



HKU
LAW

The University of Hong Kong Faculty of Law

Factsheet for Incoming Exchange & Visiting Programme 2025-26



Faculty of Law exchange programme, HKU

The Faculty of Law is Hong Kong's leading law school. It has a cherished heritage and is ranked amongst the best in the Asia-Pacific region and is highly regarded for providing quality legal education and life-long learning opportunities. The Faculty ranked the 30th in Times Higher Education World University Rankings by subject in 2025 and 20th in QS World University Ranking by subject in 2024.

Building on its strong tradition of teaching, research in the common law and prominent links with the professional community, our Faculty, as a regional centre of excellence in China and the Asia-Pacific Region, aspires to be a world-class law school that meets the highest standards of international excellence in every dimension and to be recognized as one of the best law schools internationally.

The law school was established in 1969 and matured into the Faculty of Law in 1984. Since its establishment, the Faculty of Law has become the breeding ground for some of the most distinguished legal professionals and community leaders in Hong Kong. While most of our undergraduates have proceeded to study the Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (the qualification for entry into the legal profession in Hong Kong, either as solicitors or barristers), a considerable number of them have become senior figures serving the business, public service and other sectors. Among them are senior judges, Senior Counsels, leading practitioners, legislators, political party leaders, and cabinet members, chairpersons of statutory bodies, senior civil servants, leading journalists, committed philanthropists, and artists and not to mention leading academics and many others who contribute to the well-being of the community in many different ways.

The Faculty employs about 80 academic scholars from 17 jurisdictions around the world. In September 2024, the Faculty had over 1291 undergraduates enrolled in the law-related bachelor degrees, 489 PCLL students, 114 JD students and over 724 full-time and part-time postgraduate students.

More information about the Faculty of Law and the offered programmes can be found on the Faculty's website at <https://law.hku.hk/>.

**General Information**

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Faculty website | https://law.hku.hk/ |
| Website for inbound exchange students | https://law.hku.hk/prospective-students/international-exchange-programme-incoming-exchange-visiting-programme/ |
| Mailing address | 10/F, Cheng Yu Tung Tower Centennial Campus The University of Hong Kong Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong |
| Contact information | Director of Incoming Exchange Programme Professor Giuliano Castellano / g.castellano@hku.hk (Director) Dr. Angus Young / alyoung@hku.hk (Deputy Director) Administrative support: Ms Perry Cheung / laffairs@hku.hk |

Admission Requirements

Generally, students should demonstrate good academic performance with a grade point average of 3.33 (which converts to the letter grade of B+) on a 4.3 scale. Applications with a slightly lower GPA will be considered if justifications are provided. Given that different universities adopt different grading systems, the Director of Incoming Exchange Programme retains overriding discretion in mapping between different grading systems and deciding whether to accept nominations for admission as exchange and visiting students from your home institution. In addition, students should have completed at least 1 year of law studies prior to their exchange study. For students enrolled in a double degree programme of Law, the grade point average of their law subjects will be taken into account.

The teaching medium for majority of the courses offered by our Faculty is in English unless specified. Following the University's entry requirement for incoming exchange students, both native and non-native English speakers are required to submit a valid and acceptable [English Proficiency Proof](#). For instance, applicants should achieve an overall band of 7 with no subtest lower than 6.5 in IELTS Academic Module, or a score of 97 in the TOEFL internet-based test.

Online Nomination and Application

Exchange partners are required to nominate their students via the online nomination system (<https://goglobal.hku.hk/incoming/partner/auth/login>) and upload the official transcript and English proficiency test report (or English Language Proficiency Statement, for native English speakers) to the system. Nominees will be informed of the online application procedures by email (via our International Affairs Office) in April / September, and are required to upload the passport copy, personal statement and CV during the online application.

Nomination deadlines are as follows:

For students applying for the September/Fall term/Full-year: March 31 in the same calendar year

For students applying for the January/Spring term: August 31 of the previous calendar year.

Please refer to <https://intlaffairs.hku.hk/nomination> for detailed schedule.



