



Department of Politics and Public Administration  
The University of Hong Kong

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 33,700 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 35<sup>th</sup> in the subject of Politics and International Studies by the QS World University Ranking 2022.**


### 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 facilitates 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 a bachelor 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 (GIDSG).

### **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)  
Chinese foreign policy  
Cross-Taiwan Strait relations  
Global information wars  
Government and law  
International law  
International organizations  
International relations in the Asia-Pacific  
International security  
Law, politics and the international system  
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



## Board of International Advisers for the MIPA Programme

- **Professor Michael DOYLE**  
University Professor and Director, Global Policy Initiative, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University
- **Professor Paul Evans**  
Professor, Institute of Asian Research  
and Liu Institute for Global Issues  
University of British Columbia
- **Professor Harry HARDING**  
University Professor and Professor of Public Policy  
Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy  
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London School of Economic and Political Science
- **Professor Lynn T. WHITE III**  
Professor Emeritus  
Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs  
Princeton University



### **On-line Application**

<http://hku.hk/tpg>

### **Enquiry**

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