in Electrical and Electronic Engineering



It is my honor to come back and make a contribution to my alma mater – and to Hong Kong.

**Naubahar SHARIF**

Associate Professor in Social Science and Public Policy at HKUST  
MPhil Graduate in Social Science



HKUST offers not only a fulfilling research experience but also lots of opportunities outside studies that will help you grow and realize your talents.

**Jan VOSECKY**

Head of Digital Solutions at Mercedes Me  
PhD Graduate in Computer Science & Engineering



The path of an entrepreneur is a battle that never ends, but we always come up with solutions. That's the HKUST spirit.

**Teresa LAW**

Co-Founder and Managing Director at AKOS Advanced Technology Ltd  
PhD Graduate in Chemistry



[pg.ust.hk/sharing](http://pg.ust.hk/sharing)





# Life on Campus

We are known for our beautiful campus with breathtaking views of Clear Water Bay, and there is much more than meets the eye. This place allows you to work and play, to sweat and laugh. This is where you can call home.

Two-year Guaranteed Housing for Full-Time Research Postgraduate Students



Strong Entrepreneurship Support



Extensive Sports and Recreational Facilities



\* Shaw Auditorium will be ready in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021.



Rich Array of Resources at HKUST Library



## Find Out More



Research @ HKUST  
[pg.ust.hk/research](https://pg.ust.hk/research)



Connect with Us  
[pg.ust.hk/connect\\_with\\_us](https://pg.ust.hk/connect_with_us)



This booklet was published in November 2020.

For the most up-to-date information, please refer to [pg.ust.hk](https://pg.ust.hk).



**The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology**

Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong



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