



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS AND
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

JUPAS CODE: JS6810

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (GOVERNMENT & LAWS) & BACHELOR OF LAWS

GOVERNMENT & LAWS

ADMISSIONS 2020



MISSION

**To educate principled leaders who will
advance the public interest and the rule of law.**

WHAT IS HKU GOVERNMENT & LAWS?

HKU Government & Laws (HKU GLaws) is an elite undergraduate programme in public affairs that no serious student can afford to overlook.

Since 1999, HKU GLaws has brought forth cohort after cohort of outstanding lawyers in public and private practice, government administrative officers (AOs), professors, business professionals, and leaders of the non-profit sector. The programme's mission is to educate principled leaders who will advance the public interest and the rule of law by offering innovative solutions to problems confronting our society and beyond.

WHY STUDY GOVERNMENT & LAWS TOGETHER?

Government and laws naturally go together. Politics gives rise to laws, and laws supply the framework through which public policy is debated, made, and enforced.

The most important developments in our present age regularly feature the intersection of government and laws, be it BREXIT, nuclear disarmament on the Korean peninsula, trade disputes between major powers, transnational terrorism and human rights abuses, China's Belt-Road Initiative, and so on. It is virtually impossible for anyone interested in a career in law, public service, international governance, transnational commerce and business, and non-governmental organisations to stand out in a crowd nowadays without a grasp of the principles and practice of government and laws.



“Good laws, if they are not obeyed, do not constitute good government.”

Aristotle (384-322 BC)
Father of Western Philosophy

WHAT IS SO SPECIAL ABOUT HKU GLAWS?

HKU GLaws has a Distinct Educational Approach

Unlike the stand-alone law degree, HKU GLaws draws on multiple disciplines such as comparative politics, political philosophy, international relations, and public administration to nurture top-notch thinkers who are competent at attacking social and legal problems from all angles.



“The HKU GLaws Programme has always been the correct choice for me. It was not just the training in analytical and critical thinking which proved to be invaluable to my career but my social awareness was greatly aroused. GLaws students will develop correct social values, gain positive attitudes and learn skill sets in human relations, leadership and management – all most useful for one's personal development.”

Angie Lo, '04
Partner,
Holman Fenwick Willan



“Reading HKU GLaws opened up a world of possibilities for me. The interdisciplinary legal and political studies offered by the Programme had sharpened my inquisitiveness and analytical power. With an inspired and enriched mind, I was always encouraged to look for creative solutions to problems. I was formerly Assistant Representative of Hong Kong, China to the World Trade Organization, a role that constantly requires me to deploy solid research skills and sophisticated techniques of negotiations.”

Heidi Ip, '09
Administrative Officer,
Government of the Hong Kong SAR

Be Part of an Eminent Tradition

HKU counts among its alumni Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the Founding President of Modern China; Lim Bo Seng, Singapore's national hero; Fu Bingchang, China's ambassador to Belgium and the Soviet Union; judges of the former Supreme Court of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Court of Final Appeal, and numerous first-class legal minds whose impact can be felt beyond Hong Kong. Politics and public administration have been taught at HKU for more than one century, since 1915, training generations after generations of public servants. Becoming an HKU GLaws student means following their footsteps towards greatness.





“Because of the unique intellectual stimulation from HKU GLaws, I never see law books as being only rules and systems, but reflections of history, values of society, and determinants of social justice for the present and future. The exceptional vision instilled in me by the Programme opened doors for rigorous academic training at Oxford University, and careers in the Hong Kong SAR Government and the international development NGO Oxfam. Only with a broad perspective could I have realised that career paths can be horizontal, which for me is the most fruitful way to enrich life and serve the world.”

