Applications for Research and Taught

Postgraduate Programmes

September 2027 Intake

Application Deadlines

Research Postgraduate Programmes

Application starts in September

Main Round – Ph.D. (also for HKPFS), Ph.D. Computational Social Science Concentration & M.Phil. ..... 1 December 2026

Clearing Round – Ph.D. (NOT via HKPFS) & M.Phil. ..... 31 March 2027

- *Students are strongly encouraged to apply by 1 December 2026. Students can still apply until 31 March 2027 but applications will only be considered subject to availability of places.*

Taught Postgraduate Programmes (Except M.Sc. in Artificial Intelligence and Communication)

Application starts in September

Priority Round ..... 7 December 2026

Final Round ..... 18 January 2027

Taught Postgraduate Programme (M.Sc. in Artificial Intelligence and Communication)*

Application Deadline ..... 31 March 2027

**The programme has been approved by the University and the application system will open soon.*

Submit an **online application**:

http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/page/ApplicationforAdmission

Subscribe our **YouTube** Channel:

http://www.youtube.com/user/CUHKJLMCOM

Follow our **Facebook** page:

http://www.facebook.com/cuhkcom

Follow our **LinkedIn** page:

https://www.linkedin.com/company/cuhkjlm/

Follow our **IG**:

https://www.instagram.com/cuhkjlm

Frequently Asked Questions

Please click on the question(s) for answer(s)

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About our Programmes

What are the programmes about?

ALL applicants are reminded to read the School's website (http://pg.com.cuhk.edu.hk) and the University's Graduate School's website (http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk) carefully before submitting an application.

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Research Postgraduate Programmes:

Ph.D. in Communication:
https://rpg.com.cuhk.edu.hk/ph-d-in-communication/

M.Phil. in Communication:
https://rpg.com.cuhk.edu.hk/m-phil-in-communication/

Ph.D. in Communication – Computational Social Science (CSS) Concentration:
https://rpg.com.cuhk.edu.hk/ph-d-in-communication-computational-social-science-css-concertration/

Taught Postgraduate Programmes:

M.A. in Global Communication:
http://pg.com.cuhk.edu.hk/pgp_global/

M.A. in Journalism:
http://pg.com.cuhk.edu.hk/pgp_ma/

M.Sc. in Artificial Intelligence and Communication:
https://aicomm.com.cuhk.edu.hk/

M.Sc. in New Media:
http://pg.com.cuhk.edu.hk/pgp_nm/

M.S.Sc. in Advertising:
http://pg.com.cuhk.edu.hk/pgp_adv/

M.S.Sc. in Corporate Communication:
https://corpcom.com.cuhk.edu.hk/

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Can I apply if I do not know any Chinese or Cantonese?

Ph.D. or M.Phil. in Communication (incl. Ph.D. in Communication CSS Concentration)

Understanding of Chinese or Cantonese is not essential.

M.A. in Global Communication, M.Sc. in Artificial Intelligence and Communication, M.Sc. in New Media and M.S.Sc. in Advertising

Applications from both Chinese and non-Chinese students are welcomed. All required courses and majority of elective courses of these programmes are taught in English. A few elective courses are taught in Cantonese or Putonghua.

M.A. in Journalism

All required courses except the Chinese News Writing and Reporting classes are taught in English, whereas elective courses are taught in English, Putonghua or Cantonese. Understanding of spoken Cantonese would be preferred and could broaden the choices of electives. For students who want to take the Chinese News Writing and Reporting classes, understanding of Chinese in either Cantonese or Putonghua is required.

M.S.Sc. in Corporate Communication

Applications from both Chinese and non-Chinese students are welcome. Required courses of the programme are accessible to both English and Chinese speakers. There will also be enough elective courses for English and Chinese speakers to choose.

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What is the difference between Research Postgraduate and Taught Postgraduate Programmes?

The CUHK's research programmes focus mainly on research work and require applicants to have a sound research background. Students need to take qualifying examinations (for PhD programme) and go through thesis examination (including an oral defense) in addition to coursework. Taught programmes, in contrast, focus on coursework. These programmes generally do not require students to submit a thesis.

Our research postgraduate programmes have more veteran professors who excel in scholarly studies, while our taught postgraduate programmes have more part-time teachers with abundant working experience in the industry. Their suitability to you depends on your interests and career goals.

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What is the Admission Requirement of our programmes?

