



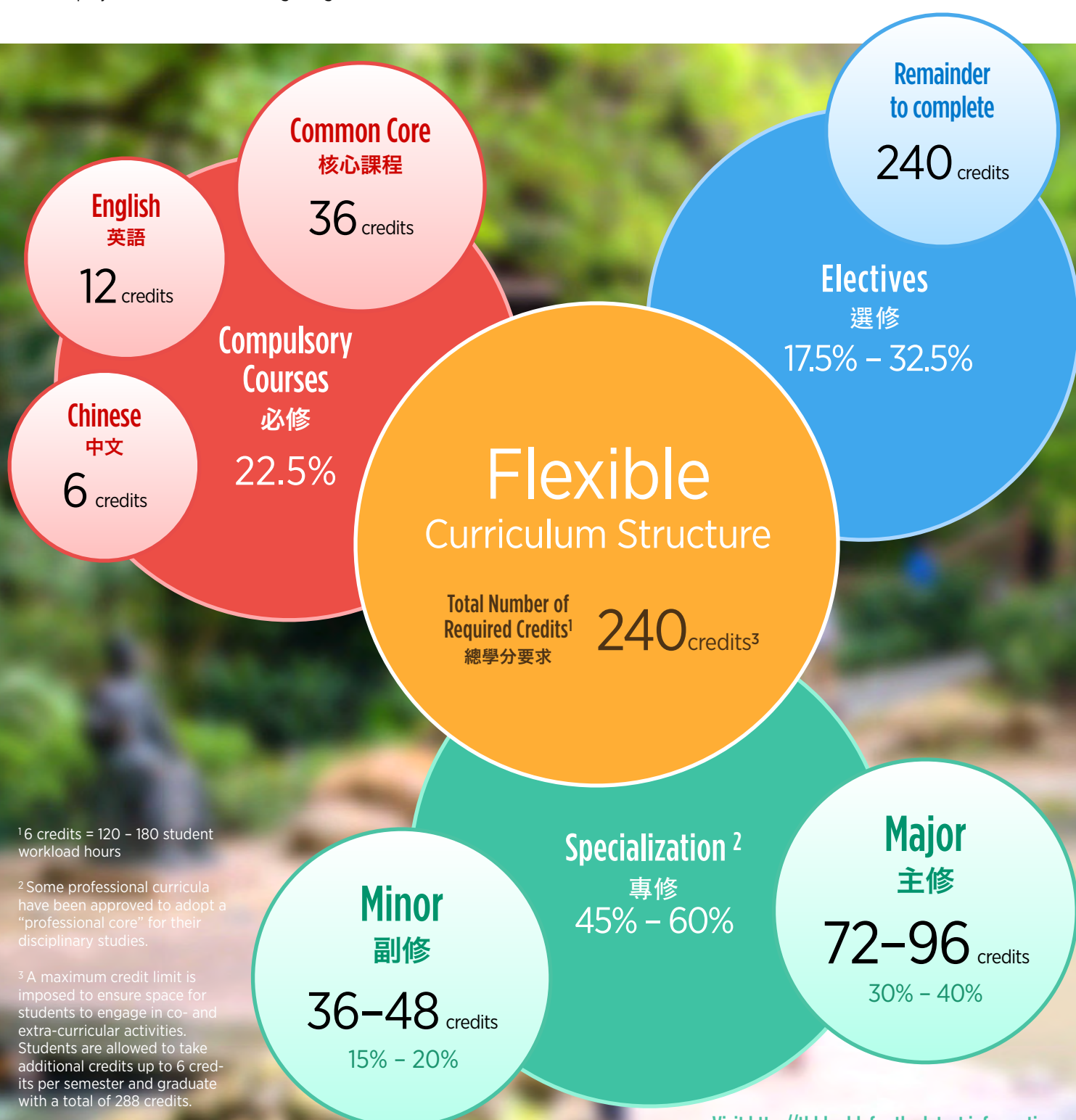
# A Transformative Undergraduate Curriculum



**HKU**  
THE UNIVERSITY  
OF HONG KONG  
香港大學

HKU's 4-year undergraduate curriculum provides flexibility for students to design their own combination of disciplinary majors, minors and electives within and outside their home Faculties under proper academic advising. It encourages students to explore issues of fundamental importance to all human society through the Common Core courses. It also provides opportunities for diverse learning experiences such as overseas exchange, internship, and real-life projects in and outside Hong Kong.