Heidi Hung, '03

PhD Student in Public Health

Former Global Campaign Coordinator, Oxfam Hong Kong

Former Senior Administrative Officer, Government of the Hong Kong SAR

Rhodes Scholar

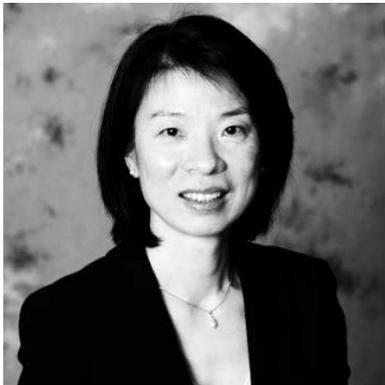
MSt in Legal Research graduate, University Oxford

Study at Asia's Global University

HKU's Department of Politics and Public Administration and Faculty of Law are consistently ranked among the top in Asia and worldwide. Becoming an HKU GLaws student means having access to over 100 international experts on law and/or politics, many of whom conduct state-of-the-art research into how societies should be organised and governed.

Meet the Programme Directors

The Directors of HKU GLaws are Professor Eliza W. Y. Lee from the Department of Politics and Public Administration and Associate Professor Eric C. Ip from the Department of Law.



Professor Eliza W. Y. Lee

formerly Head of the Department of Politics and Public Administration and Director of the Centre for Civil Society and Governance at HKU. Her research looks into the politics of social policy development, civil society organisations, civic engagement, and collaborative governance in Hong Kong and elsewhere in Asia. An international expert in public administration, her work has appeared in leading journals in the field such as *Governance* and *Public Administration Review*.



Associate Professor Eric C. Ip, '08

himself an alumnus of HKU GLaws, is an expert in comparative administrative law, the field that studies how and why legal mechanisms, such as judicial review, that regulate decisions and decision-making processes of governments vary across different jurisdictions and historical periods. Currently co-editing *The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Administrative Law*, he is also the author of the leading textbook on Hong Kong's legal system.

CAREER PATHS

Employers look not only for employees who are skilled in one professional discipline, but also in possession of knowledge in multiple fields to address significant issues that confront modern public and private organisations.

HKU GLaws enables you to acquire critical skills from a wide range of disciplines: political economy, philosophy, and law to strengthen your competitiveness. Knowledge of the law is considered an asset in many areas of employment. Most HKU GLaws graduates have found positions in the legal and government sectors, but others have also excelled in a diverse variety of career fields such as journalism, business, academia, and non-government organisations. In short, HKU GLaws is an excellent choice regardless of whether you intend to become a legal practitioner in Hong Kong or not.



“The interdisciplinary and philosophical training offered by HKU GLaws has provided me with a strong foundation for rigorous intellectual analysis of complicated legal issues in litigation and arbitration.”

Giselle Yuen, '11
Associate,
Herbert Smith Freehills



“Even with the benefit of hindsight and as a barrister now, I had absolutely no hesitation in choosing HKU GLaws over other options. The Programme was a precious and fruitful experience of self-discovery.”

Connie Lee, '06
Barrister-at-Law,
Des Voeux Chambers

BCL graduate, University of Oxford
Bar Scholar



“I was very fortunate to have the privilege of reading the HKU GLaws double degree. The Programme is enriching, stimulating, and opens doors to diverse career paths. Among the many valuable things students learn is the ability to analyse the intricate dynamics between law and public administration. I developed a keen interest in public law since university days and have benefited tremendously from the Programme in my current practice which has a public law element.”

Bonnie Cheng, '07
Barrister-at-Law,
Temple Chambers

LLM graduate, Harvard University
MSc in Global Governance and Diplomacy graduate, University of Oxford
Bar Scholar



“The thought-provoking education offered by HKU GLaws has empowered me to always challenge my own limits. This ethos has landed me positions far removed from government and laws, such as working with the directors’ office of a Hong Kong listed conglomerate, as well as taking up leading positions in various non-profit communities. Today, I am advancing my career in a leading law firm, backed by solid training in government and laws and diverse experiences in business. HKU GLaws is the right choice for every outstanding student who would not settle for less; who would constantly explore new opportunities and acquire multidisciplinary knowledge to understand the world better than their peers.”

Sharon Tam, '13
Associate,
Mayer Brown



“Speaking as a partner of a leading law firm, I affirm the fact that HKU GLaws would always be my first choice over all other options. GLaws blends knowledge and skills in politics with those of law, and takes the best of both worlds. This integration deeply challenged my critical thinking capabilities and allowed me to develop a unique angle in approaching problems and finding solutions, which in turn gave me an edge in advancing and sustaining my career. In view of the current political climate, Hong Kong needs lawyers and leaders who are not only good at legal techniques but also passionate about defending the rule of law and judicial independence. If you have such aspirations, I strongly recommend GLaws to you.”