Basic Entry Requirement to the Graduate Studies in The Chinese University of Hong Kong**:**

http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/admissions/requirements

Ph.D. in Communication

In addition to the general requirements of the Graduate School, applicants should possess a Master's degree in communication/ media studies or in a related field of humanities and social science from a recognized research university.

All applicants MUST have a minimum TOEFL* score of 92 of 120 / 5 of 6 (internet-based/Home Edition), or a minimum IELTS* (Academic) score of 7 (Test Centre based/Online), unless they possess a pass grade in English in one of the following examinations: H.K. Advanced Level Examination (including AS Level), H.K. Higher Level Examination, CUHK Matriculation Examination, General Certificate of Education Examination Advanced Level (GCE A Level) / Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS Level) or have a degree from a university in Hong Kong or taken a degree programme of which the medium of instruction was English, or achieve level 4 or above in the English subject of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) examination.

* TOEFL and IELTS scores are considered valid for two years from the test date.

Ph.D. in Communication - Computational Social Science (CSS) Concentration

Applicants who would like to study in the Computational Social Science (CSS) Concentration under the Ph.D. in Communication programme should apply before commencing their studies at CUHK. For details, please visit CSS Lab website at https://cssl.socsc.cuhk.edu.hk/aboutus/fellowship_scheme/.

M.Phil. in Communication

Please refer to the general qualifications of the Graduate School. Applicants from any discipline may apply. Preference will be given to applicants with a solid background in social science and well-developed research interest in communication and media studies.

All applicants MUST have a minimum TOEFL* score of 92 of 120 / 5 of 6 (internet-based/Home Edition), or a minimum IELTS* (Academic) score of 7 (Test Centre based/Online), unless they possess a pass grade in English in one of the following examinations: H.K. Advanced Level Examination (including AS Level), H.K. Higher Level Examination, CUHK Matriculation Examination, General Certificate of Education Examination Advanced Level (GCE A Level) / Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS Level) or have a degree from a university in Hong Kong or taken a degree programme of which the medium of instruction was English, or achieve level 4 or above in the English subject of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) examination.

* TOEFL and IELTS scores are considered valid for two years from the test date.

M.A. in Global Communication / M.Sc. in Artificial Intelligence and Communication

In addition to the general admission requirements of the Graduate School, applicants of any discipline may apply.

All applicants MUST have a minimum TOEFL score of 92 of 120 / 5 of 6 (internet-based/Home Edition), or a minimum IELTS* (Academic) score of 7 (Test Centre based/Online), unless they possess a pass grade in English in one of the following examinations: H.K. Advanced Level Examination (including AS Level), H.K. Higher Level Examination, CUHK Matriculation Examination, General Certificate of Education Examination (GCE) Advanced Level (A-Level)/ Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS-Level) or have a degree from a university in Hong Kong or taken a degree programme of which the medium of instruction was English, or achieve level 4 or above in the English subject of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) examination.

* TOEFL and IELTS scores are considered valid for two years from the test date.

M.A. in Journalism / M.Sc. in New Media / M.S.Sc. in Advertising / M.S.Sc. in Corporate Communication

In addition to the general admission requirements of the Graduate School, applicants of any discipline may apply.

All applicants MUST have a minimum TOEFL score of 79 of 120 / 4.5 of 6 (internet-based/Home Edition), or a minimum IELTS* (Academic) score of 6.5 (Test Centre based/Online), unless they possess a pass grade in English in one of the following examinations: H.K. Advanced Level Examination (including AS Level), H.K. Higher Level Examination, CUHK Matriculation Examination, General Certificate of Education Examination (GCE) Advanced Level (A-Level)/ Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS-Level) or have a degree from a university in Hong Kong or taken a degree programme of which the medium of instruction was English, or achieve level 4 or above in the English subject of the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) examination.

* TOEFL and IELTS scores are considered valid for two years from the test date.

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Is any course exemption allowed if I have taken an undergraduate course similar to a listed course in your programme?

Students who have taken research methods course in Social Science or related disciplines may apply for course exemption of COMM5520 Applied Communication Research or COMM5310 Statistical Analysis in Communication from the Division Head. If the application has been approved, students will be required to take another course to fulfill the unit requirement for graduation.

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Is there any studentship, scholarship or financial aids? How do I apply?

For **research postgraduate programmes**, full-time students will generally receive postgraduate studentships during the normative period of study, and no separate application is required.

For **taught postgraduate programmes**, a small amount of academic merit scholarship will be given to students in the 2nd semester with outstanding academic performance. No separate application is required. And successful local applicants to the M.A. in Journalism programme are eligible to apply for the Scholarship for Hong Kong Practicing Journalists. There will be a maximum of three awards annually. The amount of each award will be HK$80,000.

