Bridging the gap between technicality and applicability

The HKU Master of Economics (MEcon) aims at providing rigorous advanced training in economics with emphasis on real world applications. The intellectual capacity and knowledge acquired in the MEcon Programme have made a lasting impact in the students’ academic life, equipping them with acumen in decision and policy making.

The HKU Brand

Study at the oldest and most prestigious university in Hong Kong, globally recognised around the world, and join a family of influential alumni who hold prominent positions in various sectors across the region.

Integrating Theory and Applications

The Faculty is well-known for its outstanding teaching and research, students will learn analytical and quantitative techniques to understand cutting-edge research and develop creative solutions for real-world economic issues.

Flexibility and Coherence in the Courses Offered

Students can choose from a wide range of courses in distinctive streams, namely the Data Analysis Stream, Policy Analysis Stream and Theory Stream, to suit their interests and career aspirations.

Catering for Different Career Aspirations

The curriculum helps prepare students with previous economic training for a career as a professional economist. It also helps those who wish to gain insights through a systematic framework based on economic analysis, so as to prepare themselves for careers in business or government.

In a globalized environment where politics and socio-economic fabric affect our everyday lives, success is not a destination, but a journey where one needs to keep learning, exploring and growing. Opportunities come to those who are prepared.

Economics provides us with a rigorous and coherent framework to understand human behaviour at the individual and aggregate levels. Such understanding has important implications to public policy and business decisions, helping the society to allocate scarce resources efficiently and improve the well-being of its citizens. With phenomenal and sustained economic growth in many countries in recent decades, talents with economics knowledge are in great demand.

The MEcon Programme offered by HKU has a long history of success and is one of the highly sought-after programmes of its kind in the region. We aim to bring together advanced training in economic theories and real world applications. Building on rigorous training from the core courses of microeconomics, macroeconomics and econometrics, students can choose to concentrate in one of three streams, namely the Data Analysis Stream, Policy Analysis Stream and Theory Stream, according to their interests and career aspirations. Our MEcon students also enjoy the opportunities to learn from and interact with outstanding researchers and teachers of the Faculty of Business and Economics, who come from a wide spectrum of background and expertise. The intellectual capacity and knowledge acquired in the MEcon Programme have made a lasting impact on students’ academic lives, equipping them with acumen in decision and policy making.

Our graduates are well-trained to meet the challenges of the emergence of Greater China and the ongoing evolution of Hong Kong as an international financial centre. Many of them have moved on to launch successful careers in different fields, including consulting services, financial sector, multi-national businesses, and the public sector. Students who choose further academic pursuit also find themselves well-prepared for their PhD studies afterwards. Our graduates have established invaluable network which connect alumni and current students to a broader business and academic community. We are proud of the success and achievements of our alumni and we strive to continue our drive in nurturing talent and leaders for the region.

Our excellent teaching and research environment, together with the reputation of the University and the extensive alumni network of the Faculty of Business and Economics, make us a preferred choice for postgraduate studies. We invite you to learn more about our programme and join us on our quest to better understand the complex global economy.
The University of Hong Kong

Founded in 1911, HKU is the oldest and most well-known tertiary institution in Hong Kong. While embracing its rich heritage and traditions, HKU endeavours to drive pioneering research and develop the next generation of world-class leaders.

Since its founding in the past century, HKU has sought to transcend cultural and linguistic boundaries and has evolved from a minor institution in a far-flung colonial outpost to one of the top universities in the world with a strategic location at the heart of Asia’s financial capital.

Over its century-long history, HKU has accrued one of the most powerful alumni networks in the region. Dr Sun Yat-sen, the founding father of modern China and one of the most well-known figures of the 20th century, was among its first graduates.

The HKU motto has two parts, one Chinese and one Latin, reflecting its scholarly blending of East and West. “Sapientia et virtus” translates as “wisdom and virtue”, while “mingde gewu” (明德格物) means “to manifest virtue and to investigate things”.

Together, the two phrases reflect the vision of HKU, which is not simply to inculcate knowledge, but also to train students to become responsible members of society.
Curriculum

Students can choose to concentrate in one of the streams: Data Analysis Stream, Policy Analysis Stream and Theory Stream, according to their interests and career aspirations.

- The Data Analysis Stream aims to provide more in-depth data analysis training to students who intend to work in this field.
- The Policy Analysis Stream is suitable for those who are interested in using the economic perspective to understand and evaluate public policies.
- The Theory Stream is designed to prepare students for their PhD study afterwards.

