Hong Kong Shue Yan University

Postgraduate Admissions Guidebook

[2027-28 Entry]

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Chapter 1: Overview

The Graduate School of Hong Kong Shue Yan University (HKSYU) is dedicated to advancing knowledge and nurturing a new generation of scholars, professionals, and leaders through its high-quality postgraduate programmes. As the first private university in Hong Kong, HKSYU has a long-standing commitment to whole-person education, blending academic excellence with moral and character development.

The Graduate School oversees both research and taught postgraduate programmes across various disciplines, including Business, Psychology, Counselling, Chinese Studies, Data Science, and Finance. Our programmes are designed to provide students with deep specialist knowledge, critical analytical skills, and the innovative thinking required to excel in their chosen fields and contribute meaningfully to society.

Our faculty comprises distinguished scholars and experienced professionals who are committed to teaching and research excellence. They provide close mentorship to students, fostering a vibrant and supportive intellectual community. The Graduate School provides a robust framework for research students, offering research seminars, grants, and opportunities to present at international conferences.

Studying at HKSYU's Graduate School means joining a diverse and dynamic community. We welcome students from Hong Kong, Mainland China, and around the world, creating a rich multicultural environment. Our campus, located in the vibrant North Point district, offers modern facilities, including a comprehensive library, research complexes, and dedicated study spaces.

We are committed to providing an enriching educational experience that prepares our graduates for successful careers in academia, industry, and the public sector. We invite you to join our community and embark on a rewarding journey of intellectual and personal growth at HKSYU.

Chapter 2: Research and Taught Programmes

The Graduate School offers a range of Research Postgraduate (RPg) and Taught Postgraduate (TPg) programmes. The application periods of the programmes offered for the 2027/28 entry are as follows:

Important Note:

- As programme quotas are limited and Applications will be assessed on a rolling-basis, applicants are strongly advised to submit their applications in the main round well before the deadlines.
- An extended round may be open if needed. Applicants who missed the main round should check the Graduate School website and Admissions System for updates.
- Application deadlines are subject to change without prior notice. For the most current information, please refer to the Graduate School website and the Postgraduate Admissions System.

Research Postgraduate (RPg)

Master of Philosophy (MPhil) / Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Programme Name	Department	Main Round Application Period
MPhil / (PhD) in **Chinese**	Department of Chinese Language and Literature	**16 November 2026 (HKT 09:00) – 30 April 2027 (HKT 23:59)**
MPhil / (PhD) in **Economics**	Department of Economics and Finance	
MPhil / (PhD) in **English**	Department of English Language and Literature	
MPhil / (PhD) in **History**	Department of History	
MPhil / (PhD) in **Psychology**	Department of Counselling and Psychology	
MPhil / (PhD) in **Sociology**	Department of Sociology	

Taught Postgraduate (TPg)

Programme Name	Department	Main Round Application Period
Doctor of Psychology in **Counselling Psychology**	Department of Counselling and Psychology	**16 November 2026 (HKT 09:00) – 31 January 2027 (HKT 23:59)**
Master of Social Sciences in **Counselling Psychology**	Department of Counselling and Psychology	
Master of Social Sciences in **Play Therapy**	Department of Counselling and Psychology	
Master of Social Sciences in **Adversity and Trauma Psychology**	Department of Counselling and Psychology	
Master of Science in **Marketing and Consumer Psychology**	Department of Business Administration	
Master of Science in **Financial Technology Management**	Department of Economics and Finance	
Master of Science in **Game Development and Management**	Department of Data Science and Digital Innovation	
Master of Arts in **Chinese Language, Literature and Teaching**	Department of Chinese Language and Literature	
Master of **Social Work**	Department of Social Work	
Master of Social Sciences in **Smart Cultural Tourism**	Department of Sociology	
Master of Social Sciences in **Psychology** (January Cohort) *this programme commences in January every year	Department of Counselling and Psychology	**1 April (HKT 09:00) – 31 August 2027 (HKT 23:59)**

Chapter 3: Admissions Requirements

3.1 Research Postgraduate Programmes (MPhil/PhD)

General Entrance Requirements

To be eligible for admission to the MPhil/PhD programmes, an applicant shall:

1. Hold a relevant bachelor's degree with honours, normally at Second Class Upper division or above, from a recognised university; OR
2. Hold a relevant master's degree from a recognised university.
3. Fulfil the English Language Proficiency Requirement as prescribed by the University, which may be demonstrated by:
    - Obtaining a degree from a university in Hong Kong or an English-speaking country, where the degree was taught primarily in English.; OR
    - A minimum score of 90 in the TOEFL iBT; OR
    - An overall band score of 6.5 in the IELTS.