In addition, five Internationalization Scholarships will be offered to select international students with outstanding academic performance to join the research / taught postgraduate programmes of the School. The amount of each award will be HK$80,000.

The recipients of the scholarship must fulfill the following criteria:

(i) applied for admission to one of the postgraduate programme(s) of the School of Journalism and Communication;

(ii) are international students who are able to add significantly to the international flavor and diversity of the student body;

(iii) demonstrate excellent academic performance and potential;

(iv) submitted their full applications by the designated deadline and are successfully admitted to the School.

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Are all successful applicants guaranteed a room to live on campus?

For full-time **research postgraduate students**, on-campus postgraduate halls are available for application. Applications for accommodation submitted before the Postgraduate Hall application deadline will generally be offered a place. Since demand may be greater than the total number of hostel places, accommodation is considered on a yearly basis and there is no guarantee of accommodation, while top priority will be given to incoming first-year students.

For **taught postgraduate students**, in view of the current shortage in hostel places, the University does **NOT** offer on-campus accommodation to these students. Non-local students of taught postgraduate programmes are responsible for making their own housing arrangements in Hong Kong.

The University has an Off-campus Housing Information Service (校外住宿資訊服務) (https://lces.osa.cuhk.edu.hk/non-local-students-support/on-and-off-campus-accommodation/#off-campus) which will provide incoming students with advice and guidelines on rental accommodation. **Non-local students are strongly reminded NOT to pay any deposits to any landlords before their admission to the School is confirmed.**

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Will the programmes offer internship opportunities?

Internship experience is not a graduation requirement for our programmes. Some of our taught postgraduate programmes do arrange internships for students, but internship opportunities are not guaranteed and do not carry any credits.

Non-local students who wish to take internships or part-time on-campus employments should pay attention to the visa regulations implemented by the Hong Kong Immigration Department, the Graduate School's Code of Practice and the School's regulations as announced in the orientation programme every year. According to the University Regulations, all full-time students are not allowed to take up any full-time employment, paid or unpaid, during term time.

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Will any of the classes be conducted off CUHK campus?

Classes will be conducted on CUHK campus only.

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How many terms are there in one academic year?

There are two terms in each academic year. Term 1: September to early-December; Term 2: January to April.

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What is the degree conferment arrangement?

Under the University's arrangement to decouple degree conferment from the Congregation, degrees are conferred on eligible students once they have fulfilled all graduation requirements and obtained Senate approval. Degree conferment takes place on three designated dates each year: 31 March, 31 July, and 15 October.

While students should graduate on the **nearest conferment date upon fulfilling graduation requirements** and receiving Senate approval. Graduation certificates will bear the corresponding degree conferment date.

Students of **taught postgraduate programmes** may apply for a one-time change to a later degree conferment date within the same calendar year: (i) from 31 March to 31 July or 15 October; or (ii) from 31 July to 15 October. For degrees conferred on 15 October, students can further choose between 15 October or 15 November for their certificate date. The application is irrevocable, and no further changes to the degree conferment date or certificate date will be allowed after submission. An administrative fee will be charged for each application, regardless of whether it is approved.

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Submitting an Application

How to submit an online application?

All applications have to be submitted via the Graduate School's website: http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk

The application fee for admission is HK$500 for each programme.

Application starts in September, except for M.Sc. in Artificial Intelligence and Communication. The programme has been approved by the University and the application system will open soon.

Applications for the Ph.D. programme must be submitted through the **Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme**. (Deadline: **12noon, 1 December 2026**).

Please be careful to choose the right programme you wish to apply for. The Programme applied **CANNOT** be changed once an application is submitted via the online submission system of the University.

For details on online application and document upload, please refer to the instructions on the Graduate School's website.

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Will it help if I submit my application earlier?

Yes. The applications are processed on rolling basis starting from October for taught postgraduate programmes (except M.Sc. in Artificial Intelligence and Communication which is expected to start in January) and November for research postgraduate programmes. **Early applications are strongly encouraged.**

Review of Ph.D. and M.Phil. applications will start in November. Incomplete applications will NOT be considered. Applications received after 1 December will NOT be considered in the main round of admission. **Early applications are strongly encouraged.**

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Can I apply for more than one programme? Will it affect my chance of success?

