

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS**

Master of Philosophy (MPhil)/Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The courses listed below may not be offered every year.

All courses taken by MPhil/PhD students are assessed on a pass/fail basis.

ACCT6013 Doctoral Accounting Seminar I

The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of various topics in accounting relating to faculty research interests and expertise. We will discuss both classic papers on financial markets, and faculty members' own research in these areas. The course will be based on lectures, student presentations, and discussions.

Remarks: This course is to replace BUSM6013 from 2018-19

ACCT6014 Doctoral Accounting Seminar II

This course focuses on empirical financial accounting research related to capital market issues and managerial incentives. The course involves the discussion of selected research papers that will help students to understand the evolution, theoretical foundations, and research methods of capital market literature.

Remarks: This course is to replace BUSM6014 from 2018-19

ACCT6017 Theoretical Accounting Research

This course introduces selected topics of theoretical accounting research, focusing on the usefulness of financial reporting information in capital markets, the behaviour of firms in disclosing private information, and issues related to auditing of firms' publicly released financial reports. While the theme of the seminar is theoretical research, we will also bring related empirical studies into discussion and show how theory is important for properly developing empirical research.

Remarks: This course is to replace BUSM6017 from 2018-19

BUSM6001 Research Methods for Business Studies

This course introduces students to fundamental and contemporary research methodologies in business studies, including research design, survey method, econometric modelling and

empirical analysis, etc. The focus will be on how to develop appropriate research design for specific research questions, how to implement empirical analysis, and how to present and interpret the results. Moreover, students will present their own planned research projects, paying particular attention to (1) the contributions to existing knowledge and (2) justification for the methodology proposed.

ECON6002 Selected Topics in Microeconomics

This is a course of axiomatic choice theory in which classic results as well as current developments are surveyed. Students are expected to be proficient in fundamentals of microeconomic theory, analysis and probability theory. Potential topics include choice under uncertainty, subjective beliefs and updating, ambiguity aversion, temptation and self-control.

ECON6005 Econometric Theory I[#]

This course is an introduction to econometric theory and applications at an advanced level. Students are expected to be proficient in calculus, matrix algebra, and econometrics at the undergraduate level. Potential topics to be discussed include the classical linear model, generalized method of moments, and multiple equation models.

Remarks: Students may be required to pass a mathematics test in order to take the course.

ECON6010 Monetary Policy: Theory and Practice[#]

This course is an introduction to macroeconomic policies at the PhD level. Students are expected to be proficient in calculus, linear algebra, and macroeconomics at the undergraduate level. Potential topics to be discussed include: 1. basic classical and New Keynesian models; 2. linear-quadratic approximation methods; 3. optimal and robust controls; 4. model uncertainty; 5. time series econometrics.

ECON6011 Microeconomic Theory[#]

This course is an introduction to microeconomic theory at the PhD level. Students are expected to be proficient in calculus, and have some basic knowledge in real analysis. Potential coverage of the course includes, but not limited to, General Equilibrium, Informational economics, and Mechanism Design. The intended audience for this course is all first year PhD students and MEcon/MBA/Undergraduate students who are research-oriented or are interested in pursuing PHD in the near future. The course is NOT application-oriented. For an application-oriented Microeconomic course, one may consider taking ECON6021 A/B instead. A good way to gauge the difficulty level of the course is to flip through the textbook listed in the course outline.

ECON6012 Macroeconomic Theory[#]

This course covers neo-classical macroeconomics, the Keynesian model and its problems, the consumption function and investment and economic fluctuations, supply and demand of money, the counterrevolution in monetary theory, inflation and unemployment and alternative policies for dealing with them, and open economy macroeconomics.

ECON6036 Game Theory and Applications[#]

This course will explore the multi-person decision-making situations when players' payoffs depend on other players' choices. Game theory has notable applications in many fields, such as economics, law, business, finance and political science. We will first review the theoretical frameworks and then focus on applications such as reputation, communication, collective decision-making, modelling knowledge, and global games. Students are expected to know basic probability theory and calculus, and to be comfortable thinking mathematically and doing proofs.

