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1. Regulations for Conference and Research Grants and Editing Fee Support

Students can apply for university grant and school grant together for the same conference, but the amount spent on one specific item (e.g. air ticket) CANNOT be split between the two applications; in other words, when one wants to apply for the two grants at the same time for the same conference, one needs to decide which item(s) should go into the university grant application and which item(s) should go into the school level grant application.

The University and the School may update the regulations from time to time. Please refer to the latest information announced under GS Platform and via email.

University-level Grants for Overseas Academic Activities and Conferences

The University-level grants for overseas academic activities and conferences aim to provide support for full-time regular research postgraduate students to present papers at academic conferences and conduct academic activities. Please refer to the information provided under GS Platform (Students) at the Graduate School's website before applying. The navigation path is as follows:

Graduate School homepage > GS Platform (Students) > Application Forms > E. Others > 1. CUHK Research Postgraduate Student Grants for Overseas Academic Activities > (a) Notes for Applicants

Highlights of Key Points:

I. Eligibility and Funding Limits

1. Within their normative period of study, full-time research postgraduate students who intend to present papers at academic conferences in Hong Kong/overseas, or conduct academic activities abroad within their normative period of study may apply for reimbursement of expenses up to the following funding limits:

   a) Research Master's Student - HK$10,000 covering the normative study period;
   b) Research Doctoral Student - HK$30,000 covering the normative study period.

2. Continuing students are NOT eligible to apply for the Grants.

3. For academic conferences, only those the Graduate Divisions announced in their respective lists of pre-approved conferences or equivalent will be acceptable. In case a conference is not on the list, the application will be considered subject to the approval of the Department Chairperson/School Director.

   List of pre-approved conferences:

   1) Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA)
   2) Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Annual Conference (AEJMC)
   3) International Association for Media and Communication Research Annual Conference (IAMCR)
   4) Association of Internet Researchers Annual Conference (AoIR)
   5) National Communication Association Annual Convention (NCA)
   6) Association for Cultural Studies Crossroads Conference
   7) Chinese Communication Association Annual Conference (CCA) (中華傳播學會年會)

4. HKPFS awardees may apply for the Grants after they have exhausted the HKPFS annual travel allowance.

II. Coverage

1. Category
   a) Academic Conferences
      - The student should present at least one accepted paper in the conference or equivalent;
      - The student should be the presenting author of an accepted paper in that particular conference; and
      - The student should comply with additional requirements the Graduate Division may prescribe.
   b) Other Academic Activities
      - Activities essential and directly related to the applicants' research (e.g., field trip for collecting data for a thesis, attending workshop/laboratory for acquiring skills) take priority over activities for knowledge enhancement in the general sense such as summer workshops and courses.
      - Academic visits are NOT supported by the Grants.

2. Expenses

The following expenses are possible items to be covered by the Grants, subject to approval:

a) Registration fee (for overseas academic conferences or virtual attendance at overseas academic conferences);

Normally requests for reimbursing membership fee for academic/professional societies would not be entertained, however, if the membership and registration fee combined is lower than the stand-alone registration fee (that is, for non-members), the concerned restriction will be lifted.

It is normally not possible to include meals into the claims save for exceptions such as conference banquets organised by the conference organizer and meals at the hostels/hotels included into the conference/accommodation package charges.

b) The cheapest economy class return air tickets or the equivalent transportation cost between Hong Kong and the city where the conference/activity is held. For the avoidance of doubt, single-trip tickets to and from the designated place will not be accepted as the alternative to a return ticket. The costs of local transportation (that is, intra-transportation costs) are NOT supported by the Grants; and

c) Training fee of (virtual) academic activities conducted for the purpose of knowledge enhancement, such as summer schools/courses, workshops.

d) (Applicable to HKPFS awardees only) Accommodation and Such Out-of-Pocket Expenses incurred from the night before the commencement of the conference to the night immediately after the end of the conference, excluding those days for excursions or sightseeing.

3. Other Financial Support

In case an applicant receives other financial support, the applicant should relinquish the claim of expense of the item(s) in question in order to avoid double benefits and problems with sanctions.

III. Application Procedures

1. Applications should be made before the commencement of the proposed academic activities. **Late application will not be considered.**
2. Application forms are downloadable at the Graduate School website:
   GS Platform (Students) ⇨ Application Forms ⇨ E. Others ⇨ 1. CUHK Research Postgraduate Student Grants for Overseas Academic Activities
3. One application for one conference/activity only. Students who will attend conferences or conduct activities consecutively are required to submit separate applications for each conference/activity.
4. Applicants should submit the duly completed and signed application form together with the required supporting documents to their respective Graduate Divisions in the first place. Missing of any supporting document or incongruent information submitted with the form will take the Divisions to seek clarifications from the applicants and inevitably lead to delay. This is also true for any misalignment problems along the reimbursement route including delays in handling in the original copies of documents to the units for verification at the end of the process.

   Deadline to Division of Communication for Academic Conferences:

   The first working day of the month before the conference takes place (i.e., April 2nd for conferences taking place in May.)

   Deadline to Division of Communication for Other Academic Activities:

Academic Activities held between	**Application Deadline**[#]
1 May – 31 July	31 July
1 August – 31 October	31 October
1 November – 31 January	31 January
1 February – 30 April	30 April

 # Duly completed and signed applications together with a full set of supporting documents should reach the Graduate School Office on or before the application deadline. Applications received after the deadline will be considered in the next batch.

List of supporting documents:

Academic Conferences	Academic Activities
1. Two quotations of economy class return air tickets or the equivalent transportation cost between Hong Kong and the city where the conference/activity is held. 2. Transportation fee payment receipt if available. 3. The registration fee payment receipt/confirmation. 4. The conference pamphlet (computer printouts are acceptable). 5. An abstract of the paper accepted for presentation at the conference; the formal notification (email is acceptable) of such acceptance by the conference organizer. 6. Notification of receiving other financial support for the proposed activities, if any. 7. Letter certifying the satisfactory completion of at least one of the Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) presentation/communication skills workshops organised by the Centre for Learning Enhancement And Research (CLEAR), if any. (Applicants may contact CLEAR at 3943 6201 to obtain a certifying letter.) 8. Additional information required by the applicant's Graduate Division, if any.	1. Two quotations of economy class return air tickets or the equivalent transportation cost between Hong Kong and the city where the activity is held. 2. Transportation fee payment receipt if available. 3. Invitation from the host institution or the host scholar, if applicable. 4. A detailed plan of the proposed activities, including the Master's or Doctoral thesis title and research plan. 5. Notification of receiving other financial support for the proposed activities, if any. 6. The training fee payment receipt/confirmation.