You are required to submit **separate applications** if you wish to make multiple applications for different programmes of our School. Please also note that multiple application fees should be paid.

Your chance of success will not be affected.

The School will consider any multiple applications based on the applicants' quality and their indicated priorities of interests. According to the School's policy, applicants will be given only **ONE** admission offer if they are eligible. Applicant is not allowed to switch to another programme once his/her admission offer is accepted.

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Do you accept e-mail applications?

No e-mail submissions will be considered. You must submit your applications and upload all supporting documents online via the University's Graduate School's website and send the required supporting documents to the School **by post** before the respective application deadlines.

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Does it help if I send my portfolio to the School in addition to those documents submitted through the University's application system?

No. You are encouraged to upload all relevant documents to the online application system. Only the **required supporting documents** should be sent to the School by post before the respective application deadlines. Please refer to the Checklist for Research Postgraduate Programmes / Taught Postgraduate Programmes.

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What is a research proposal, in Chinese or in English? How long should I write? (For Research Postgraduate Programmes only)

A research proposal outlining areas of interest, goals and plans has to be submitted. It should be long enough to demonstrate a good understanding of relevant theories and a feasible research plan with methodological appropriateness. The research proposal needs to be written in English.

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What is a personal statement, a study plan, in Chinese or in English? How long should I write? (For Taught Postgraduate Programmes only)

M.Sc. in New Media /M.S.Sc. in Corporate Communication

A statement of purpose articulating the relevance of their study plans to their career objectives and professional interests has to be submitted. The statement needs to be written in English, normally around one to two pages of text.

For personal statement and cv, please upload them to the online application system, under the section of 'Upload Supporting Documents - Document Type: Others'.

M.A. in Global Communication

Applicants should submit a 500-word English statement addressing the following: Identify one or many Sustainable Development Goals that you see as areas where you would want to create change. Explain how the stream that you are applying for - 1. Challenges of Global Futures / 2. Making and Measuring Impact - would help you in creating change as a future Global Communications expert. The statement must conclude with personal or professional examples and experiences that can support this or an imaginative proposal of things that you would like to see change. For personal statement and cv, please upload them to the online application system, under the section of 'Upload Supporting Documents - Document Type: Others'.

M.A. in Journalism

Applicants should submit a 500-words English statement, detailing your media diet and your strategies on how to get accurate and quality information. For personal statement and cv, please upload them to the online application system, under the section of 'Upload Supporting Documents - Document Type: Others'.

M.Sc. in Artificial Intelligence and Communication

Applicants are required to submit a 500-word English critical reflection statement based on their personal, academic, or professional experience. Describe a specific encounter or experience where you engaged with an AI system that made you pause

and think critically. Drawing from this experience: Explain what happened and why it was significant to you; Identify key questions or concerns it raised about AI and communication; Reflect on how you responded to or managed these challenges; Discuss how this experience has shaped your perspective on your future role as a communication professional in an AI-driven world; Explain how the MSc in Artificial Intelligence and Communication will help you further explore or address these questions. In addition, the statement must draw on concrete personal, academic, or professional experience. Applicants should disclose any AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT or similar systems) used in preparing their statement. For personal statement and cv, please upload them to the online application system, under the section of 'Upload Supporting Documents - Document Type: Others'.

M.S.Sc. in Advertising

Applicants are required to submit a 500-word English statement addressing the following: What is your imagination of the future advertising world? Also, identify one task in your advertising career that you would gladly hand over to AI, and one that you would protect as exclusively human. Essays largely written by AI and featuring generic clichés about the future of AI will receive low evaluations. We want to hear your unique voice and authentic perspective. Show us how you think, not how an LLM writes. For personal statement and cv, please upload them to the online application system, under the section of 'Upload Supporting Documents - Document Type: Others'.

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What makes my application a strong case?

Admission to our School is highly competitive. You need to have a good academic standing and meet the English proficiency requirement in order to be successful. Reference letters, work experience and motivation will also be considered. For application to research postgraduate programmes, a well-written research proposal is also essential.

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Do I need to possess a media-related degree? How many students will you take in this year?

We welcome students of all disciplines to apply, except for applicants of Ph.D. programme who should possess a Master's degree in communication/media studies or in a related field of humanities and social science. The admission rate varies across programmes and years depending on applicants' quality for example.

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If my TOEFL or IELTS score does not meet the requirement of the programme, could I use other means to demonstrate my English proficiency? Can the CET conducted by universities in China be used to substitute TOEFL or IELTS? Can I submit the TOEFL or IELTS scores later?

