

# THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

## Master of Science in Urban Planning

1. Applications are invited for admission in September 2019 to read for the degree of Master of Science in Urban Planning.
2. To be eligible for admission to the programmes, a candidate shall satisfy both the University Admissions Requirements and the Programme Specific Requirements:
  - (a) shall comply with the General Regulations;
  - (b) shall hold a Bachelor's degree with honours of this University or a qualification of equivalent standard from another comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
  - (c) for a candidate who is seeking admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution outside Hong Kong of which the language of teaching and/or examination is not English, shall satisfy the University English language requirement applicable to high degrees as prescribed under General Regulation G2(b); and,
  - (d) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if required.

An application for exemption from the above requirements shall be considered on a case by case basis.

3. The curriculum extends over two years of full-time study. The programme is fully recognised for membership purposes by the Hong Kong Institute of Planners, the Royal Town Planning Institute of the United Kingdom. Students specialised in transport planning are also recognized by the Hong Kong Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport. Graduates who have completed additional credits in surveying meet the academic requirements for admission to the Assessment of Professional Competence (APC) scheme of the Planning and Development Division of the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) for professional membership.
4. The curriculum consists of two major components: a spatial planning component with core courses and studios in spatial, strategic and community planning practice; and a specialist planning component which allows students to develop an area of specialism in planning through the completion of optional courses and a dissertation that is directly related to the chosen area of specialisation. The Department also organizes field trips as part of the programme. Please visit the Department's website at [www.arch.hku.hk/upad](http://www.arch.hku.hk/upad) for further information.
5. Applications for a taught postgraduate programme should be submitted via our on-line application system at <http://www.hku.hk/tpg/>.
6. The University Grants Committee (UGC) has ruled that non-local students admitted to UGC-funded UG and TPG programmes will be charged a higher than standard tuition fee. According to the UGC's definition, non-local students are "person entering Hong Kong for the purpose of education with a student visa/entry permit issued by the Director of Immigration". For the 2018-2019 intake, non-local students admitted to the MSc(Urban Planning) full-time programme will be charged HK\$161,000\* per annum (2019-2020 subject to change and final approval by the University).
7. The closing date for application is **12:00nn, 31 December 2018**.
8. Successful applicants will be notified no later than June 2019. If you do not receive any notification by the end of June 2019, please call 3917 2721 to enquire about the status of your application.

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<b>FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS</b>
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*The following are some frequently asked questions raised by potential applicants.*

**What are the admission requirements?**

- A Bachelor's degree with honours of The University of Hong Kong; or, an equivalent qualification from another university or comparable institution.
- As urban planning is a multi-disciplinary subject, we encourage applications from graduates in different fields of study.
- All ADB applicants and applicants who do not hold a degree from an institution using English as the language of instruction and/or examination are required to obtain a score of 550 or above (paper-based test) or 80 or above (internet-based test) in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Those taking the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) should have a minimum overall band of 6 with no subtest lower than 5.5.

**Who is eligible to apply for an Asian Development Bank scholarship?**

- For details, please refer to ADB website at <http://www.adb.org/site/careers/japan-scholarship-program/main>.

**Who can be nominated as professional referees?**

- Friends and relatives' reference letters will not be considered.
- A professional referee should be the applicant's colleague who is in a senior position, and can comment on the applicant's professional ability.
- This senior person does not need to be in the field of planning.

**Is it necessary for overseas students to attend an interview?**

- Telephone or SKYPE interviews will be conducted with overseas applicants.

**Are there field trips?**

- Field trips are compulsory and will be organized by the Department to fulfil the academic requirements of the curriculum.

**How can graduates become urban planners?**

- Upon completion of the M.Sc. (Urban Planning), graduates satisfy the academic qualifications of the various accreditation institutions.
- A graduate normally needs at least two years of relevant working experience in the planning field before he/she is eligible to apply for full membership of the professional institutes.
- Interested applicants can join the Department's Admissions Talk to be held on 1 December 2018 (Saturday) at 10:00 am in Room820, 8/F, Knowles Building, The University of Hong Kong. Details will be released separately and closer to the date of the event.