Dates of Semesters

Academic Year 2025-26 (Tentative)

1st Semester

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| First Day of Teaching | 01.09.2025 (Mon) |
| Last Day of Teaching | 29.11.2025 (Sat) |
| Assessment Period | 06.12.2025 – 23.12.2025 |

2nd Semester

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| First Day of Teaching | 19.01.2026 (Mon) |
| Last Day of Teaching | 02.05.2026 (Sat) |
| Assessment Period | 11.05.2026 – 26.05.2026 |

Visa Application

All students without the right of abode/right to land in Hong Kong **MUST** apply for a student visa for the purpose of education in Hong Kong. **Students who use travel visa or travel endorsement to participate in any classes, tutorials and other academic-related activities will be regarded as illegal.** It is the responsibility of individual students to make appropriate visa arrangements before they come to Hong Kong. Please note that it will take 6 to 8 weeks to process student's visa application. The visa application fee is non-refundable.

For visa application procedures, please refer to the steps under Application Procedures at <https://www.studentvisa.hku.hk/>.

Master Registration

Students will receive their HKU university Number (UID) & Portal Account by email around 1 to 2 weeks before their exchange semester starts. They should follow the instructions at <https://intlaffairs.hku.hk/arrival-advice> to complete the registration process.

Orientation

The Faculty-level orientation session for incoming exchange students is normally scheduled during the last week in August (for 1st semester and full-year exchange students) or 2nd week in January (for 2nd semester students). All incoming exchange students must attend the orientation before their commencement of the exchange studies. The International Affairs Office will also arrange a day-long orientation for all incoming exchange students. Details of Weeks of Welcome (WoW) programmes for incoming exchange students are available at: <https://wp2.cedars.hku.hk/nonlocal/>.

Details of the Faculty-level orientation session will be provided by email in due course.



Selection of Courses

Exchange students should select courses according to the Faculty's regulations, procedures and rules. The normal course load for HKU LLB students is 30 credits (i.e. equivalent to 5 LLB courses) in each semester; or 60 credits (i.e. equivalent to 10 LLB courses) for one academic year. With the prior approval from their home university, exchange students should inform the faculty office by email (laffairs@hku.hk) if they wish to opt for one of the following variations of workload for each semester:

- I. a reduced workload of 24-29 credits; or
- II. a maximum load of 34-36 credits.

For students who wish to enroll non-law courses offered by other faculties, approval must be sought from the respective units, and the final approval rests with the offering department. Please also note that students are permitted to enroll 12 credits (i.e. equivalent to 2 HKU courses) of non-law subjects in each semester.

Course availability varies from year to year subject to the availability of teaching resources and student enrolment. Please refer to the website of Faculty of Law (<https://course.law.hku.hk/law-electives/>) and [Guidelines for the Selection of Courses for Incoming Exchange students](#) for the list of elective courses offer in 2024-25 for reference. Please note that courses listed under "Core courses", "PCLL Pre-requisites" of undergraduate courses and mandatory courses for specialized LLM programmes are **not open** to exchange students. Some taught postgraduate courses with course code LLAW6XXX are open to designated JD students from North America and Australia only.

A detailed guideline for course selection as well as the final course list offered for exchange students will be provided by email in August (for exchange students in the 1st semester and full-year) and December (for exchange students in the 2nd semester).

Accommodation Information

Students may refer to [CEDARS Accommodation Office](#) to search for housing resources during the exchange studies at HKU. As housing resources are limited, students are suggested to apply for accommodation through the [application link](#) for accommodation for newly-admitted non-local undergraduate students as soon as possible.

HKU offers different types of student residing in (i) student halls, (ii) residential colleges, and (iii) non-hall accommodations to our students. Most of the rooms available are double room. Some halls have compulsory meal charges, while others have not. Please refer to the list of [accommodation options](#) and their [fee charges](#) for your reference. You may contact CEDARS Accommodation at accommodation@cedars.hku.hk for further enquiries.

Updated in March 2025