Programme-Specific Requirements

MPhil/PhD in Chinese, English, History, Psychology, Sociology, Economics:

- A Bachelor's degree (for MPhil) or a master's degree (for PhD) in a closely related field is required.
- Applicants should also be able to provide good recommendations from their higher education institutions.
- PhD with a Bachelor's degree awarded First Class honours in a closely related field and graduated from a recognised university may also be considered.

Additional Requirements for All Research Programmes:

- A compelling research proposal.
- A writing sample (if applicable).
- Strong performance in an interview.

3.2 Taught Postgraduate Programmes (MSc/MA/MSSc)

General Entrance Requirements

To be eligible for admission to the taught postgraduate programmes, an applicant shall:

1. Hold a relevant bachelor's degree with honours, normally at Second Class Upper division or above, from a recognised university; OR
2. Hold a relevant master's degree from a recognised university.
3. Fulfil the English Language Proficiency Requirement as prescribed by the Programme, which may be demonstrated by:
    - Obtaining a degree from a university in Hong Kong or an English-speaking country where the degree was taught primarily in English; OR
    - A programme-specified score in the TOEFL OR IETLS
4. For programmes taught wholly or partially in Chinese, applicants must demonstrate Chinese language proficiency. This may be verified by a degree from a Chinese-medium institution or a required score in a recognised Chinese language proficiency test.

Additional Requirements for Taught Postgraduate Programmes:

- Strong performance in an interview.
- Recommendation reports from referees

Some programmes may also require applicants to submit

- A personal statement;
- A research proposal or a writing sample;
- Proof of professional qualifications or membership
- Proof of working experience
- Work portfolio

Admission requirements are subject to change. Applicants must visit the programme website for the specific requirements prior to application.

Chapter 4: Application and Admissions Procedures

4.1 Online Application

All applications must be submitted online via the HKSYU Postgraduate Admission System.

Step-by-Step Guide:

1. **Create an Account:** Go to https://postgraduate-admission.hksyu.edu/en/ and create a new applicant account using your email address.
2. **Start a New Application:** Log in to your account and select "New Application". Choose your intended programme for the 2027-28 academic year.
3. **Fill in the Application Form:** Complete all sections of the form accurately. The form must be completed in **English** unless otherwise stated. Sections include:
    - Personal Information
    - Academic Qualifications
    - Work Experience (if any)
    - Programme-specific questions (e.g., Research Proposal for RPGs, publications, professional qualifications and memberships, academic activities)
    - Referee Information
4. **Upload Supporting Documents:** You will be required to upload all necessary documents in the specified format (typically PDF or JPG, no zip files are allowed). Please refer to Section 4.2 for the list of required documents.
5. **Pay the Application Fee:** Settle the non-refundable and non-transferrable application fee online via WeChat Pay, Alipay, FPS, or Credit Card.
6. **Submit and Monitor:** Review your application thoroughly before submission. After submission, you can check your application status in the "My Progress" page through your admission account.

4.2 Supporting Documents Required

Accuracy and Completeness of Documents

Applicants are responsible for providing accurate and complete information and documents for admission purposes. All details given in the application must be true and correct. Making, submitting, or using any false instrument (including forged documents) constitutes a serious criminal offence under the Crimes Ordinance (Cap. 200) of Hong Kong. Any submission of false or misleading information will result in the disqualification of the application and any subsequent admission to Hong Kong Shue Yan University.

