

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

To: BSocSc Direct Admissions to Year III Students

Notes for New Students

I am pleased to welcome you to the Faculty of Social Sciences. I hope you will find the coming years both intellectually stimulating and academically rewarding.

Registration Documents

The dates for completing the registration and course selection formalities are set out in document SS111/726 – DE Yr III, which also includes information of major events in this academic year.

Regulations and Syllabuses

When you read all the details concerning registration, University regulations and so on, the next and most important thing you have to do is to choose courses you wish to study in the coming year. Courses available and regulations governing the selection of courses are stated in the “Regulations for First Degree Curricula” at <https://calendar.hku.hk/regulations-for-first-degree-curricula/> and the “Regulations and Syllabuses for the respective Degrees” at <https://www.socsc.hku.hk/reg>.

Course Selection

The first semester of the 2026-27 academic year begins on Tuesday, September 1, 2026, and you are expected to attend lectures, tutorials, etc. from that day onwards. Please visit the departmental website(s) from which you have selected your courses and pay attention to the emails sent from the departments, as they will give further details with regard to timetables of courses, books to be used and so on. You should also check the location of the lecture theatres and tutorial rooms in advance and/or Moodle links for online teaching materials/sessions, as appropriate.

The course selection period for the 2026-27 academic year is **from August 4 (12:00nn) to August 10 (4:00pm), 2026**. You are required to complete the course selection for the whole academic year and declare your major via the HKU Portal.

If for any reason that you subsequently wish to make changes in your course selection, you may do so in the first and second weeks after the commencement of the first semester [i.e. **from September 1 (2:00pm) to September 15 (4:00pm), 2026**] during the course add/drop period. This should again be done through the HKU Portal.

Some courses are offered twice a year and you are required to indicate the exact semester as well as the sub-class you wish to take when completing your online course selection. However, your preferred sub-class may subject to changes in order to achieve a better distribution of students for the course. You are advised to check the course selection status online via HKU Portal before the semester begins.

In planning your studies, you should also note that, in addition to lectures, courses may consist of tutorials, seminars, exercise classes or laboratory work; information on these will be given by the offering departments at the beginning of the semester. Such groups may meet at any time during the week, provided that they do not clash with the lecture hours of the students participating in a

particular group. Attendance is obligatory.

University Requirements (UG5)

Students admitted from the Direct Admissions Scheme are required to successfully complete i) a 6-credit English in the Discipline course, ii) 12 credits in the Common Core Curriculum in two different Areas of Inquiry, iii) two 3-credit courses in artificial intelligence literacy, and iv) a non-credit-bearing course in national education and national security education (UGRE1001).

*Students who obtained the following qualifications will be granted exemption from the non-credit bearing Academic Communication in English course (CAES1001). Those who did not meet the following qualifications (or equivalent) are required to take CAES1001 in Year III.

- *achieved **Level 3** or above in the English Language paper in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE)*
- *achieved an overall **IELTS** score of no less than 6.5*
- *achieved an overall **TOEFL Internet-based** test score of no less than 93*

Academic Advising

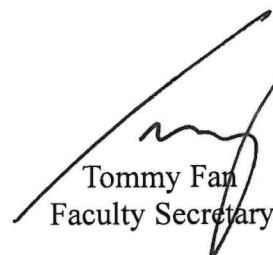
Students will each have a Faculty Academic Adviser (FAA) and a Faculty Student Adviser (FSA) to assist them in adjusting to the university studies as well as the registration and course enrolment process. You are required to sign up for your FAA and FSA **from 2:00pm, August 10, 2026 to 10:00am, August 18, 2026** at <https://ugaa.hku.hk/signup-faa.php>. If you do not sign up by August 18, 2026, the System will randomly assign one FAA and FSA to you. All students are strongly encouraged to meet with their assigned FAA and FSA at least once per semester during the first year to discuss various academic issues and learning experiences.

Information Technology Services Guide

For details of the services provided by the Information Technology Services, please refer to <https://www.its.hku.hk/>.

Enquiries

If you have any questions concerning the degree regulations, your choice of courses or any aspect of University life, you are welcome to contact the Faculty Office either by email at socscug@hku.hk, or by telephone at 3917 1212. The Faculty Office is pleased to assist you in anyway whenever possible.



Tommy Fan
Faculty Secretary

TF/YH/el
July 2026