IV. Reimbursement Procedures

Successful applicants should contact the Accounting Operations and Systems Unit of the Finance Office **via the Graduate Division for reimbursement**. Reimbursement will ONLY be made upon receiving the following:

1. A report (not less than 300 words) on the conference or academic activities conducted **within one month** after the activity; and
2. The original receipts of expenses, official receipts, bank statement (only for the particular transaction shown), and boarding pass with the approval letter from the Graduate Division.

V. Other Requirements for Successful Applicants

1. The paper for presentation at the conference should be submitted to the Graduate Division before attending the conference.

2. If the paper is published in the Proceedings, a copy of the relevant pages should also be submitted to the Graduate Division upon publication.
3. The Grants should be mentioned in the acknowledgments of the paper for presentation at the conference, if possible.

VI. Insurance

Students attending approved academic conferences/activities abroad are covered by the University's Group Travel Insurance (GTI). Students are recommended to bring the GTI policy number and the hotline service number as they travel for conference/activity overseas in case of emergency. Students are strongly advised to arrange their own insurance if the coverage of the GTI is deemed inadequate. For details of the GTI coverage, claiming procedures, etc., please browse the website of the Business Unit at https://www.bur.cuhk.edu.hk/insurance/group-travel-2/.

VII. Enquiries

1. Applicants may refer to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the Graduate School website in the first place:
   GS Platform (Students) ⇨ Application Forms ⇨ E. Others ⇨ 1. CUHK Research Postgraduate Student Grants for Overseas Academic Activities
2. If necessary, applicants may send an email to the Graduate School Office at gso-06@cuhk.edu.hk with "Overseas Grants" as the subject line of the message.

Note: In the event of discrepancies between the Student Handbook and the GS website, the GS website shall prevail.

School-level Conference and Research Grants

I. Application Deadline

Students have to submit the application and required documents listed in (V) at least **one month** before attending the conferences or undertaking the related research activities.

II. Eligibility and Funding Limits

1. Conference Grant
   - All RPg students within the normative period of study are eligible to apply for the grant to support conferences taking place within the normative period of study.
   - Each RPg student can apply for **a maximum of HK$13,000 per academic year** to support at most TWO conferences on a reimbursement basis. The annual amount CANNOT be accumulated.
   - Students beyond the normative study period can also apply but approval will be considered only if: 1) the student is making substantial progress on his/her thesis and 2) the paper to be presented at the conference is directly related to his/ her dissertation.
   - Students have to discuss with their supervisors the relevance of the conference to their studies before submitting the application.

2. Research Grant
   - All RPg students within the normative study period are eligible to apply for research grants.
   - Each RPg student can apply for **a maximum of HK$10,000 for the entire normative period of study** on a reimbursement basis.

III. Coverage

1. Conference Grant
   - The grant is designed to support students:
     a. To present paper(s) at recognized and established conferences with high-quality standards;
     b. To participate in academic activities (e.g. summer schools, summer camps, workshops, seminars, conferences, etc.) co-organized or co-sponsored by the School.

- Support for conferences will be based on the following tier system:

Tier	Amount	Submission format of the accepted paper	Authorship
I	$13,000	Full papers submitted to "recognized conferences"	Sole author, first author, or one of the first two RPG students from the School who co-authored full papers
II	$10,000	Extended abstracts, or equivalent*, submitted to "recognized conferences" that require full paper submission# before the conference	
III	$7,000	Extended abstracts, or equivalent*, that do not require full paper submission	All other cases (E.g., third or later author in student-co-authored papers; second or later author for faculty-led papers, etc.)

**"Equivalent" refers to other possible submission formats, such as work-in-progress, research escalator, etc. The Graduate Division's Conference and Research Grant committee will consider exemptions case-by-case.*

 # The full paper should be submitted to the School one week before the start of the conference. Inability to meet the deadline or provide a full paper will result in Tier III reimbursement.

- Items that can be supported by the grant:
  i. registration fee,
  ii. membership fee,
  iii. economy class return airfare,
  iv. conference accommodation.

2. Research Grant
   - Students can use the budget for research-related tasks for a) papers intended for publication (and broadly related to the student's thesis research) and for b) the thesis.
   - It is up to the student to decide whether the whole amount will be used for the thesis or whether parts of it will be used for papers intended for publication as well as for the thesis research. It is suggested to leave some money for the thesis research.
   - Rules on specific expenditure items:

a) In-depth interviews, focus groups, and experiments:
   - The maximum amount to interviewees/participants is HK$70 per head per interview.
   - Receipts from all interviewees/participants are necessary for reimbursement.
   - To use coupons as a token of gratitude for research subjects or participants, signed acknowledgement receipts must be numbered and organized in sequential order to submit together with the Coupon Distribution Reconciliation form. RPg students should bear the responsibility and risks associated with losses resulting from the mismanagement of coupons.

b) Student helpers:
   - Allowed only if student helpers are providing "sheer labour" or working on things that cannot be completed by the student himself/herself according to the logic of research (e.g., inter-coder reliability).
   - For coding work, the standard student helper fee at CUHK is HK$70.35 (i.e., HK$67 per hour plus 5% MPF). The fee can be raised with justifications. The process should be handled through CUHK Student Helper System under CUSIS/CUPIS.

c) Food and drinks:
   - For vulnerable populations, such as the unemployed, refugees, domestic helpers, etc., food and drinks can be provided but should not exceed HK$70 per person.

d) Hardware and equipment:
   - Allowed only if students can justify the necessity of the purchase for the thesis research; case-by-case decision will be made for publications.
   - The hardware and equipment purchased belong to the University. Students should return the items to the School after completion of the related research.
   - Students must check whether the equipment needed is available at the University and the School first.