ECON6052 Selected Topics in Macroeconomics

This is a special-topics course on macroeconomics (i.e., the study of aggregate or economy-wide behaviour). Presumably, the topics may vary from year to year, depending on the interest of the instructor. In any case, they will be related in one way or another to the central issues of (long-run) growth and (short-run) fluctuations, as well as the analysis of growth and stabilisation policies. This year the course will focus on macro-finance, firm dynamics, and heterogeneous agent models. This course is aimed to introduce PhD students the research frontier of dynamic and quantitative models in macroeconomics and finance. Students are expected to use these tools to study economic growth, business cycles, consumption, savings, investment, asset pricing, and government policies.

ECON6054 Graduate Seminar in Economics

This course prepares PhD students to conduct independent research, make academic presentations, and start writing their theses through a series of student-led seminars. Students are required to take turns to present classic papers of their fields and their own research proposals in class. By the end of this course, each student is expected to submit a research paper that can be developed into part of his or her dissertation.

Remarks: This course is to replace ECON6054A 'Graduate Seminar (Economics)' from 2018-19

ECON6056 Econometric Theory II[#]

This course is a continuation of Econometric Theory I (ECON6005). Potential topics to be discussed include panel data, maximum likelihood estimation, nonlinear regression models, time

series models, and cointegration. The course will examine both the theoretical properties of these estimators and their implementation with professional statistical software.

Prerequisite: ECON6005

ECON6881 Economics and Finance Workshops I
ECON6882 Economics and Finance Workshops II
ECON6883 Economics and Finance Workshops III
ECON6884 Economics and Finance Workshops IV
ECON6885 Economics and Finance Workshops V

These 5 courses offer regular workshops in economics and finance to the students. Academics and professionals from local and overseas institutions will be invited to present their research outcomes in the workshops.

Remarks: Open only to students registered before September 2018.

FINA6016 Asset Pricing Theory

This course is an introductory PhD level course on the basic theories of asset pricing. It consists of five parts. The first part deals with individual choices under uncertainty, including expected utility theory, risk aversion, and two-period consumption portfolio problems. The second part deals with equilibrium pricing theories, including implications of no arbitrage and stochastic discount factor, risk sharing, aggregation, and consumption-based pricing in complete markets, mean-variance efficiency and the Capital Asset Pricing Model. We also explore the relation between these various pricing theories and extend the treatment of individual consumption/portfolio problems and equilibrium pricing to a multi-period setting. In the third part, we review recent developments in asset pricing by introducing some stylized facts and new theories. The fourth part introduces asymmetric information in financial markets. The fifth part provides a brief introduction of the recent development of market frictions in financial markets, including leverage constraints, short selling constraints and the interaction between financial markets and real economy.

FINA6017 Corporate Finance Theory

This course covers selected PhD-level research-related lectures in corporate theories, real options and financial intermediation. The instructors will lecture selected topics and associated papers.

Remarks: This course is to replace ECON6017 'Financial Economics' from 2018-19

FINA6052 Empirical Asset Pricing

This course is an in-depth study of existing empirical work in asset pricing, including econometric and statistical methods. The focus is on empirical studies of the fundamental economic questions in asset pricing. This course consists of reading, presenting, and discussing articles on the general subject of empirical asset pricing.

FINA6053 Empirical Corporate Finance

This is a special course that deals with various topics in empirical corporate finance. Topics covered may vary from year to year, depending on the research interests of the instructor.

Remarks: This course is to replace ECON6053 'Selected Topics in Financial Economics' from 2018-19

FINA6054 Selected Topics in Financial Research

This course prepares PhD students to conduct independent research, make academic presentations, and start writing their theses through a series of student-led seminars. Students are required to take turns to present classic papers of the assigned field and their own research ideas in class. By the end of this course, each student is expected to submit a research proposal that can be developed into part of his or her dissertation.