List of Required Documents for Upload

The application form must be completed in English unless otherwise stated. Applicants must prepare and upload the following documents to the Postgraduate Admissions System in the specified format (typically PDF or JPG):

- **A recent, colour, passport-size photo** (approximately 40mm (W) x 50mm (H)) showing a full-frontal face with clear facial features.
- **Copy of your identity documents,** e.g. HKID Card, Passport, Mainland Resident Identity Card, Exit-Entry Permit for Travelling to and from Hong Kong and Macau, etc.
- **Academic Qualifications:**
    - Copy of Graduation Certificate and Degree Certificate.
    - For qualifications from Mainland China: You must also provide the Online Verification Report(s) issued by China Higher Education Student Information (CHSI 學信網).
    - For Mainland Chinese applicants with overseas qualifications: You must provide the Overseas Credential Evaluation Report issued by the Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange (CSCSE) (教育部留學服務中心).
    - Applicants with dual-degree must hold a graduation certificate/testimonial with name of the collaborating institutions.
- **Academic Transcripts:** Copy of official Transcript(s) with a grading scheme from all tertiary institutions attended.
- **Proof of English Proficiency:** Copy of TOEFL/IELTS score report (if applicable).
- **Programme-Specific Documents:**
    - **Curriculum Vitae (CV)** (if any)
    - **Recommendation Letters / Reports from Referee**

    - **Others:** Research Proposal, Sample of Writings, Personal Statement, work portfolio (if any)

- **Referee Information:** Please provide valid institutional contact information for your referees (e.g., official university or office email address and telephone number). Personal/non-institutional contact information is not preferred. Please ensure your referees can receive messages sent from Hong Kong. Failure to do so may delay or adversely affect your application.

- **Copy of a valid visa/entry permit** (e.g., IANG, working permit or dependant visa) if currently held.

- **Copies of certificates of professional qualifications or proof of professional membership** (if applicable).

Submission of Official Documents
Applicants are generally required to arrange for the following documents to be sent directly to the University's Admissions Office (Postgraduate Admissions) within one month after submitting their online application:

• **Official transcripts**: Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended, sent in a sealed envelope with an official chop by the issuing institutions. Please use the Transcript Submission Covering Sheet.

• **Official language test score reports**: Must be sent directly by the examination body. Scores are valid for two years from the test date.

However, applicants may need not to mail official documents during the initial application stage. If an application is shortlisted, the Admissions Office will notify the applicant separately to submit the required original documents for verification.

Important: Failure to provide the required documents as specified may result in your application being deemed incomplete and will not be processed further.

4.3 Verification of Academic Qualifications

HKSYU verifies all academic qualifications to ensure their authenticity. The required verification method depends on where you obtained your qualifications.

Applicant Category	**Required Verification Method**
All Applicants	Official transcripts must be sent directly to the University by the issuing institution in a sealed envelope or via a secure electronic platform from the institution. Please use the Transcript Submission Covering Sheet for direct mailing.
Qualifications from Mainland China	You must provide both the Online Verification Code and Report of the following types of certificates issued by China Higher Education Student Information (CHSI 學信網). We accept English / Chinese version. Ensure the online verification codes remain valid for at least 6 months. - China Higher Education Student's Academic Transcript 《中国高等学校学生成绩验证报告》 - China Higher Education Qualification Certificate 《教育部学历证书 电子注册备案表》 - China Higher Education Degree Certificate 《中国高等教育学位在线验证报告》 If you are currently studying the programme, you should provide the following verification: Online Verification Report of Student Record 《教育部学籍在线验证报告》
International Qualifications	You are required to arrange for your institution to send your e-transcript/e-certificate directly to the University via a secure platform (e.g., My eQuals, Parchment, etc.). You may also use the service of assessing individual qualification provided by HKCAAVQ (Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications) to identify and verify your qualifications.

Applicant Category	**Required Verification Method**
Mainland Applicants with Overseas Qualifications	You must provide the Overseas Credential Evaluation Report (國外學歷學位認證書) issued by the Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange (CSCSE).
English Test Scores (e.g., IELTS/TOEFL)	Please request the test provider to send your official score report directly to HKSYU. Scores are valid for two years from the test date.

4.4 Offers Issuance

The admissions process involves the following stages.