Alvin Ho, '07
Partner,
Pinsent Masons



“I have made a lot of lifelong friends in my five years of university studies in HKU GLaws, and a lot of them have become my best friends. GLaws is also very intellectually nurturing. It prepares students with analytical thinking and a general awareness of what’s happening around us. I found what I learned in classes to be truly relevant to my day-to-day work in the financial industry, even if my job is not directly related to politics, public administration or law.”

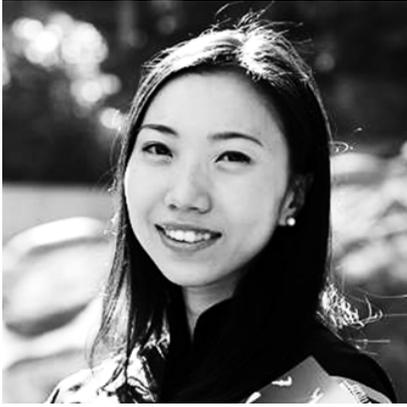
Eugenia Chan, '11
Vice President, Distribution,
Barclays



“I am proud to be a graduate of HKU GLaws. The Programme’s interdisciplinary approach enabled me to broaden my perspectives of the society and the world, to think critically and creatively, and to become part of a wide network of outstanding alumni working in vast range of sectors. These benefits continue to bring positive impact to my personal development and career progression.”

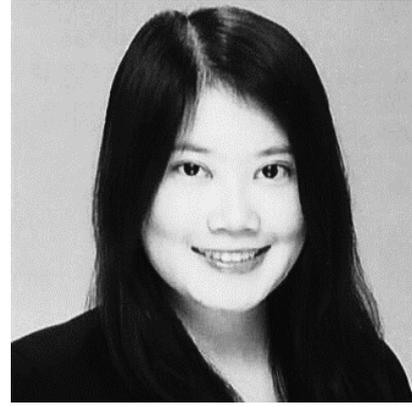
Lily Chan, '07
Vice President,
Assistant General Counsel
Equity Derivatives Legal
JP Morgan

Masters in Finance graduate,
London Business School
Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA)
charterholder



“HKU GLaws is a multidisciplinary and challenging study programme, which allows students to have a broad perspective on international politics and law, while looking in-depth into political concepts and local social issues. With vibrant interaction with renowned professors and bright peers, the Programme has equipped us with the essential organisation and analytical skills, and critical thinking, which are important for any career, be it in law, public services or elsewhere.”

Veronica Tse, '09
Administrative Officer,
Government of the Hong Kong SAR



“Through lectures and dynamic small group tutorial discussions, HKU GLaws students were able to develop the ability and confidence to make a good case for the public interest and the rule of law. The practical knowledge and skills that I learnt from the Programme have served me well in my career with the government.”

Joanna Tsui, '12
Administrative Officer,
Government of the Hong Kong SAR

HKU GLaws Provides its Students with Great Flexibility

GLaws students enjoy the flexible option of graduating with an BSocSc (Govt & Laws) degree in 4 years, or an BSocSc (Govt & Laws) & LLB double degree in 5 years. They are entitled to make an informed choice on whether to pursue the **4-Year Track** or the **5-Year Track** at the end of their second year, after they have studied a wide array of law courses such as administrative law, constitutional law, contract law, law and society, legal research and writing, legal system, and tort law.

4-YEAR TRACK: BSOCS (GOVT & LAWS)

The **4-Year Track** is especially suitable for students who are primarily interested in public affairs, global diplomacy, public service, and other fields, such as business and commerce, but would like to gain a background in law as well.