To graduate from our programme, you need to complete a total of ten courses, including:

- Three core courses on microeconomics, macroeconomics and econometrics
- Three stream core courses from one of the following streams:
  - Data Analysis Stream
  - Policy Analysis Stream
  - Theory Stream
  - One capstone course
  - Three elective courses

Assessment for each course may include assignments, mid-term examinations, project papers, other course work, as well as a final examination, which is normally held at the end of each course, unless otherwise specified.

Programme Design

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Analysis Stream</th>
<th>Policy Analysis Stream</th>
<th>Theory Stream</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Core Courses (Three Courses)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Microeconomics (Choose one)</td>
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<td>Microeconomic Analysis</td>
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<td>Macroeconomics (Choose one)</td>
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<td>Econometrics (Choose one)</td>
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<td>Applied Econometrics</td>
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<td>Econometric Theory I</td>
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<td>II. Stream Core Courses (Three Courses)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Analysis Stream (Choose Three)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applied Financial Econometrics</td>
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<td>Causal Inference</td>
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<td>Computation and Analysis of Economic Data</td>
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<td>Economic Forecasting</td>
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<td>Policy Analysis Stream (Choose Three)</td>
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<td>Competition, Regulation and Business Strategy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Policy I</td>
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<td>Economic Policy II</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Macroeconomics</td>
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<td>Theory Stream (Choose Three)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Econometric Theory II</td>
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<td>Game Theory and Applications</td>
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<td>Monetary Policy: Theory and Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topics in Economic Research I*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topics in Economic Research II*</td>
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<td>III. Capstone Course (One Course)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Analysis Stream</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Topics in Applied Econometrics</td>
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<td>Policy Analysis Stream</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Topics in Economic Policy</td>
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<td>Theory Stream (Choose One)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topics in Economic Research I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topics in Economic Research II</td>
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<tr>
<td>IV. Elective Courses** (Three Courses)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Candidates can choose electives from a list of courses to make the total number of courses taken ten.</td>
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</table>

*for candidates with strong undergraduate training in economics and mathematics
* It can also be used to satisfy the Capstone requirement under Item III.

Remarks: Not all the courses listed above will necessarily be offered each year and the above list is subject to further adjustment.

**Up to two elective courses may be taken from other taught postgraduate programmes offered by the Faculty, subject to availability and review by the Programme Director based on your profile, capabilities, and performance in the MEcon programme.
Duration of Study and Class Schedule

The curriculum extends over a minimum of one academic year to a maximum of two academic years for full-time study. Students normally finish the programme in one academic year.

Classes are conducted on weekdays (morning/afternoon/evening) and Saturdays (morning/afternoon) at the HKU Cyberport Campus, Admiralty Town Centre or other venues.

Modular Structure

Courses are offered on a modular basis to allow students to focus on one area of study at a time. Normally, each module consists of seven to eight weeks including the examination week. All courses are taught in English.

Graduation Requirements

Students are required to successfully complete ten six-credit courses. Students who have failed a course shall be required to retake the course. If the failed course is an elective, students may choose to take another elective course as a substitute. In order to graduate, the total number of failures cannot exceed two in the entire period of study and a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above must be achieved.

Our Campus

HKU’s location on Hong Kong Island ensures that you are at the heart of all local business and networking action.

With its tranquil ambiance, our Cyberport campus located just 20 minutes from the business hub of the city, provides world-class facilities in which for you both to wind down and to focus on your studies. Our Admiralty Town Centre located at the Admiralty Centre, which is right above the MTR Admiralty Station, brings the resources of the University to the heart of business in Hong Kong.
Active Research Environment

The Faculty of Business and Economics maintains an active research environment. Its economists conduct both basic and applied research and publish regularly in leading academics journals. In addition, research institutes and centres have been established to foster-scale and long-term collaborative research within and outside the Faculty. These include:

Asia Case Research Centre
Develops content-rich business case studies to meet the growing need for business education in Asia and particularly in China. The centre monitors closely the emerging business strategies, economic policies, management practices, and financial developments across the region. Its case studies on Asian companies and subjects are highly relevant teaching materials and are used by teachers and institutions around the world.

The Centre for Asian Entrepreneurship and Business Values
Promotes intellectual capital development and teaching of entrepreneurship and business values in Hong Kong, China, and Asia. At the core of the Centre is a new teaching framework called The Five Dynamics of Entrepreneurship© that was co-developed by a group of real-life entrepreneurs.