- **Application Review:** The Graduate School and respective departments will review all complete applications. The review process may take approximately 60 working days.
- **Interview:** Shortlisted applicants will be invited for an interview, which may be conducted in person on campus or online.
- **Issuance of Offer:**
    - **Acceptance Offer (firm offer):** An offer with no additional conditions.
    - **Conditional Offer:** An offer that requires you to fulfil specific conditions before enrolment (e.g., obtaining a final transcript, meeting the English language requirement). You must satisfy all conditions by the specified deadline.
- **Notification:** All applicants will be notified of their application result via email by late June. During the review period, applicants should stay patient. The University does not provide status updates on applications, nor provide reasons for unsuccessful applications.
- **Acceptance:** To accept an offer, you must confirm your acceptance and pay the required deposit by the deadline stated in your offer letter.

The admission process is highly competitive and the University's decision is final.

4.5 Student Visa Applications

- Non-local students (those requiring a student visa to study in Hong Kong) must apply for a student visa/entry permit through the Hong Kong Immigration Department.
- Upon accepting your offer, the University will provide you with the necessary documents and guidance to support your visa application. It is the applicant's responsibility to apply for the visa in a timely manner.
- The visa application process can take 8-10 weeks. Please apply as early as possible.
- Important Note: The visa/entry permit arrangement for study does not apply to nationals of Afghanistan, Cuba, Laos, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Nepal, and Vietnam. Applications from these regions will be automatically disqualified, and application fees will not be refunded.
- Please refer to the Graduate School Website – Student Visa Application Guide for details: https://gs.hksyu.edu/en/Prospective-Students/student-visa

Chapter 5: Admissions Policies

5.1 Selection Criteria

Selection is based on a holistic review of the applicant's profile, including but not limited to:

- Academic performance and qualifications.
- Relevance of prior studies and experience.
- Quality of research proposal (for RPGs) and personal statement.
- Performance in the interview.
- Language proficiency.
- References and other supporting documents.

5.2 Applicants with Disabilities / SEN

HKSYU is committed to equal opportunity in education. Applicants with disabilities or Special Educational Needs (SEN) are welcome to apply. Applicants with Disabilities / SEN are required to disclose their condition during the application process so that the University can assess and provide appropriate support.

5.3 Concurrent Enrolment

Students are generally not permitted to be concurrently enrolled in another full-time / part-time award-bearing programme at HKSYU or any other institution without prior approval from the Graduate School.

5.4 Credit Transfer and Exemption

Applicants with prior relevant postgraduate-level studies may apply for credit transfer or exemption. Approval is subject to the University's regulations and is not guaranteed. Applications must be submitted with official transcripts and detailed course syllabi.

5.5 Pre-admission & Bridging Courses

Some programmes may require admitted students to complete pre-admission or bridging courses to ensure they possess the foundational knowledge required for the programme. You will be notified of such requirements in your offer letter. Failure of passing the pre-admission courses may result in disqualification.

5.6 Non-local Applicants

HKSYU welcomes applications from quality candidates from around the world. For admission purposes, you are regarded as a "non-local student" if you hold a:

- Student visa/entry permit;
- Visa under the Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates (IANG); or
- Dependant visa/entry permit (if you were 18 or above when it was issued).

All non-local students must obtain a valid student visa to study in Hong Kong. You cannot register or commence studies with a visitor or tourist visa. Do not travel to Hong Kong without a valid student visa.

Upon receiving an offer, HKSYU will provide visa application details and relevant assistance. Processing can take at least 6 weeks (longer in summer), so you should apply immediately after receiving an offer. Note that the Immigration Department may not accept visa applications from certain nationals.

Non-local students are not eligible for HKSAR Government grants and loans and must ensure they have sufficient funds for all expenses (including tuition fee, accommodation and living cost, and personal medical insurance).

According to Hong Kong immigration policy, full-time non-local students can take up internships, part-time on-campus jobs, and summer work. However, research students receiving a studentship must seek prior approval for any employment.

5.7 Teaching Arrangements

Programmes are delivered primarily through face-to-face teaching on the HKSYU campus. The University reserves the right to alter the mode of delivery if necessary.