Year 1

PPA major courses

Making Sense of Politics
One Faculty of Social Sciences core introductory course

Law core courses

Law of Contract I; Law of Contract II
Legal System of the Hong Kong SAR
Law and Society
Legal Research and Writing I

Common core courses

Two Common Core Courses

English language courses/ free electives

Core University English or Free Elective

Year 3

PPA major courses

3 PPA Electives
Global Citizenship or Social Innovation

Law core courses

Guided Research

Common core courses

One Common Core Course

Chinese language courses/ free electives

Practical Chinese and Free Electives

Year 2

PPA major courses

Research Methods
Two PPA Gateway Courses

Law core courses

Law of Tort I; Law of Tort II
Constitutional Law
Legal Research and Writing II
Administrative Law

Common core courses

Two Common Core Courses

Year 4

PPA major courses

5 PPA electives and Capstone course

Law core courses

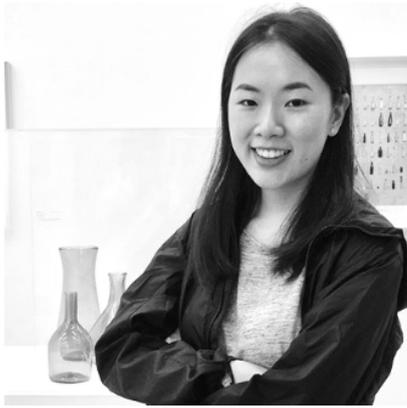
Introduction to Legal Theory

Common core courses

One Common Core Course

Chinese language courses/ free electives

Free Electives



“The HKU GLaws Programme provides students with a unique, rigorous and in-depth intellectual exposure to various academic disciplines. The Programme structure allows for great flexibility, thus supporting students to pursue an intellectual journey of their choice and also thoroughly prepares a student for their professional career in the future. Furthermore, the Programme has opened doors for academic careers not just in Politics and Law, but also in Philosophy, and in my case, History. I would call my experience as a GLawyer the most remarkable and transformative one during my time at HKU. It was an amazing experience that not only had a positive impact on my career path but also my life.”

Amanda Zhang, '15
DPhil Oriental Studies candidate,
University of Oxford



“Diverse and limitless – are the right words to describe the career paths of HKU GLaws graduates, whether belonging to the four-year or five-year tracks. Our diverse choices of career include becoming lawyers, public officials, professors, investment bankers, consultants, startup founders, Fortune 500 brand managers and airline pilots. The cross-disciplinary curriculum that characterises the GLaws experience offers students a unique view of the world and a deep understanding of both local and international issues. This definitely helps us to excel in our professional roles.”

Andrew Ko, '13
Pilot,
Cathay Pacific Airways

5-YEAR TRACK: BSOCS (GOVT&LAWS) & LLB

The **5-Year Track** is designed for students who are keen on earning two degrees, including a qualifying law degree, which entitles one to apply for a place on a Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL) programme, a prerequisite for legal practice as a solicitor or barrister in Hong Kong.

Year 1

PPA major courses

Making Sense of Politics
One Faculty of Social Sciences core introductory course

Law core courses

Law of Contract I; Law of Contract II
Legal System of the Hong Kong SAR
Law and Society
Legal Research and Writing I

Common core courses

Two Common Core Courses

English language courses/ free electives

Core University English or Free Elective

Year 3

PPA major courses

3 PPA electives
Global Citizenship or Social Innovation

Law core courses

Criminal Law I; Criminal Law II
Land Law I; Land Law II

Chinese language courses/ free electives

Practical Chinese and Free Electives

Year 2

PPA major courses

Research Methods
Two PPA Gateway Courses

Law core courses

Law of Tort I; Law of Tort II
Constitutional Law
Legal Research and Writing II
Administrative Law

Common core courses

Two Common Core Courses

Years 4-5

PPA major courses

5 PPA electives and Capstone course

Law core courses

Introduction to Chinese Law
Commercial Law
Introduction to Legal Theory
Business Associations
Mooting and Dispute Resolution (Capstone)
Equity and Trusts I; Equity and Trusts II
Disciplinary Electives

Chinese language courses/ free electives

Free Electives

AN ENTHUSIASTIC LEARNING ENVIRONMENT



**Politics and Public
Administration Association SSS HKUSU**
Changing Apathy into Awareness



**GOVERNMENT & LAWS
COMMITTEE**
PPAA SSS HKUSU
LEX INJUSTA NON EST LEX

The **Government and Laws Committee, Politics and Public Administration Association SSS HKUSU (PPAA)** is the official student community of the **HKU GLaws Programme**. GLC is part of PPAA, founded in 1973 as Hong Kong's first student-led society focusing on the study of global and public affairs.