We accept **ONLY** TOEFL or IELTS score as a proof of English proficiency for applicants without a degree from a university in Hong Kong or taken a degree programme of which the medium of instruction was English. Other means are not accepted. The TOEFL/IELTS score must be valid at the time of application and fulfilling admission offer of our programme (TOEFL/IELTS scores are considered valid for two years from the test date). All TOEFL or IELTS score reports must reach our office before the application deadlines. If the original score report issued by the test centre is not yet available before the deadline, applicants may first send us a photocopy of the score report before the deadlines and submit the original score report later as soon as possible.

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Checklist for your application (for Research Postgraduate Programmes including Ph.D. CSS Concentration)

1. **Submit online application:** www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/admissions
2. **Upload all necessary documents:** https://www.gradsch.cuhk.edu.hk/OnlineApp/login_email.aspx
3. **Mail the supporting documents***:**

Courier Address

Division of Communication, School of Journalism and Communication
205-207, Humanities Building, New Asia College, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong
Attn.: Prof. Michael Chan
Head, Division of Communication
(**Ref.:** Application No. & Programme name)
Tel: (852) 3943 7680

IMPORTANT POINTS TO NOTE

1. Separate applications and materials have to be submitted and mailed for different programmes.
2. Please always **quote your application number and programme name** on the envelope.
3. **NO** changes in the programmes applied for will be allowed. Please be careful when you choose the programme you are applying. The application fees cannot be refunded under any circumstances.
4. **All the above-mentioned steps have to be completed by the deadline (i.e., 1 December 2026, main round deadline for 2027 intake).**

*****Supporting documents to the Programme** Documents (e.g. certificates, transcripts, grading scheme etc.) **which are not in English or Chinese** should be accompanied by an **official certified translation in either English or Chinese.**

☐ **Official transcript** with a complete record of all courses attended and examination results of all tertiary level studies.

- Non-CUHK qualifications: **Photocopies will NOT be accepted**. The official transcripts should bear registrar's signature and stamp of Registry. Transcripts should be returned **directly** to our division in sealed envelope. Applicants can download the "Transcript Submission Covering Sheet" (optional) from the online application system and send it to their universities to apply for **official transcripts.** Some universities may only issue electronic official transcripts to other institutions. In that event, official electronic transcripts should be emailed to our Division account (com_pg@cuhk.edu.hk) directly from the issuing university.
- CUHK qualifications (Bachelor's or higher degrees): Photocopies of **transcripts** issued by CUHK are accepted (not applicable to CUHK *(Shenzhen)* qualifications), and **Academic Reports will NOT be accepted**. Applicants should first download the "Transcript Submission Covering Sheet" and attach it to the transcript copy. Please return the transcript copy to our division (i.e. Division of Communication) directly. CUHK students with other qualifications not awarded by CUHK are required to follow the requirement listed in "Non-CUHK qualifications". The University reserves the right to require applicants to submit the original transcript if deemed necessary.

☐ **Grading scheme** There should be explanatory notes [Note 1] printed/ appended to transcript indicating the grading scheme of the University. If no such notes, official grading scheme issued by the Registry is needed.

Note 1: The Grading Scheme should state the mark range for each grade (e.g. Grade A is for marks ranged from 90 to 100, Grade A- is from 85 to 89) OR GPA range for each grade (e.g. Grade A is for marks ranged from 3.70 to 4.00, Grade A- is from 3.30 to 3.69).

☐ **Exchange transcript(s)**, if any.

- With a complete record of all courses attended and examination results of all studies during the exchange period.
- The official exchange transcripts should bear registrar's signature and stamp of Registry.

☐ **Copies of certificates** of academic/professional qualifications (e.g. certificate of graduation, examination certificates and other qualifications)

- Applicants who obtained degrees from universities in Mainland China are required to provide a valid Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate (教育部學歷證書電子註冊備案表) and a valid Online Verification Report of Higher Education Degree Certificate (中國高等教育學位在線驗證報告) issued by the CHESICC (學信網).
- For final–year students, you need to submit your up-to-date official transcript first. If you are being admitted, you will be required to submit an official final transcript and a copy of your undergraduate degree certificate before the admission date.

☐ **Confidential recommendations** from three referees

- Input three referees' information in the section "My referee(s)" through the "Online System for Applicants of Postgraduate Programmes" of Graduate School after settling the application fee; **OR**
- Download three "Confidential Recommendation" / "Referee's Report" and send one to each of your referees. Hard copies of Confidential Recommendations must reach our division directly from the referees, or in sealed envelopes and sent by the applicant with other supporting documents to our division.
- Referees need to submit their recommendations by the same application deadline (i.e., 1 December 2026, main round deadline for 2027 intake).