5.8 Declaration of Criminal Records

Applicants may be required to declare any criminal convictions for specific programmes, especially those involving work with vulnerable groups. Failure to disclose relevant information may lead to the revocation of an offer or enrolment.

Chapter 6: Admissions and Administrative Fees

6.1 Fees Structure (2027-28 Entry)

The tuition fees (in HKD) for postgraduate programmes are structured by study mode (full-time/part-time) and student status (local/non-local). The following table provides a detailed breakdown of the total tuition fees, per-credit costs (cr), and the first installment amount for each programme.

Programme	Credits	Total Tuition Fee (Local)	Total Tuition Fee (Non-local)	First Installment (to be paid upon acceptance)
Research Postgraduate (RPG)				
MPhil (Various Disciplines)	N/A	**Full-time:** $69,000 / annum **Part-time:** $46,000 / annum		**Full-time:** $34,500 **Part-time:** $23,000
PhD (Various Disciplines)	N/A	**Full-time:** $69,000 / annum **Part-time:** $46,000 / annum		**Full-time:** $34,500 **Part-time:** $23,000
Taught Postgraduate (TPg)				
Doctor of Psychology in Counselling Psychology	60/75	60 credits: $288,000 / 75 credits: $360,000		$28,800 **(6cr)** / $43,200 **(9cr)**
Master of Social Sciences in Counselling Psychology	63	$239,400	$283,500	**Full-time(12cr):** Local: $45,600 Non-local: $54,000 **Part-time(6cr):** Local: $22,800 Non-local: $27,000
Master of Social Work	58	$319,000		**Full-time(12cr):** $66,000 **Part-time(9cr):** $49,500
Master of Science in Marketing and Consumer Psychology	30	$140,000	$160,000	**Full-time** Local: $70,000 Non-local: $80,000 **Part-time** Local: $35,000 Non-local: $40,000

Programme	**Credits**	**Total Tuition Fee (Local)**	**Total Tuition Fee (Non-local)**	**First Installment (to be paid upon acceptance)**
Master of Science in Financial Technology Management	30	$150,000	$200,000	**Full-time(12cr)** Local: $60,000 Non-local: $80,000 **Part-time(6cr)** Local: $30,000 Non-local: $40,000
Master of Social Sciences in Play Therapy	45	$171,000	$202,500	**Full-time(12cr)** Local: $45,600 Non-local: $54,000 **Part-time(6cr)** Local: $22,800 Non-local: $27,000
Master of Social Sciences in Adversity and Trauma Psychology	36	$136,800	$162,000	**Full-time(15cr)** Local: $57,000 Non-local: $67,500 **Part-time(6cr)** Local: $22,800 Non-local: $27,000
Master of Science in Game Development and Management	30	$165,000		**Full-time(15cr)** $82,500 **Part-time(6cr)** $33,000
Master of Social Sciences in Psychology	36	$136,800	$162,000	**Full-time(12cr)** Local: $45,600 Non-local: $54,000 **Part-time(6cr)** Local: $22,800 Non-local: $27,000
Master of Arts in Chinese Language, Literature and Teaching	24	$129,000		**Full-time(12cr)** $64,500 **Part-time(6cr)** $32,250
Master of Social Sciences in Smart Cultural Tourism	27	$148,500	$162,000	**Full-time(15cr)** Local: $82,500 Non-local: $90,000 **Part-time – English Stream Only (9cr)** Local: $49,500 Non-local: $54,000

Programme	**Pre-Admission / Bridging Course(s)**	**Course Fee (Per Course, HKD)**
Master of Sciences in Marketing and Consumer Psychology	● 定量分析方法 ● 市場營銷原理	$6,600
Master of Social Sciences in Counselling Psychology	● Introduction to Counselling Psychology Theories and Techniques in Counselling and Psychotherapy	$7,800
Master of Social Work	● Introduction to Social Work and Social Welfare	$5,400
Master of Science in Financial Technology Management	● Economics and Finance for FinTech ● Cryptography and Blockchain	$4,800

Important Notes on Fees Payment:

- **Pre-Admission / Bridging Courses:** Some programmes require students to complete bridging courses. The non-refundable and non-transferable fee for these courses must be paid together with the first tuition fee installment. For details, please refer to the official fee document.
- **Payment Structure:**
    - For the MSc in Marketing and Consumer Psychology and MPhil/PhD programmes, the annual tuition fee is paid in two equal installments.
    - For all other taught postgraduate programmes, tuition fees are calculated based on the number of credits taken each semester. The "First Installment" shown is the fee for the initial set of credits.
- **Application Fee:** The non-refundable and non-transferrable application fee is HK$250 for local applicants and HK$650 for non-local applicants.