Bringing together current students, alumni, and professors, GLC is committed to promoting a stronger understanding of cutting-edge legal-political issues at the international and domestic levels. To this end GLC offers a robust platform for the dissemination of no-nonsense legal and political knowledge to students and the general public alike. Among GLC's many exciting initiatives are face-to-face meetings between students and prominent practitioners of government and laws such as senior judges and leaders of the Bar Association and the Law Society. GLC also publishes *Public Jurist* – which has quickly established itself as a leading student magazine on law and public affairs in the entire Region.

Follow GLC at: www.facebook.com/hkuglc

Follow PPAA: www.facebook.com/hkuppaa





“Choosing HKU GLaws was one of the best decisions I have ever made. The intellectually stimulating and dynamic Programme provided an incredibly rewarding learning experience. The interdisciplinary study of law and politics established a solid foundation for me to pursue a legal career in the public service. The values instilled in me by HKU GLaws are all the more important and relevant as I perform my duties as a public prosecutor – to act in the public interest at all times while applying the rule of law in a just and fair manner.”

Winnie Mok, '05
Senior Public Prosecutor,
Department of Justice,
Government of the Hong Kong SAR

“HKU GLaws was my top choice. I have no doubt that this was a wise decision, regardless of the political atmosphere. GLaws does not merely manufacture lawyers or public leaders mechanistically. Instead, it equips future public leaders with first rate legal knowledge, and prospective lawyers with the right attitudes and values. It is an appropriate educational approach in an era in which right and wrong seem to be so blurred. Any student enrolled in the Programme will be able to see how intertwined government and laws are, and why they should be.”

Aaron Lam, '11
Senior Government Counsel (Acting),
Department of Justice,
Government of the Hong Kong SAR

JUPAS ADMISSIONS

Minimum entrance requirements for HKDSE

Core Subjects	Minimum Level
CHINESE LANGUAGE	4
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	5
LIBERAL STUDIES	3
MATHEMATICS COMPULSORY PART	3
ANY 2 SUBJECTS	3

In 2019, a total of 521 students applied to HKU GLaws (JS6810). Out of 128 students who placed GLaws in Band A, 54 were given offers. No applicant who placed GLaws in Bands B to E has been admitted.

Admissions Scores of HKDSE Applicants Admitted (2019)

Selection Principle	Upper Quartile	Median	Lower Quartile
Best six subjects	43.5	40.5	39

For applicants with more than one sitting of HKDSE, only the best results in Years 2019 and 2020 will be considered.

NON-JUPAS ADMISSIONS

Applications based on qualifications other than the HKDSE will be assessed based on the information and supporting documents provided, such as past academic records, personal statements, and referees' report. Interviews may be required.

TUITION FEES

Tuition fees for the first four years of studies will be the same as the standard fees for other undergraduate programmes (the fee for 2019-2020 was HK\$42,100 per year). For the optional year(s) of studies for the LLB, tuition fees will be set at a level higher than the standard fees.



“HKU GLaws is the ultimate choice for any student who has an interest in law and public affairs. Looking for a programme that offers world class teaching in law and public affairs with the benefits of flexibility? Look no further. HKU GLaws is your destination.”

**Jet Luk, '10
Legal Aid Counsel,
Legal Aid Department,
Government of the Hong Kong SAR**

“HKU GLaws endows its students with a distinct way of thinking analytically and creatively. The essential tools of legal thought and the spirit of public service imbued in the Programme have undoubtedly played an important role in my work as a Public Prosecutor.”

**Edward Lau, '10
Public Prosecutor,
Department of Justice,
Government of the Hong Kong SAR**





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HKU Government & Laws Admissions

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The information in this publication is correct at the time of publishing in October 2019. The Department of Politics and Public Administration and The University of Hong Kong reserve the right to alter or withdraw courses and amend other details without prior notice.