Meeting the Challenge of a Globalising World

Master of International and Public Affairs
The University of Hong Kong

As the territory’s oldest institution of higher education, the University of Hong Kong (HKU) is a leading comprehensive research university in Asia. Since its first congregation with just 28 graduates in 1916, HKU today has over 28,300 undergraduate and postgraduate students, and over 1,800 academic staff teaching in 315 programmes every year. As Hong Kong’s most prestigious university, HKU is dedicated to the pursuit of academic excellence, promoting new knowledge and scientific, cultural, social advancement.

Department of Politics and Public Administration

The Department of Politics and Public Administration has played a leading role in politics and public administration research and education in Hong Kong and Asia since 1969. At both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, the Department is at the forefront offering academic training that is essential for students to become future leaders. **HKU has been ranked 23rd in the subject of Politics and International Studies by the QS World University Ranking 2016.**

What makes us unique?

**Strategic location:** As Asia’s world city, Hong Kong is an ideal location for the study of international affairs. It is a place where the East meets the West, a regional communication and business hub, and the home for a large number of global transnational corporations. Over ninety countries have established consulate offices in Hong Kong because of its role as the gateway between China and the rest of the world.

**The Pioneer Programme:** MIPA is the first taught course postgraduate programme in international affairs offered in Hong Kong. The programme facilities knowledge development and networking for those interested in international affairs. The faculty members in the programme are dedicated scholars, trained in leading universities, and well connected with the academic, professional and policy communities regionally and internationally.

**Multi-disciplinary nature:** The MIPA is a multi-disciplinary programme with special reference to the Asia-Pacific region. It provides conceptual knowledge and in-depth understanding of regional and global affairs which are needed to meet the career challenge of globalization and international changes in today’s world.
Exciting learning experience and professional networking: Our candidates are mid-career professional-diplomats, government officials, journalists, public and private sector executives, political and economic analysts, public affairs specialists, NGO representatives, etc. from local and overseas. The mix of candidates makes the programme truly international and stimulating. The diverse backgrounds of our candidates allow for an exciting interaction and educational experience for all. MIPA is linked with world-wide policy communities and a network of international affairs specialists, which provide opportunities for candidates to interact with experts in the field.

Flexible structure: The flexible structure of the programme allows candidates to choose courses from international relations and its related fields (including law, media studies and public policy). Classes meet in weekday evenings or Saturdays.

Admission and degree requirements
To be admitted to the programme, an applicant should have an honour degree from a recognized university, preferable some training in international affairs, politics, public administration, business, law or journalism/communication or relevant professional experiences. English proficiency for Master-level academic study is required.

Programme structure
To receive the award of Master of International and Public Affairs, candidates must complete 8 courses plus a capstone project successfully within 2 years for part-time study. In selecting courses candidates must meet the following requirements:

1) 2 compulsory courses;
2) No fewer than 4 core courses; and
3) No more than 2 elective courses.

The combination of course, for example, should include 6 core courses (including 2 compulsory courses) plus the equivalent of 2 courses from one of the following options:

- 2 more core/elective courses;
- Overseas study/internship (equivalent to one or two elective courses);
- Graduate exchange program with George Washington University (GWU), The Elliott School of International Affairs (students will have to take 9 credit hours of coursework at GWU to fulfill the U.S. residency requirement, with the understanding that 3 credit hours of coursework at GWU is equivalent to 1 MIPA elective course);
- Graduate exchange program with Seoul National University (SNU), Graduate School of International Studies (GSIS);
- Graduate exchange program with Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva (GISD).
Compulsory course list
- Capstone project
- International political economy
- Theories of international relations

Core course list
- Special topics in international relations (I) & (II)
- Special topics in international political economy (I) & (II)
- Special topics in Asia Pacific international relations (I) & (II)
- Special topics in global and regional governance (I) & (II)
- China's governance in the reform era
- Chinese foreign policy
- Cross-Taiwan Strait relations
- Government and law
- Government and the economy
- International law
- International organizations
- International relations in the Asia-Pacific
- International security in East Asia
- NGOs and governance
- Political and sovereign risk assessment
- The politics of global inequality
- Understanding global problems: theory and practice
- War and armed conflict: philosophical issues
- War and strategy
- World energy issues: international political economy and security

Elective options**
- Overseas study at Peking University: “Current issues in China’s international relations” (one course equivalent)
- Overseas study at Johns Hopkins University: SAIS programme (one/two courses equivalent)
- Overseas study at George Washington University: U.S. foreign policy summer programme (one course equivalent)
- Overseas study at Seoul National University: Seminar on area studies – East Asia in the modern world (one course equivalent)
- Law courses offered by HKU Law Department
- Public policy courses offered by HKU Politics and Public Administration Department.
- Media studies courses offered by HKU Journalism and Media Studies Centre

**subject to requirements and appropriate course fees as decided by host departments
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