IV. Required Documents

1. Conference Grant
   a) the completed application form with the supervisor's approval,

b) the invoice/quotation of the proposed expenditure items (for airfare, include a summary table for price comparison with at least two *comparable* quotations offered by different suppliers),
c) the conference pamphlet,
d) full paper(s)/extended abstract(s) accepted for presentation at the conference,
e) the formal notification (e-mail can be accepted) of such acceptance by the conference organiser(s),
f) the submission record of relevant leave application(s), and
g) justifications for special cases, if needed.

2. Research Grant
   a) the completed application form with the supervisor's approval,
   b) a 1000-word proposal of research at the time of application, including the title, research objectives (e.g., theoretical contributions to a particular research field or others), main concepts/theories used (with citations), research questions, a very brief literature overview, and detailed methodology/plan for data collection as well as a brief reference list,
   c) a detailed plan for the proposed activities, including the thesis (or research paper) title and research plan,
   d) a breakdown of the estimated expenditure supported by the invoice/quotation of the expenditure items (for airfare, include a summary table for price comparison with at least two *comparable* quotations offered by different suppliers), and
   e) the submission record of relevant leave application(s), if any.

V. Reimbursement

- Upon approval of the application, students can start to make purchases and conduct related research activities.
- To be eligible for reimbursement claims, a **one-page report** on the conference/research activities should be submitted, together with the original receipts of the expenditure items, **within one month** after attending the conference or undertaking the related research activities.
- **The reimbursement is subject to the approval of the Graduate Division's Conference and Research Grant Committee and the University's Finance Office.** Students may receive "warnings" and suggestions if their proposed expenditure may be regarded as problematic, e.g., a lucky draw for participants in an experiment.

VI. Recommended Practices

- Students should keep all original receipts as far as practicable for reimbursement. For electronic receipts, please sign to confirm them as the only copies for reimbursement.
- To ensure the financial support of the School is used wisely, reasonably, and fairly, students are strongly advised to follow the recommended practices. Justification should be provided for any application that does not fall into the following:

1. Accommodation:
   The conference grant will cover up to half of the conference hotel accommodation fee based on double occupancy; the equivalent amount can be used to support other accommodation bookings if the student decides not to stay in the conference hotel.

2. Travel duration:
   One day or two before and after the conference each way, depending on the destination listed below, can be supported. Students need to provide justification and apply for annual leave for travelling outside the period.

Destination	Period for travelling
Asia, Australia	One day each before and after
North America	One day before and two days after
Europe and others	One day before and two days after or two days before and one day after

3. Flights:
   Students are not expected to stay overnight for sightseeing in the transit cities unless justified when they take flights with intermediate stops.

4. Registration fee:
   For ICA registration, students should register under Tier A as CUHK students are nominally resident in Hong Kong.

Editing Fee Support (Discontinued)

Top-up Conference Grant for Top Paper Awards

A top-up conference grant of HK$2,000 will be provided to students for each top paper award received under the Tier I category (i.e., full paper submission) in recognition of their outstanding achievements.

Students can use the top-up funding for the conference in which the top paper will be presented. If the top paper announcement comes after the conference grant application, the top-up grant can be used for a subsequent conference for a Tier I, Tier II, or Tier III application.

The general guidelines for the conference grant also apply.

2. Renowned Awards and Scholarships Obtained by RPg Students in Recent Years

Year of Award	Program	Student Name	Scholarship Name	Institution	Venue
16/17	PhD	CHOY Hiu Ying	Reaching Out Award, offered by the HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund, for the participation of paper presentation in Communication and Technology Division, International Communication Association (ICA) 2017 Conference	NA	USA
16/17	PhD	SU Chao	Reaching Out Award, offered by the HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund, for the exchange programme	University of Amsterdam	Netherlands
17/18	PhD	LI Xueqing	Global Scholarship Programme for Research Excellence - CNOOC Grants for 2017-18	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	USA
19/20	PhD	LU Miao	Global Scholarship Programme for Research Excellence - CNOOC Grants for 2019-20	University of Ghana	Ghana
19/20	PhD	GABUL Zelalem Jabessa	Belt and Road Scholarship 2019-20	HKSAR	Hong Kong
22/23	PhD	LIU Jindong	Postgraduate Research Output Award 2022	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong
23/24	PhD	LIU Jindong	PhD International Mobility for Partnerships and Collaborations Award for 2023-24	University of Amsterdam	Netherlands
23/24	PhD	HU Yunyi	PhD International Mobility for Partnerships and Collaborations Award for 2023-24	University of Sydney	Australia
23/24	PhD	Dragic Lazar	Belt and Road Scholarship 2023-24	HKSAR	Hong Kong
24/25	PhD	Feng Mengzhe	Reaching Out Award, offered by the HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund, for the exchange programme	University of Amsterdam	Netherlands
24/25	PhD	Mu Haixin	PhD International Mobility for Partnerships and Collaborations Award for 2024-25	Stanford University	USA
24/25	PhD	Wu Biying	Dissertation Research Excellence Award	AEJMC	USA

Year of Award	Program	Student Name	Conference	Award-winning Paper Title	Venue
16/17	PhD	SU Chao	Top Student Paper Award, Communication Technology Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2017 Conference	How Great Can Greater China Be? A Comparative Study of the Consumption of Mobile Apps in the Greater China Area	USA
16/17	PhD	WANG Xiao	Top Student Paper Award (1st place), Taiwan Academy for Information Society (TAIS) 2016 Conference	You Process Content and I Process Context: Cross-platform Divergence of Retweetability between Twitter and Weibo	Taiwan
17/18	PhD	CHOY Hiu Ying (with WU Fang, Shanghai Jiaotong University and CUI Di, Shanghai Fudan University)	Best Paper Award, Post-conference of International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference 2018 and the 8th Global Communication Forum	Frames and framing effects in Chinese online and offline crisis communication: A case study of a celebrity scandal.	Prague
17/18	PhD	JI Yingru (with DONG Chuqing, University of Minnesota Twin Cities)	Third Place Student Paper Award, Public Relations Division, International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference 2018	Connecting Young Adults to Democracy via Government Social Network Sites.	Prague
17/18	PhD	JI Yingru	Top Student Paper Award, Public Relations Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2018 Conference	Moderating Effects of Perceived Government Controllability over Crisis Outcomes and Consumer Collective Efficacy on Responsibility Attribution and Demands for Regulatory Interventions	USA
17/18	PhD	JI Yingru	Third Place Student Paper Award, Public Relations Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2018 Conference	Exploring Publics' Expectations for Crisis Outcomes: A Communication Mediated Psychological Mechanism in Social Media Era	USA
18/19	PhD	CHOY Hiu Ying Christine	Top Poster Award, The Communication and Technology Division, International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference 2019	Networked Public Emotion and Social Affiliation in Times of Administrative Crises: How Social Media Users Related and Discuss Trump's 'Zero Tolerance' Policy	USA
18/19	PhD & MPhil	HU Panfeng & MAK Ka Fai Macau (with CHAN Che Ming Michael)	Top Method Paper Award, The Communication Theory and Methodology Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2019 Conference	Mediation Analysis in Communication Science: Examining the Study of Indirect Effects in Communication Journals between 1996-2017	Canda
18/19	PhD & MPhil	HU Panfeng & MAK Ka Fai Macau (with CHAN Che Ming Michael)	Third-Place Open Competition Paper Award, The Communication Theory and Methodology Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2019 Conference	Mediation Analysis in Communication Science: Examining the Study of Indirect Effects in Communication Journals between 1996-2017	Canada