- Enrolment Deposit: All deposit fees paid are non-refundable and non-transferable, except under exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the Admissions Office.
- **Other Fees:** It may include an indemnity deposit (refundable), visa application fee, and graduation fee.

All fees are indicative for the 2027/28 academic year and are subject to annual review and change.

6.2 Fees Payment Methods

Payment Methods:
Application Fees can be paid online through the Postgraduate Admissions System using the following methods:

- WeChat Pay (微信支付)
- Alipay (內地版支付宝)
- FPS (轉數快)
- Credit Card (Visa/Mastercard)

For enrolment deposit and tuition fee payment, please refer to the Registration Procedure and other instructions stipulated in the offer letter.

6.3 Fees Policies

- **Non-refundable and Non-transferable:** All fees paid, including the application fee and tuition deposit, are non-refundable and non-transferable under any circumstances, including if the application is unsuccessful, the applicant decides not to enrol, or the visa application is denied.

- **No Additional Payments:** Apart from the stipulated fees paid to the University, no additional payments are to be made to any individual staff member or unit. Offering any advantage (bribe) in connection with an application is a serious criminal offence under Hong Kong's *Prevention of Bribery Ordinance (Cap. 201)*.

Chapter 7: Study at HKSYU

7.1 Financial Assistance

- **Research Postgraduate Students:** Full-time MPhil/PhD students are normally provided with a Postgraduate Studentship, which is a financial award to support their studies.
- **Non-local Taught Postgraduate Students:** Are generally not eligible for Hong Kong government financial assistance. They are encouraged to seek funding from their home countries.
- **Scholarships:** A limited number of entrance scholarships may be available for outstanding students. Information will be provided upon admission.

7.2 Accommodation

- The University does not guarantee hostel accommodation for postgraduate students.
- Places in student hostels are limited and are allocated on a competitive basis. Students must apply separately for hostel placement.
- Most postgraduate students arrange for off-campus housing in private apartments. The University's Student Affairs Office and the Hall Management Unit can provide some information and resources to assist students in their search for accommodation.

Chapter 8: Contact Us

General Enquiries (Graduate School)

Graduate School, Hong Kong Shue Yan University
Email: gs@hksyu.edu (General Enquiries) ; pgadmit@hksyu.edu (Student Visa Application)
Website: **https://gs.hksyu.edu/en**

Programme-Specific Enquiries

Programme	Email
MPhil/PhD (Graduate School) **Psychology** / **Sociology** / **Chinese** / **English** **History** / **Economics**	gs@hksyu.edu
Doctor of Psychology in Counselling Psychology	psyd-cp@hksyu.edu
MSc in Marketing & Consumer Psychology	bamcp@hksyu.edu
MSc in Finance Technology and Management	efftm@hksyu.edu
MSc in Game Development and Management	mscgdm@hksyu.edu
MA in Chinese Language, Literature and Teaching	macllt@hksyu.edu
MSSc in Psychology	msspsy@hksyu.edu
MSSc in Counselling Psychology	mcounpsy@hksyu.edu
MSSc in Play Therapy	mplaytherapy@hksyu.edu
MSSc in Adversity and Trauma Psychology:	mssatpsy@hksyu.edu
Master of Social Work	msw@hksyu.edu
Master of Social Sciences in Smart Cultural Tourism	mssscct@hksyu.edu

Postgraduate Admissions System: **https://postgraduate-admission.hksyu.edu/en/**

Disclaimer: This guidebook is for informational purposes only. The University reserves the right to amend any information, policies, regulations, and fees without prior notice. Please refer to the official HKSYU Graduate School and relevant Departmental website for the most current information.