☐ **One** of the following **score reports/certificates**, showing that you have fulfilled the Graduate School's **English Language Proficiency Requirement:**

- Copy of the certificates, showing that you obtained a pass in English of HKALE (including HKAS), or HKHLE, or CUHK Matriculation Exam, or GCE A-Level/ AS-Level; or Level 4 of DSE; OR
- Copy of the certificates, showing that you obtained a degree from a university in Hong Kong or taken a degree programme of which the medium of instruction was English; OR
- **Original copy** of valid official score report [Note 2] of TOEFL [Note 3], or IELTS (Academic) [Note 4] which sent directly from the test organization to our division. Photocopies/student copy can be provided for selection committee's reference first.

Note 2: The TOEFL/IELTS score must be valid at the time of application and fulfilled admission offer of our programme. TOEFL/IELTS score are considered valid for two years from the test date.

Note 3: Only original valid official score report of TOEFL which sent directly from the test organization to the University will be accepted. Original examinee's score report will not be accepted ((Institution code: 0812; Department code: 83 or 99)

Note 4: Only original valid official score report of IELTS which sent directly from the test organization to Division of Communication will be accepted. Please fill in the contact information of Division of Communication on the IELTS Application Form. (No postal code is required for Hong Kong)

☐ A photocopy of your **HKID card or your Passport** or other identity document [Note 5]

- The identity document as given in your Online Application Form is needed.

Note 5: For PRC citizens, Exit-entry Permit for Traveling to and from Hong Kong and Macao «往來港澳通行證» is not accepted.

☐ **Research proposal** please refer to FAQ for details.

☐ **Master's Thesis**, if any *(Only for PhD applicants)*

☐ **CV** (including the links to publications, academic scholarships and awards, if any)

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Checklist for your application (for Taught Postgraduate Programmes)

1. **Submit online application:** www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/admissions
2. **Upload all necessary documents**: https://www.gradsch.cuhk.edu.hk/OnlineApp/login_email.aspx
3. **Mail the supporting documents***:**

Courier Address

Division of Communication, School of Journalism and Communication
205-207, Humanities Building, New Asia College, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong
Attn.: Prof. Michael Chan
Head, Division of Communication
(Ref.: Application No. & Programme name**)**
Tel: (852) 3943 7680

IMPORTANT POINTS TO NOTE

1. Separate applications and materials have to be submitted and mailed for different programmes.
2. Please always **quote your application number and programme name** on the envelope.
3. **NO** changes in the programmes applied for will be allowed. Please be careful when you choose the programme you are applying. The application fees cannot be refunded under any circumstances.

*****Supporting documents to the Programme** Documents (e.g. certificates, transcripts, grading scheme etc.) **which are not in English or Chinese** should be accompanied by an **official certified translation in either English or Chinese.**

☐ **Official transcript** with a complete record of all courses attended and examination results of all tertiary level studies.

- Non-CUHK qualifications: **Photocopies will NOT be accepted**. The official transcripts should bear registrar's signature and stamp of Registry. Transcripts should be returned **directly** to our division in sealed envelope. Applicants can download the "Transcript Submission Covering Sheet" (optional) from the online application system and send it to their universities to apply for **official transcripts.** Some universities may only issue electronic official transcripts to other institutions. In that event, official electronic transcripts should be emailed to our Division account (com_pg@cuhk.edu.hk) directly from the issuing university.
- CUHK qualifications (Bachelor's or higher degrees): Photocopies of **transcripts** issued by CUHK are accepted (not applicable to CUHK *(Shenzhen)* qualifications), and **Academic Reports will NOT be accepted**. Applicants should first download the "Transcript Submission Covering Sheet" and attach it to the transcript copy. Please return the transcript copy to our division (i.e. Division of Communication) directly. CUHK students with other qualifications not awarded by CUHK are required to follow the requirement listed in "Non-CUHK qualifications". The University reserves the right to require applicants to submit the original transcript if deemed necessary.

☐ **Grading scheme** There should be explanatory notes [Note 1] printed/ appended to transcript indicating the grading scheme of the University. If no such notes, official grading scheme issued by the Registry is needed.