18/19	PhD	LU Miao	Top Student Paper Award, The 17th Annual Chinese Internet Research Conference (CIRC)	Designed for the Bottom of the Pyramid: Examining a Chinese Phone Company in Africa	Singapore
18/19	MPhil	MAK Ka Fai Macau & ZHANG Jingyi Lynette	Top Student Paper Award (2nd Place) in the James W. Markham Student Paper Competition, The International Communication Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2019 Conference	Social Media Network Heterogeneity and the Moderating Roles of Social Media Political Discussions and Social Trust: Analyzing Attitude and Tolerance towards Chinese Immigrant Women in Hong Kong	Canada
18/19	MPhil	ZHANG Mengqing	Top 2 Student Paper Award, The Mass Communication Division, International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference 2019	Understanding Rumor Retransmission Mechanism on Social Media in Crises Events: An Empirical Study of the China Child Abuse Scandal on Weibo	USA
19/20	PhD	GIBRILU Abdul Wahab	1st Place in the James W. Markham Student Paper Competition, The International Communication Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2020 Conference	Partisanship, News Uses, and Political Attitudes in Ghana: An Application of the Communication Mediation Model	Virtual Conference
19/20	PhD & MPhil	HU Panfeng & MAK Ka Fai Macau (with CHAN Che Ming Michael)	First-Place Open Competition Paper Award & Top Method Paper Award, The Communication Theory & Methodology Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2020 Conference	Mediation Analysis and Warranted Inferences in Media and Communication Research: Examining Research Design in the Field's Prominent Journals	Virtual Conference
20/21	PhD & MPhil	CHENG Yixiang, ZHANG Qiyue & ZHANG Wanjiang Jacob	First Place in the Markham Student Competition, International Communication Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2021 Conference	Conspiracy about COVID-19 Pandemic in Contemporary China: What is the Authority's Role on Weibo	Virtual Conference
20/21	PhD	GUO Jing	Fourth Place Student Paper Award, Political Communication Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2021 Conference	Examining How Digital Platform Diversity Contributes to Social Media News Engagement in China	Virtual Conference
20/21	PhD	HU Yunyi & YANG Yi	Third Place Student Paper Award, Mass Communication and Society Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2021 Conference	Women on-screen: Exploring the Relationship between Consumption of Female Talent Shows and Sexism, Internalization of Beauty Ideals, and Self-objectification in China	Virtual Conference
20/21	MPhil	LEUNG Lok Yi Wendy	Top Student Paper Award, Electronic News Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2021 Conference	Distant Suffering of Coronavirus Outbreak: Comparing BBC World and Al Jazeera English Epidemic Reporting in China	Virtual Conference

20/21	PhD	YI Jingjing & ZHANG Wanjiang Jacob	Top Student Paper Award, Environmental Communication Division, International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference 2021	Mediated Fire and Distant Suffering: the Global Spectacle of Australian Bushfires in Nature 2.0	Virtual Conference
21/22	PhD	GUO Jing	Second Place Student Paper Award, Political Communication Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2022 Conference	Examining Social Media Exposure's Effects on Public Support Towards Three-child Policy in China: Role of Cognitive Elaboration, Perceived Negative Effects, and Institutional Trust	USA
21/22	PhD & MPhil	QU Jiayu Gina, YI Jingjing, ZHANG Wanjiang Jacob & YANG Yu Charles	Top Student Paper Award, Public Relations Division, International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference 2022	Mitigating Different Types of Corporate Online Firestorms on Twitter: An Empirical Study Based on Fortune 100 Corporations	France
22/23	PhD	HU Yang & GUO Jing (with WANGLIU Yiqi, CUHK)	Best Student Paper Award, Chinese Communication Association, International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference 2023	Social Positioning and the Construction of Polymedia Practices in Everyday Life: A Study of Older Migrants Following Children in China	Canada
22/23	PhD	FENG Mengzhe Mercy (with TSANG Nathan Long-tin, The University of Southern California)	Outstanding Paper for the 2021-2022 Hong Kong Studies Annual Conference (HKSAC)	Fact-Checking as Mobilization and Counter-Mobilization: The Case of the Anti-Extradition Bill Movement in Hong Kong	Hong Kong
22/23	PhD	LI Yihan & FU Han	Outstanding Paper Award, The 15th National Conference of Communication in China cum the 40th Anniversary Conference of China Communication Studies	Sharing News about COVID-19: Media Exposure, Self-perceived Knowledge, and the Gap of Perceived Susceptibility of Self/ Strangers	China
22/23	MPhil	TSE Chun Hong (with Marko SKORIC, City University of Hong Kong)	Second Place Top Poster Award, International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference 2023	The Impact of Trust in the Government on Willingness to Disclose Personal Data in Hong Kong: The Moderating Role of COVID-19 Infection Concern in the Data Disclosure Mediation Model	Canada
22/23	PhD	WU Biying (with LU Shuning, North Dakota State University and CHEN Hsuan-Ting)	Third-Place Top Paper Award, Newspaper & Online News Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2023 Conference	Stay Informed and Protected When Overloaded: Examining the News Curation and Avoidance Strategies on Social Media	USA
22/23	PhD	WU Biying	First Place Moeller Student Paper Award, Mass Communication & Society Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2023 Conference	Boosting or Limiting? Examining How FOMO Influences Personal News Curation Through Social Media News Fatigue	USA