The Centre for China Financial Research
Provides a focus and forum for studying the challenges of reforming China's financial sector. It focuses on reforms of the banking sector, corporate governance, regulation of the securities markets, and financial liberalisation strategies and the role of Hong Kong. The centre has established collaborative relations with researchers in central banking institutions, securities regulatory bodies, and stock exchanges in China and Hong Kong, as well as research centres at Peking University, Fudan University and the Chinese Academy of Social Science.

The Centre for Financial Innovation and Development
Focuses on research and training programmes that help advance understanding of derivative securities as financial instruments and risk management in corporate decisions.

The Contemporary Marketing Centre
Is recognised as a Centre of Excellence within the University and associated with a University’s Strategic Research Theme: China Studies. It focuses on research activities relevant to marketing and strategy challenges for companies operating in China. The Centre maintains highly active research programmes and is commonly recognised as one of the world’s most prolific research institutes on China marketing research. Every year, the Centre colleagues obtain competitive research grants, publish in top marketing and management journals, co-host annual Marketing Scholar Forums, maintain doctoral student exchanges with partnership universities and other research related activities. Through the Faculty’s Asian Case Research Centre, colleagues developed China related marketing and management cases. Starting early 2006, the Centre has embarked on a Service Excellence Programme with Hong Kong’s top service firms.

The Hong Kong Institute of Economics and Business Strategy
Supports research programmes that focus on Hong Kong’s relationship with Greater China and the Asia-Pacific region. The four research programmes are: Asia-Pacific Competitiveness, Human Resources, China Financial Research, and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Studies. In 2000, the University Grants Committee recognised the work of the Institute as one of the three Areas of Excellence in Hong Kong. Affiliated with the Institute is The Hong Kong Centre for Economic Research.

The Hong Kong Centre for Economic Research
studies important public policy issues to enhance public understanding of economic affairs and provide the government with alternative policy choices. The Centre is regarded as one of Hong Kong’s leading policy think tanks and has published over 50 research monographs on a wide range of subjects. It also produces the HKCER Letters with timely researched commentaries on public policy issues.

Institute for China and Global Development
The Institute for China and Global Development aims to advance the understanding of China’s interaction with the global economy through developing multi-disciplinary innovative research and training programmes. Currently, there are six core programmes under the Institute which are committed to investigating into greater details the key areas of the Chinese economy and how it interacts with the rest of the world. Together, they provide a dynamic picture for understanding China’s economic formation and prospect.
Career Prospects

Our graduates are well-trained to meet the challenges of the emergence of Greater China and the ongoing evolution of Hong Kong as an international financial centre. Many of them have launched successful careers in different fields, including consulting services, financial sector, multi-national businesses, and the public sector. Students who choose further academic pursuit also find themselves well-prepared for their PhD study afterwards.

Our Graduates’ Employers

- A1 Telekom Austria Group
- ABN AMRO
- Accenture
- AS Watson Group
- Bank of China
- Barclays
- Bloomberg
- BNP Paribas
- China Construction Bank
- China International Capital Corporation
- China Investment Corporation
- Citibank
- Cushman & Wakefield
- Deutsche Bank
- Ernst & Young
- Exxon Mobil Corporation
- Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited
- Hong Kong Monetary Authority
- HSBC
- ICBC
- Jones Lang LaSalle
- J.P. Morgan
- KPMG
- Macquarie Group
- Moody’s Corporation
- Morgan Stanley
- P&G
- PwC
- Securities and Futures Commission
- Shanghai Stock Exchange
- Sidney Austin LLP
- Societe Generale
- Standard Chartered Bank
- Stephenson Harwood
- The Economist Group
- UBS
- and more...

Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates (IANG)

Hong Kong SAR Government has implemented an immigration policy since 2009 for non-local graduates, the purpose of which is to encourage non-local graduates to stay and work in Hong Kong.

The IANG Advantages:

- Under the IANG, non-local students who satisfy all graduation requirements may apply to stay and work in Hong Kong right after graduation
- A stay of up to 12 months in Hong Kong without other conditions of stay (i.e. with or without a job offer upon application)
- Extension of stay may be considered along with flexibility on employment
- A simplified and streamlined application procedure

For further information, please refer to Hong Kong Immigration Department

Words from Alumni

Karen Qian
- Class of 2007
- Associate Director, Corporate Finance Team, Deloitte

The one-year intensive HKU MEcon programme is demanding intellectually, however, proved to be very rewarding by laying out a good foundation for my job in Hong Kong. Not only I have gained solid understanding of economic principles, but also made great friends through projects and after-class study groups. This together helped me start fast with my career in Hong Kong.