Note 1: The Grading Scheme should state the mark range for each grade (e.g. Grade A is for marks ranged from 90 to 100, Grade A- is from 85 to 89) OR GPA range for each grade (e.g. Grade A is for marks ranged from 3.70 to 4.00, Grade A- is from 3.30 to 3.69).

☐ **Exchange transcript(s)**, if any. With a complete record of all courses attended and examination results of all studies during the exchange period. The official exchange transcripts should bear registrar's signature and stamp of Registry.

☐ **Copies of certificates** of academic/professional qualifications (e.g.certificate of graduation, examination certificates and other qualifications)

- Applicants who obtained degrees from universities in Mainland China are required to provide a valid Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate (教育部學歷證書電子註冊備案表) and a valid Online Verification Report of Higher Education Degree Certificate (中國高等教育學位在線驗證報告) issued by the CHESICC (學信網).
- For final–year students, you need to submit your up-to-date official transcript first. If you are being admitted, you will be required to submit an official final transcript and a copy of your undergraduate degree certificate before the admission date.

☐ **Confidential recommendations** from two referees

- Input two referees' information in the section "My referee(s)" through the "Online System for Applicants of Postgraduate Programmes" of Graduate School after settling the application fee; **OR**
- Download two "Confidential Recommendation" / "Referee's Report" and send one to each of your referees. Hard copies of Confidential Recommendations must reach our division directly from the referees, or in sealed envelopes and sent by the applicant.

☐ **One** of the following **score reports/certificates**, showing that you have fulfilled the Graduate School's **English Language Proficiency Requirement:**

- Copy of the certificates, showing that you obtained a pass in English of HKALE (including HKAS), or HKHLE, or CUHK Matriculation Exam, or GCE A-Level/ AS-Level; or Level 4 of DSE; OR
- Copy of the certificates, showing that you obtained a degree from a university in Hong Kong or taken a degree programme of which the medium of instruction was English; OR
- **Original copy** of valid official score report [Note 2] of TOEFL [Note 3], or IELTS (Academic) [Note 4] which sent directly from the test organization to our division. Photocopies/student copy can be provided for selection committee's reference first.

Note 2: The TOEFL/IELTS score must be valid at the time of application and fulfilled admission offer of our programme. TOEFL/IELTS score are considered valid for two years from the test date.

Note 3: Only original valid official score report of TOEFL which sent directly from the test organization to the University will be accepted. Original examinee's score report will not be accepted ((Institution code: 0812; Department code: 83 or 99)

Note 4: Only original valid official score report of IELTS which sent directly from the test organization to Division of Communication will be accepted. Please fill in the contact information of Division of Communication on the IELTS Application Form. (No postal code is required for Hong Kong)

☐ A photocopy of your **HKID card or your Passport** or other identity document [Note 5]

- The identity document as given in your Online Application Form is needed.

Note 5: For PRC citizens, Exit-entry Permit for Traveling to and from Hong Kong and Macao «往來港澳通行證» is not accepted.

☐ **Personal Statement / Study Plan** (in English, please refer to FAQ for details.)

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How can I submit the recommendation letters? Can I change the referee information after application is submitted online?

You can input the referees' information in the section "My referee(s)" through the "Online System for Applicants of Postgraduate Programmes" of Graduate School after settling the application fee; OR download the "Confidential Recommendation" / "Referee's Report" and send one to each of your referees. Hard copies of Confidential Recommendations must reach our division directly from the referees, or in sealed envelopes sent by the applicant with other supporting documents to our division.

If you have problems with the online reference letter system or you have submitted the wrong referee information on the system, **please ask your referees to send us a hardcopy of the reference letter by post.**

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After Submitting an Application

When will the application results be announced?

For research postgraduate programmes, successful applicants will be notified via email from December 2026 to June 2027.

For taught postgraduate programmes, application results will be announced in several rounds from November 2026 to June 2027. Successful applicants will be notified in writing as soon as the selection process is completed. Applicants can login the Graduate School's "Online Application System for Postgraduate Programmes" to check their status (via "view application result"). Applicants may consider their applications unsuccessful if they do not hear from us thereafter.

E-mail or telephone enquiries on the application status will NOT be processed.

Frequent enquiry on individual admission cases, admission progress and results will SLOW DOWN the selection process.

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Can I change the programme I have applied for after an application is submitted online?

NO. An application cannot be changed once it is submitted online. Please submit another application if you wish to apply for more than one programme.

Separate applications and materials have to be submitted and mailed for different programmes.