22/23	PhD	LIU Jindong & WU Biying	Best Student Paper Award, The 20th Chinese Internet Research Conference (CIRC)	Negotiating Chineseness in a Social VR Platform: Acculturation of Chinese Nationals and Overseas in a Sinophone Community on VRChat	Thailand
23/24	PhD	HU Yunyi & JIAO Fang	Top Poster Award, Intercultural Communication Division, International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference 2024	Social Media as Cultural Intermediaries: Shaping Chinese Audiences' Collective Memories of Korean TV Dramas in the Context of China-South Korea Relationships	Australia
23/24	PhD	QU Jiayu Gina	Top Student Paper Award, Public Relations Division, International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference 2024	What Drives Stakeholders' Participation in Different Type of Online Firestorms? The Role of Expectation and Self-relevancy	Australia
23/24	PhD	WU Biying (with JIANG Xuejin, Dongguk University, LIU Liming, Arizona State University and LIN Han, Soochow University)	Top Student Paper Runner Up Award, Global Communication and Social Change Division, International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference 2024	Storytelling and Audience Engagement in China's Global Communication: A Big Data Analysis Based on CGTN	Australia
23/24	PhD	ZHANG Chen	Third Place Student Paper Award, Public Relations Division, International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference 2024	Prosocial or Pro-platform? Examining the Effect of Platform Affordance on Public Engagement in the Disasters	Australia
23/24	PhD	MU Haixin (with ZHANG Zizhong, Tsinghua University and CHUI Lok Tung Don, CUHK)	First Place Student Paper Award, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Interest Group, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2024 Conference	Group Swinging as Strategic Approach to Curating Multiple Minority Identities Online: Study of Lesbian Gamers	USA
23/24	MPhil	YANG Ziqi and LAM Sum Yi	Second Place Student Paper Award, Newspaper & Online News Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2024 Conference	Examining Sourcing Pattern of Labor News: Shifting Journalistic Paradigm under Democratic Backsliding in Hong Kong	USA
23/24	PhD	WU Biying	Second Place Student Paper Award, Communication Theory and Methodology Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2024 Conference	Conceptualizing and Validating Personal Curation within Curated Flows in Social Media	USA
23/24	MPhil	YANG Ziqi (with TSE Tze Fung Hans and LEE Lap Fung Francis)	Second-Place Top Faculty Paper Award, Scholastic Journalism Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2024 Conference	Entering Journalism in Times of Democratic Backsliding: Hong Kong Young Journalists' Career Decision and Persistence	USA

24/25	PhD	ZHANG Chen	Top Student Paper Award, Public Relations Division, International Communication Association (ICA) 2025 Annual Conference	Platform Responsibility or Virtue Signaling? A Comparative Study on the Effectiveness of Misinformation Warning Labels in the United States and China	USA
24/25	PhD	HE Renyi (with SHI Kaidi, University of Southern California)	Top Student Paper Award, International Chinese Communication Association (ICCA) Panel, National Communication Association (NCA) 2024 Conference	Non-semitic Antisemitism: Chinese Right-wing Populism in Online Discussion of 2023 Israel-Hamas War	USA
24/25	PhD	LI Jingren (with MA Yanni, Oregon State University and Erich J. SOMMERFELDT, University of Minnesota Twin Cities)	Third Place Top Paper Award, Advertising Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2025 Annual Conference	The Backfire Effects of Storytelling in Social Media Influencer Advertising: The Impact of Perceived Manipulative Intent and Sponsorship Disclosure	USA
24/25	MPhil	LIU Hao	Top Student Paper Award, Broadcast & Mobile Journalism Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2025 Annual Conference	Counter-attitudinal News Perceptions and Affective Polarization: Effects of AI Labels, Source Expertise, and Writing Style	USA
24/25	PhD	WEI Longhan (with LIANG Hai)	Top Faculty Paper Award, Communication Technology Division, The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2025 Annual Conference	Machine-Likeness Across Societies: The Influence of Religiosity and AI Development	USA
25/26	PhD	ZHANG Chen (with CAO Xucheng, City University of Hong Kong)	Top Student Paper Award, Public Relations Division, International Communication Association (ICA) 2026 Annual Conference	To Trust or to Verify? A Two-Wave Longitudinal Study on How Multi-Source Social Media Shapes Disaster Response	South Africa
25/26	PhD	ZHANG Chen (with CAO Xucheng, City University of Hong Kong)	Top Student Paper Award, Communication and Technology Division, International Communication Association (ICA) 2026 Annual Conference	Unraveling the Chilling-Backfire Dynamic: A Mixed-Methods Study on Misinformation Moderation Through the Lens of Spreaders	South Africa
25/26	MPhil	LAM Sum Yi	Top Student Paper Award, Journalism Studies Division, International Communication Association (ICA) 2026 Annual Conference	Nurturing Journalistic Resilience under Autocratization: The Case of Young Journalists in Post-NSL Hong Kong	South Africa

3. Online Submission Forms of Graduate School

The following forms are available at CUSIS (https://portal.cuhk.edu.hk) for the respective type of application:

- Change of Personal Particulars
- Form CS-1
- Form CS-2
- Transfer of Candidature
- Change of Expected Graduation Date
- Shortening of Normative Study Period
- Notice of Withdrawal
- Refund of Caution Money
- CUHK Research Postgraduate Student Grants for Overseas Academic Activities
- Declaration of Completing the IP Course
- Absence from Examination

4. Research Ethics Training (RET)

To strengthen researchers' awareness of ethical concepts, the Research Office (RO) offers Research Ethics Training (RET) which contains four online modules in the following domains:

(a) Human Subject Ethics;
(b) Survey and Behavioural Ethics;
(c) Publication Ethics; and
(d) Laboratory Animals Ethics.

Please find all RET-related information and guidelines at https://www.research-ethics.cuhk.edu.hk/orktsResearch/.

Survey and Behavioral Research Ethics (SBRE)

All members of the university community (RPg students) are expected to conduct their survey research studies involving human participants in a legal and ethical manner. If research strategies and plans are within the domain of survey and behavioural research, researchers should **obtain approval from the Survey and Behavioural Research Ethics Committee BEFORE they conduct their research studies**.