Remarks: This course is to replace ECON6054B 'Graduate Seminar (Finance)' from 2018-19

FINA6055 Empirical Programming Methods for Business Research

This course provides students a foundation in managing and analysing datasets for empirical business research, with a particular focus on finance and accounting. The first part of the course focuses on developing programming skills. Methods covered include databases, data custodianship, statistical scripting languages, automation, regression analysis and high-performance computing. The second part of the course focuses on empirical methods – building new datasets and conducting high-quality replications of existing papers. Some discussion of alternative data will be provided. Students' primary mode of learning will be projects and hands-on programming experience. In some assignments, students will be required to contribute to a communal repository of data and code, helping to accelerate students in acquiring proficiency in conducting their own empirical research.

IIMT6004 Research Methodologies in Information Systems

Overview of the conduct of research in the information systems field for MPhil/PhD students in information systems.

Remarks: This course is to replace BUSM6004 from 2018-19

IIMT6005 Survey of Research in Information Systems

Survey of research topics related to technical/management issues illustrating the impact of information technology on organisations; for MPhil/PhD students in information systems.

Remarks: This course is to replace BUSM6005 from 2018-19

IIMT6006 Research Seminars in Information Systems

Research seminars to prepare MPhil/PhD students in information systems to conduct advanced research in the field. Extensive literature reviews help sharpen critical thinking and identify relevant research topics.

Remarks: This course is to replace BUSM6006 from 2018-19

IIMT6015 Research Methodologies in Operations Management

This course introduces students to main research methods (e.g. quantitative model-based research, deterministic optimization, stochastic modeling and simulation) and topics in operation management. The articles in major operations management journals serve as the examples for selection of methodology and justification of research contribution. The students are also required to practice on research design for specific research questions.

IIMT6016 Research Seminars in Operations Management

This course exposes students to cutting-edge research on operations management topics using both theoretical models and empirical analysis. It will start with an introduction of theoretical models that are commonly used in the operations management field to build hypothesis and then strengthen students' ability to design and conduct empirical research related to their models. We will study classical papers, review articles and recent contributions related empirical research in operations management.

Remarks: This course is to replace BUSM6016 'Research Seminars in Operations and Innovation Management' from 2018-19

MGMT6009 Research Seminars in Human Resources Management and Organisational Behaviour

The research seminars prepare MPhil/PhD students to conduct advanced research in the areas of human resource management and organisational behaviour.

Remarks: This course is to replace BUSM6009 from 2018-19

MKTG6002 Research Seminars in Marketing I: Consumer Behaviour

This course is to provide doctoral students with a solid foundation for critical thinking in consumer behaviour. This seminar focuses on topics related to self-regulation, social relationships, and decision-making. The readings consist of articles from premier journals and book chapters in marketing and social psychology.

Remarks: This course is to replace BUSM6002 from 2018-19

MKTG6003 Research Seminars in Marketing II: Quantitative Studies

This seminar focuses on using quantitative models to study different marketing topics. These topics cover both consumer decisions and firm strategies. The survey covers classic as well as contemporary works in these areas. Participants in the seminar are encouraged to design a model in areas of their interests as part of the seminar.

Remarks: This course is to replace BUSM6003 from 2018-19

STRA6012 Research Methodologies in Economics and Strategy

This course covers the basic empirical research methodologies used in strategy field including research design, econometric modelling and analysis, statistical software usage (SAS/STATA), etc. Basic statistical theory and econometric concepts and methods will be introduced in this course. We will also read many research papers that are good examples of empirical application. You are also taught how to deal with data set in SAS software, how to implement basic empirical analysis using STATA software, and how to interpret the results you obtain. Some exercises will be assigned to class participants in order for consolidation of what they have learned in class. Short discussion sessions can be arranged for class participants to share their own research projects upon request.

Remarks: This course is to replace BUSM6012 from 2018-19

STRA6015 Advanced Topics in Strategy and International Business

This doctoral seminar covers advanced topics on strategy and international business (IB), with a focus on critical review of their theoretical foundations and substantial issues. Seminar topics include: state of strategy and IB research, transaction cost economics, relational exchange theory, resource-based view, competitive force framework, institutional theory; strategic orientation, organisational learning, product innovation, interorganisational relationships, international business, and emerging markets. The emphasis will be on critical review of most recent theoretical advances and development of new theoretical models.

Remarks: This course is to replace BUSM6015 from 2018-19

Courses offered by the Master of Economics programme