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How do I know whether the School has received my official transcripts, my TOEFL or IELTS score report, or my recommendation letters?

If you send your materials by courier, you may check the delivery status with the courier directly.

Due to a large number of applications we receive, enquiries regarding receipt of documents will **NOT** be processed. Instead, we will actively contact the applicants for any missing or further documents if necessary. In any case, your application would NOT be disqualified if document is submitted within one week after we ask you for supporting documents.

To ensure all your supporting documents are received, you are strongly encouraged to upload full set of valid materials via the online application system.

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Will there be any interview?

For research postgraduate programmes, Zoom interviews will be conducted for shortlisted candidates.

M.A. in Global Communication / M.Sc. in Artificial Intelligence and Communication

Zoom interviews will be conducted for shortlisted candidates.

M.A. in Journalism / M.Sc. in New Media / M.S.Sc. in Advertising / M.S.Sc. in Corporate Communication

A telephone or virtual interview may be conducted only if necessary. NOT every applicant will receive an interview.

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Will it help if I send an e-mail to professors or teachers of the School?

In order to maintain a fair admission procedure, our teachers will NOT comment on the performance of any potential candidate. **ALL e-mails in relation to application potentials sent to teachers of our School will NOT be processed.**

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If I apply for more than one programme, how will the School consider my applications?

After considering your application materials, the School will send you an e-mail asking for your priorities of interests only if necessary. NOT every applicant will receive this e-mail.

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I got an offer from another Programme or University. What should I do?

Successful applicants will be notified in writing as soon as the selection process is completed. The School does NOT answer any enquiries about individual results. The results will NOT be announced earlier to meet individual applicant's request. Please decide yourself whether you will accept the offer from another Programme/University or not. Students cannot change his/her programme once they accepted the offer of admission.

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After Application Result is Announced

If I receive the admission letter from one of the programmes, does it mean that my application(s) for other taught postgraduate programmes offered by the School is/are unsuccessful?

YES. Each applicant will receive only **ONE** offer from the taught postgraduate programmes of the School.

For students who have applied for the M.Phil. in Communication, your acceptance to a taught programme can be transferred if you are later admitted to the M.Phil. in Communication programme. However, please note that such transfer only applies to the M.Phil. in Communication programme, and does NOT apply to transferring to other taught programmes within the University or within the School.

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If my classmate has received an offer but I have not, does it mean that my application is unsuccessful?

NO. **There may be several rounds of selection and the process may span over several months (normally from November to June for taught postgraduate programmes and from December to June for research postgraduate programmes).** Successful applicants will be notified in writing as soon as the selection process is completed. Applicants can check their status on the Graduate School's website. Applicants should consider their applications unsuccessful if they do not hear from us by June 2027.

Instead, frequent enquiry on individual admission cases, admission progress and results will slow down the whole selection process. E-mail or telephone enquiries on the application status will NOT be processed.

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When will I need to pay the deposit?

For **research postgraduate programmes**, you will have to pay a deposit by the deadline set by the Graduate School and pay the remaining amount in August. The exact payment amount and due date can be found in your admission letter. The payment and offer acceptance deadline **CANNOT** be extended under any circumstances.

For **taught postgraduate programmes**, you will have to pay the deposit two weeks after the admission offer is sent to you by the Graduate School. The exact payment amount and due date can be found in your admission letter. Applicants are required to indicate acceptance of admission offer online and pay the deposit by the payment due date. The deposit payment due date **CANNOT** be delayed under any circumstances.

According to the University's policy, all the above deposits paid **CANNOT** be refunded.

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If I applied through the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS) and received an admission offer to the Ph.D. programme, does that mean my tuition fee will be waived under the scheme?

No, receiving an admission offer to the Ph.D. programme does not necessarily mean you have received the HKPFS award. Students who are offered a Ph.D. place without the HKPFS award will have to pay the tuition fee.

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Can I apply for a refund of deposit?

According to the University's policy, the deposit paid **CANNOT** be refunded.

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Can I change to another programme after accepting an offer?

NO. Each applicant will only receive **ONE** offer from a taught postgraduate programme from the School.

For students who have applied for the M.Phil. in Communication, your acceptance to the taught programme can be transferred if you are later admitted to the M.Phil. in Communication programme. However, please note that such transfer only applies to the M.Phil. in Communication programme, but does NOT apply to transferring to other taught programmes within the University or within the School.

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What do I need to do after receiving an offer?

Please follow the "Registration Steps" as per the Graduate School website: http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/register

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End