Applications should be submitted via the SBRE E-System (accessible at https://sbre.cuhk.edu.hk/sbre/CommonHome/Index). Applications submitted by RPg students will first be directed to their supervisors for preview and comment. Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that all required information is provided before endorsing the submission to the Survey and Behavioural Research Ethics Committee. (With all the necessary information and documents received, the processing time of each application is approximately 4 weeks from the time of application. Researchers are advised to apply well in advance of the anticipated approval obtained date.)

Publication Ethics

All RPg students admitted in 2017-18 and thereafter are required to **complete the online RET module on Publication Ethics and obtain a valid Publication Ethics Certificate for graduation**.

After completion of the module test, you can select to print the certificate out or store it electronically for future use. Your certificate will also be recorded by RO for monitoring purposes. The certificate is valid for 5 years. Staff members and research students who apply for direct and external grants are required to take the relevant certification test(s).

5. Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) Modules and Data Management Plan (DMP)

RPg students are required to complete the following in the first year of study:

1) Complete and pass an IPL module on "Basics of Research Data Management", with effect from the 2022-23 intake. Module information is available at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html (under "Research Skills").
2) Submit a Data Management Plan (DMP), with effect from the 2025-26 intake. PhD students can submit the DMP before the proposal oral defense. The guide is available at https://libguides.lib.cuhk.edu.hk/rdm/mandate-support.

In addition to the above, RPg students are required to complete the following for graduation:

3) Complete the "Observing Intellectual Property and Copyright Law during Research" online IPL module. Module information is available at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/clear/prodev/ipl.html.
4) The final DMP should have been shared to the CUHK community on DMPTool or the relevant platform that CUHK provides when submitting the final version of the thesis/portfolio to the Graduate School. The guide is available at https://libguides.lib.cuhk.edu.hk/rdm/mandate-support.

6. Guidelines on Thesis Submission

a) M.Phil. and Ph.D. students are advised to start incubating their thesis topics in the first semester. For M.Phil. students, they should finalize their thesis proposals by the end of the first academic year. For Ph.D. students, thesis committees should be formed in the first semester of the second academic year. Their thesis topics should be confirmed and approved by the committees by the end of the last month in their second academic year. They are supposed to submit their proposals by the end of the second academic year.

b) Students should summon up effort to finish their thesis within their normative study period.

c) Thesis submission for graduating students:
   - The normal date of thesis submission: May 31
   - If students intend to submit the thesis, please complete a declaration form available at the Graduate School's webpage together with a one-page abstract and confirm their thesis committee members with Division Head by early December. Thesis committee internal members should include:
     i. Students' supervisor.
     ii. Chairperson (i.e. Division Head or his representative with an academic title of Associate Professor or above).
     iii. One other member (i.e. from within or outside the Division of Communication).
   - Supervisors will assign an external examiner for M.Phil. and Ph.D. students. Students should not contact their external examiners on matters related to the thesis examination.
   - The University has three degree conferment dates in each year, i.e., March 31, July 31, and October 15. Students who submit the final version of theses

before August 31 will normally have the degree conferred within the same year.

d) When students are ready to submit their theses, please inform Heidi of the General Office. Heidi will help set up the time and date for the oral defense by liaising with the panel members. The oral defense should take place THREE WEEKS after the thesis is submitted to the General Office at the earliest so that the thesis committee members can have enough time to read the thesis. Heidi will send a formal notification about the oral defense schedule to inform the committee members. If a student wants to ensure completion of the dissertation requirement by August 31, one should try to conduct the oral defense no later than July 31 (which would allow one month for revisions) and that means one should submit the defense copy no later than July 3. The School and the panel members have no obligation to quicken the process to facilitate timely completion of the requirement.

e) If students cannot submit the thesis as planned, they have to follow the deferment of thesis submission guidelines of Graduate School:
   - Students should submit a form to apply for deferral of thesis submission.
   - For thesis submission between June 30 and July 31, there is no need to pay any continuation fee; and
   - If the thesis is submitted after July 31, students have to pay a continuation fee (approx. 1/8 of the current full-time annual tuition fee) for the coming semester.

f) Students (including continuing students) have to submit a research and study plan at the beginning of each academic year. This is more than a formality. Please make use of this as a tool for research planning. Students have to reach out to their supervisors proactively to discuss their thesis progress. Supervisors will give them a Pass/Fail grade for their Thesis Monitoring Course by the end of each academic semester. A student will be required to discontinue studies if he/she fails the Thesis Monitoring Course for three consecutive semesters.

7. Transfer of Candidature

a) A student who has registered in a research doctoral programme may, on the recommendation of the Graduate Division concerned and with the approval of the Graduate Council, be transferred to a research master's programme provided

that such a transfer takes place before the thesis or portfolio is submitted.

b) An M.Phil. student who has completed the first year of studies and obtained academic results of G.P.A 3.7 or above may, on the recommendation of the Graduate Division concerned and with the approval of the Graduate Council, be transferred to Ph.D. in Communication programme. The student needs to submit an application as soon as the academic results of both semesters are released and include an academic paper produced in the first year of studies as a basis for the Graduate Division to consider the application.

8. Academic Honesty

The Chinese University of Hong Kong places very high importance on honesty in academic work submitted by students and adopts a policy of zero tolerance on academic dishonesty. While "academic dishonesty" is the overall name, there are several sub-categories as follows:

(i) Plagiarism
(ii) Undeclared multiple submissions
(iii) Employing or using services provided by a third party to undertake ones' submitted work, or providing services as a third party
(iv) Distribution/ Sharing/ Copying of teaching materials without the consent of the course teachers to gain unfair academic advantage in the courses
(v) Violating rules 15 or 16 of the University's Examination Rules (Annex 1) or rule 9 or 10 of the University's Online Examination Rules (Annex 2)
(vi) Cheating in tests and examinations (including violation of rules 17 or 18 of the University's Examination Rules or rule 11, 12, 13, 14 or 16 of the University's Online Examination Rules)
(vii) Impersonation fraud in tests and examinations (including violation of rule 19 of the University's Examination Rules or rule 15 of the University's Online Examination Rules)
(viii) All other acts of academic dishonesty

Any related offence will lead to disciplinary action including termination of studies at the University.

Everyone should make himself/herself familiar with the content of this website http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty and thereby help avoid any practice that would not be acceptable.