Kevin Chung
- Class of 2011
- Director, Leading Securities Japan and MacEarth Group, Japan

I am originally from Singapore, working in Beijing for a Chinese Private Equity Fund Management Company that has portfolio companies in China and overseas. It is quite difficult to fully understand all of the business and cultural nuances of China. The Chinese economy and business landscape is moving faster than any other markets. This programme really provided me with insightful on-the-ground Eastern and Western perspectives on management and business environments.

Zeno Lui
- Class of 2015
- Head of USD Sanctions Screening, FCC, HSBC

I got deeper & broader exposure in various aspects of economics through HKU MEcon. The programme also enabled me to explore other courses offered in the MBA and MFin Courses, which in turn, further expanded the spectrum of knowledge offered to me. These would require commitments, good time management and inevitably some heavy-liftings at times, but the result has been equally rewarding. There is no doubt that I made a right choice to come to HKU MEcon.
Student Profile

Class of 2020: Overview

Gender: Male 40% | Female 60%
Average Age: 22
Age Range: 20-28
With Prior Work Experience: 21%
Average Work Experience: 2.3-year
GMAT Score Range: 640 - 750

Academic Background

Universities
- Fudan University
- Nankai University
- Peking University
- Renmin University
- Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
- Sun Yat-sen University
- The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- The National University of Singapore
- The University of Hong Kong
- The University of Melbourne
- The University of Sydney
- Tsinghua University
- University College London
- University of British Columbia
- University of California
- University of Toronto
- Wuhan University
- Zhejiang University
- and more...

Previous Employers^*
- Bank of China
- Bank of Communications
- China Securities Co. Ltd
- Citibank
- Deloitte
- Everbright Securities Co. Ltd
- GF Securities
- Guotai Junan Securities Co. Ltd
- HSBC
- ICBC
- KPMG
- Ping An Securities Co. Ltd
- and more...

^Covering both internships and full-time employment
Apply to Our Programme

Admission Requirements
To be eligible for admission to our programme, you must:

► Hold a recognised Bachelor's degree or equivalent;
► Obtain statements from two referees, regarding your suitability for the programme; and
► Obtain a TOEFL/IELTS score if you are not from an English-medium university.

Minimum score requirement: TOEFL: 90 | IELTS: 7 (with no subtest below 6.5)
GMAT/GRE scores are not required, but candidates with a good GMAT/GRE score will be favorably considered.

Application Deadlines
Non-local students are highly encouraged to apply in the first round to allow sufficient time to arrange student visas and to prepare to move to Hong Kong.

| Round 1 | 12:00nn (HKT) Oct 22, 2019 |
| Round 2 | 12:00nn (HKT) Dec 30, 2019 |
| Round 3 | 12:00nn (HKT) Feb 13, 2020 |

Offers will be made on a rolling basis and early applications are preferred in the sense that a large proportion of offers will be allocated to applications in early rounds. Candidates are therefore highly recommended to submit their applications and supporting documents as soon as possible.

Admissions decisions are generally available in eight weeks after the application deadline and successful applicants will be notified by email. The applications of those who have not received an offer will be considered again in the following round(s) until the end of the whole admissions cycle.

Tuition Fee and Scholarships
The proposed tuition fee for Intake 2020 is HK$268,000*. The fee shall be payable in two equal installments in one year, irrespective of the number of courses taken in each module.

We offer merit-based scholarships to qualified students, who may receive tuition waiver ranging from 10% to 50% in most cases. All eligible candidates are automatically considered; no separate application is required.

Application Procedures
1. Set up your HKU application account through the Taught Postgraduate Online Application System.
2. Download the Reference Form template and send it to your two referees. Ask them to email the completed forms directly to us at meconref@hku.hk via their valid email accounts before the closing date.
3. Complete the online application form and prepare an application fee of HK$300. The document upload function will be available on completion.
4. Upload soft copies of the following materials through the application system:
   ► Graduation transcript or interim transcript (mandatory)
   ► Graduation certificate, if available
   ► Latest CV
   ► Award certificate/degree certificate, applicable to applicants from Mainland Institutions only
   ► TOEFL/IELTS score report, if applicable
   ► Proof of internship experience in all positions, or most recent full-time employment, whichever is applicable
   ► Certificates for professional qualifications (e.g. ACCA, CFA, CPA), if applicable
   ► GMAT / GRE score report, if applicable
5. If you receive an admission offer from us, you will be required to arrange an offer deposit of HK$75,000* to confirm your place, which will be deducted from the first instalment of the tuition fee.

Visit our website to start your application today
www.fbe.hku.hk/tpg-forms/mecon/apply-now

* Subject to the final approval of the University