Annex 1: University's Examination Rules
https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/Eng_htm_files_(2013-14)/Annex%201_en.pdf

Annex 2: University's Online Examination Rules
https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/Eng_htm_files_(2013-14)/Annex%202_en.pdf

9. Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools

Students should strictly follow the University's Guidelines on "Use of AI Tools in Teaching, Learning and Assessments" and the Guidelines on "Responsible Use of AI for Research" at all times, as well as the instructions and permission given by the course teachers when using AI tools in learning activities and assessments. The guidelines are accessible at https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/ai-hub/

Improper or unauthorized use of AI tools will constitute acts of academic dishonesty, which will be handled in accordance with the University's Procedures for Handling Cases of Academic Dishonesty (accessible at https://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/Eng_htm_files_(2013-14)/p06.htm).

Penalties for offences of academic dishonesty may include reviewable/permanent demerit(s), failure grade for the course concerned, suspension from the University, lowering the degree classification, and termination of studies at the University. For cases of offences committed by a former student while studying for the award in question, which come to light after the student's graduation, this may also constitute a good cause under which the University may revoke his/her academic award in accordance with the University's procedure for revoking an academic award.

10. Academic Performance

a) Students must fulfill the Term Assessment Requirement of the Graduate School. For details, please refer to Section 13.0 "Unsatisfactory Performance and Discontinuation of Studies" of the General Regulations Governing Postgraduate Studies which can be accessed from the Graduate School Homepage: http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk.

b) Students must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 in order to graduate, unless special approval is granted by the Graduate Council.

11. Studentship

a) The awardees of Postgraduate Studentship will receive a monthly stipend at a standard rate advised by the University during the specified period indicated in the admission letter.
b) As a condition of the award, students shall work towards the degree programme on a full-time basis and carry out assignments relating to teaching and research, normally for not more than 12 hours per week on average, as prescribed by the School.
c) Within the award period, absence from full-time work towards the degree, or from performing the assignments in the School requires prior approval from the supervisor, the Division Head and the Dean of the Graduate School, and in any case, should not exceed 14 working days per year. The application form can be obtained from the General Office.
d) During the entire period of study, students shall not undertake any remunerative engagements, full-time or part-time, except with the prior permission of the University. However, with permission from the University, students can take up a certain amount of on-campus part-time engagements. Please refer to Item 22. Employment for details.
e) The studentship award may be terminated in case of unsatisfactory performance and/or violation of their terms of employment.
f) Students are requested to observe at all times the guidelines stipulated in the "Code of Conduct for Postgraduate Studentship Holders" (accessible at https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/download/PGS_CodeofConduct.pdf).

12. TA & RA

a) RPg students on Postgraduate Studentship are required to carry out assignments relating to teaching and research as part of their postgraduate studies, normally for not more than 12 hours per week on average, starting from August 1 throughout the whole Studentship period. They should inform their own students (for TA duty) and professors (for RA duty) concerned so that they can meet them during their office hours. Students should inform Heidi of the General Office if they need to apply for sick leave or annual leave.
b) The TA and RA hours may be unevenly distributed in different months. Students need to inform Division Head if they are overloaded and hope to re-arrange the duties in the next semester.

c) Students have to report duty (by email or phone) with their TA and/or RA supervisors on August 1 and the first day of each following semester.

Evaluation of Performance

Students provide their feedback on the teaching effectiveness of their TAs by completing a questionnaire at the end of each semester. Professors and instructors will also provide their feedback on the performance of their TAs and RAs in providing teaching assistance and research assistance.

The scale of the evaluation scores will start with "strongly disagree" at "1" and end at "strongly agree" at "6". If TAs get an overall average score below the threshold of 4.5 for two consecutive semesters, the performance is regarded as not meeting expectations and a letter of concern will be issued.

Teaching Assistant Award

Students in a TA role who are among those receiving the highest scores from students and instructors in any semester will be awarded a certificate of merit as a token of appreciation.

Research Assistant Award

Students in an RA role who fulfill the following criteria will be awarded a certificate of merit in recognition of their outstanding performance:

- Obtain full marks in the evaluation exercise for three consecutive semesters; and
- Receive nomination from the respective evaluation supervisor(s) in two of the three semesters.

A student can only receive the award once during his/her entire study period.

13. Schedule of Oral Defense

Year 1 students are encouraged to attend at least one of oral defense sessions during their first year to get a general picture of oral defense of thesis. The schedule will be announced in due course.

14. Student Exchange Programmes

Students can apply for the School-level and University-level exchange programmes to undertake short-term research attachment with the aim of developing research skills, knowledge, and collaboration in a chosen area of research.

School-level exchange:

Tsinghua University (with effect from 2026-27)

- Length: 1 – 6 months
- Suggested period: after the candidacy exam and before submitting the thesis
- Application: students can approach the General Office after consulting the supervisor with their research plan and identifying at least one potential host supervisor at Tsinghua University. The School usually invites students to indicate their interest in exchange every December for the next academic year.

University of Amsterdam*

- Length: 1 – 6 months
- Suggested period: after the candidacy exam and before submitting the thesis
- Application: students can approach the General Office after consulting the supervisor with your research plan and identifying at least one potential host supervisor at the University of Amsterdam. The School usually invites students to indicate their interest in exchange every December for the next academic year.

* The exchange agreement with University of Amsterdam is subject to renewal. Interested students can pay attention to further updates via email.

University-level exchange:

The Office of Academic Links (OAL) offers different international mobility schemes for PhD students from time to time to support PhD students to undertake short-term research visits in selected institutions. Details can be found on their websites.

- **PhD International Mobility for Partnerships and Collaborations Award:** https://www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/phd-impac-award

Other opportunities:

Students can feel free to approach other institutions, with the support of their supervisor, for other short-term exchange/visiting opportunities.

15. Residence Requirements/Leave of Absence

a) Definition of Residence

i. A student is classified as being in residence if s/he is attending courses as prescribed by his/her programme, and in the case of research postgraduate students, also receiving supervision on a regular basis.

ii. A student who is in Hong Kong except for absences not exceeding three weeks continuously and not exceeding one month aggregate in any one academic year shall be deemed to be receiving regular supervision, and provided s/he is also attending courses, if required, shall be regarded as in residence.

iii. A student who is not in Hong Kong shall normally be deemed to be not receiving supervision, and shall be regarded as not being in residence. In cases where the student would nevertheless receive adequate supervision on a regular basis while away from Hong Kong, or where the absence from Hong Kong is related to an academic purpose, an application should be made beforehand to the Head of the Graduate Division concerned for approval of the Dean of the Graduate School, with the endorsement of the Supervisor, to regard the student as being in residence during that period of absence.

iv. A student may also be regarded as being in residence while away from Hong Kong if the programme of studies approved by the Graduate Council and the Senate so provides.

b) Residence Requirements

i. Except for periods of approved leave, all students are required to be in residence during their period of study.

ii. Residence requirements may be waived for part-time students for up to six months in any academic year, upon the written approval of the Supervisor and the Head of the Graduate Division concerned.

Leave of Absence

a) A student who has been absent from classes/required activities for any period shall be responsible for applying to the teaching staff concerned for permission to make up for any required work missed.
b) A student who has been absent without approved leave of absence or who is in breach of the residence requirements for a continuous period exceeding one month shall be considered as having withdrawn from studies at the University.
c) For full regulations on leave of absence, please refer to the "General Regulations Governing Postgraduate Studies" on the Graduate School's website https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/download/General_Regulations_Pg.pdf.

16. Employment

The policy on part-time employment and summer jobs is subject to change by the Immigration Department. Please refer to the following websites for the latest information:

Immigration Department, HKSAR
https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/faq/imm-policy-study.html

The Graduate School, CUHK
http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/page/VisaandRelatedMattersforNonlocalStudents

Full-time students are not allowed to take up any full-time employment, paid or unpaid, including full-time internships specified in the study scheme during term time. Hence, the same requirements and procedures on application and approval pertaining to employment would also apply to non-remunerative engagements of full-time students as far as practicable. Moreover, Postgraduate Studentship (PGS) holders are not allowed to take up full-time or part-time employment.

No employment application and approval are needed for part-time students taking employment.

On-Campus Student Helper Scheme

(a) PGS holders may take up part-time on-campus engagements of up to 50 hours per academic year. If the engagement concerned was requested by the students' Graduate Division, the ceiling would be relaxed to a total of 100 hours per academic year. The approval authority rests with the Head of the Graduate Division. All cases should be reported via the General Office to the Graduate School for record-keeping and compliance checks.

(b) PGS holders who intend to take up part-time employment which exceeds the ceiling working hours should apply via the General Office for approval by the Dean of Graduate School prior to taking up the engagement.

Other Engagements

(c) Full-time RPg students who wish to take up full-time paid or unpaid employment (including internships), and PGS holders who intend to engage in full-time or part-time remunerative activities during term time, must apply through the General Office. Approval must be obtained from the Dean of Graduate School or GCExCo as appropriate prior to commencing the engagement. For cases involving irregularities, such as retroactive applications or remunerative engagements that are not related to research or study, the Dean of Graduate School will forward the application and supporting justifications to the GCExCo for consideration.
(d) Applications for taking up a remunerative engagement by PGS holders can only be approved on the condition that the students will relinquish their PGS and take in-residence leave during the period concerned, where the amount is less than the PGS, the Dean of Graduate School may decide if the students are allowed to receive partial PGS after netting the remuneration of the engagement.
(e) Exceptionally, full-time students who are approaching the end of the normative study period may take up a full-time employment if the student concerned already completed all programme requirements and submitted the thesis for examination, subject to the endorsement of the Supervisor and Head of the Graduate Division, and approval of the Dean of Graduate School.

Applications for approval should be submitted to the Graduate School via the General Office at least **5 weeks** before the starting date of the intended engagements. Students who fail to obtain prior approval will be punishable by a fine that is equivalent to 50% of the pay for the first 50 hours in excess of the ceiling and to 80% of the pay for the subsequent segment. Repeated violators during the normative study period will in addition be sent to the Graduate School Disciplinary Committee for possible disciplinary actions. The fine will be deducted from the student's PGS or collected from the student in whichever way the University deems fit.

Non-local students should refer to the up-to-date student visa policy announced by the Immigration Department, HKSAR (accessible at https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/faq/imm-policy-study.html). A breach of any condition of stay specified by the Immigration Department will render them liable to prosecution and removal from Hong Kong.

Note: The above principles also apply to HKPFS students, subject to RGC's final approval.

17. Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates (IANG)

The policy on Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates is subject to change by the Immigration Department. Please refer to the following websites for the latest information:

Immigration Department, HKSAR
https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/IANG.html
The Graduate School, CUHK
http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/page/VisaandRelatedMattersforNonlocalStudents

Non-local recent (i.e. within six months after the date of their graduation) graduates (i.e. students who have obtained an undergraduate or higher qualification in a full-time and locally-accredited programme in Hong Kong) may apply to stay and work in the HKSAR under the IANG visa. For RPg students, they may apply for a certifying letter from the Graduate School after submitting the final version of the thesis and submit the certifying letter to IMMD together with the IANG visa application form and other required documents. The forms and more information can be obtained from the Immigration Department's website at https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/IANG.html.

18. Professional Development Course and Orientations of Centre for Learning Enhancement and Research (CLEAR)

Year 1 and Year 2 RPg students are required to attend various workshops to fulfill different requirements. Some are optional and some are compulsory. The aim of these workshops is to better prepare students to anticipate problems and possibilities in their studies. The University also requires research students to take TA courses to equip them with the necessary skills of teaching and tutoring.

In order to be awarded a Certificate of Completion, TAs are required to complete all of the below parts of the programme organized by CLEAR:

Part I: Becoming a student-teacher, orientation and introduction, the roles and opportunities of a TA

[Details will be announced in due course]

Part II: One IPL course choose from the followings

- Introduction to Teaching and Learning
- Presentation Skills Workshop
- Communication Skills Workshop
- Power of Voice

Part III: Assessment arranged by individual departments

Departments assess students on their presentation and teaching skills by means of individual presentations, seminars or class observation.

[Details will be announced in due course]

The Office of Student Affairs (OSA) organizes Orientation Programmes for New Teaching Assistants and Postgraduate Students, as part of the Improving Postgraduate Learning (IPL) series. Please refer to the following link for the details of the orientation programmes: http://lces.osa.cuhk.edu.hk/pgso.