香港大學新四年制本科課程要求學生修畢240學分，在學業指導下，學生可以靈活選擇最感興趣的科目，自行組合主修、副修及選修課程。新課程鼓勵學生透過核心課程探索人類共通議題，亦為學生提供多元化的學習機會，包括海外交流、工作實習、體驗學習等。這些共同學習體驗全面培養港大學生的多元思維及共通能力，亦令他們具備環球公民所需的道德及意識。



Visit <http://tl.hku.hk> for the latest information

First Year Experience &  
Academic Induction

入學首年歷程及  
學習介紹

Common Core  
Curriculum

核心課程

Experiential  
Learning

體驗學習

# Common Learning Experiences



Internationalized  
Learning Environment:  
Multilingual & Multicultural

國際化學習環境:  
多種語言、多元文化

Common learning experiences are developed for all HKU undergraduates throughout their university studies so that there are common attributes that they are expected to have acquired upon graduation. These experiences are designed to develop students' generic and intellectual capabilities, and to cultivate the core moral values and dispositions essential to become engaged global citizens.

Global  
Experience

環球體驗

Capstone Experience &  
Undergraduate Research

總結性學習體驗與  
本科生研究訓練

Innovative Learning  
Environments

創新的學習環境

## First Year Experience & Academic Induction

入學首年歷程及  
學習介紹



As students enter HKU, they are likely to be bewildered by new demands and challenges presented by rich and diverse learning opportunities. To help them fully exploit these opportunities, academic and non-academic induction programmes are offered. An academic advising system has also been set up to help them understand their educational options, culture and ethos of learning at HKU, and the aims of university education. To know more about the network of support services that we offer to first-year students, please visit our one-stop website and Facebook page.

Learn more: [wp.cedars.hku.hk/web/fye](http://wp.cedars.hku.hk/web/fye)



## Central Academic Advising

The Academic Advising Office is staffed with academic advisers and experienced administrators who assist students in developing meaningful study plans by understanding the overall University requirements, general academic procedures and available options. It also organizes various events on academic topics to help students design their unique university experience.

Learn more: [aao.hku.hk](http://aao.hku.hk)

## Faculty-based Academic Advising

Each Faculty has set up an academic advising system and each first-year student is assigned an academic adviser with whom he/she meets regularly to discuss both academic and non-academic study-related issues.

## Residence-based Academic Advising

Each hall of residence has appointed senior undergraduate students to serve as residential student advisers to help advising students on academic matters and hall life. These advisers are supervised by the Wardens and Tutors of their respective halls of residence.



We have expanded the context for learning to meet student needs. Our classrooms are redesigned to facilitate interactive learning. Our libraries are now providing resources as well as space that foster group work and academic socialization. The Chi Wah Learning Commons on our new campus adds another 6,000 square meters of space for students to form learning communities outside the classroom. Quiet study areas, technology-enabled meeting rooms and discussion booths are available to facilitate diverse learning activities. Tables alongside the University Street which connects the old and new campuses are also powered up for students to drive learning in their own way.



## Innovative Learning Environments

創新的學習環境



## Common Core Curriculum

核心課程



The HKU Common Core Curriculum is the centerpiece of our undergraduate curriculum. It stimulates students' intellectual curiosity to explore issues of profound significance to humankind through four Areas of Inquiry (Aols): Scientific and Technological Literacy, Humanities, Global Issues, and China: Culture, State and Society. Students are normally required to take six Common Core courses, one from each Aol and not more than two from any Aol. Common Core courses are interdisciplinary in nature and are taught by professoriate staff from all Faculties. In 2014-15, 170 courses are being offered.

Learn more: [commoncore.hku.hk](http://commoncore.hku.hk)

## Examples of courses

### Scientific and Technological Literacy Aol

- Living with Stem Cells
- Our Place in the Universe
- Science and Health: The Ever-changing Challenges and Solutions
- The World of Waves

### Humanities Aol

- Art and Ideas: East and West
- Spirituality, Religion and Social Change
- Stages of Life: Scientific Fact or Social Fiction?
- The Last Dance: Understanding Death and Dying

### Global Issues Aol

- Contagions: Global Histories of Disease
- Cybersocieties: Understanding Technology as Global Change
- Poverty, Development, and the Next Generation: Challenges for a Global World
- World Heritage and Us

### China: Culture, State and Society Aol

- China in the Global Economy
- Environmental Pollution in China
- Ideas and Practices of Healing in Traditional China
- Modernizing China's Constitution: Failures and Hope

## The Common Core Student Ambassadors

Our Student Ambassadors are a lively group of thoughtful, active, and eloquent students from across all the Faculties who help improve the experience of the Common Core. They initiate seminars, peer-to-peer conversations, and student-exhibits, as well as represent the Core at university and community events. In addition, they give feedback about how the Core is engaged with the major, how to insure the highest quality of learning experience, and about the ways in which the Core is changing lives.



HKU is committed to nurturing students as global citizens and providing them with opportunities that foster intercultural understanding. HKU has reciprocal student exchange programmes with over 280 partner institutions in 37 countries, and the numbers of both incoming and outgoing exchange students are on the rise. We have formal exchange arrangements with prominent universities such as Cambridge, Oxford, MIT, Princeton and Yale. Our Faculty of Social Sciences has been organizing the Global Citizenship Summer Institute to take students overseas for intensive classes coupled with visits to government offices, think tanks and social services organizations to deepen their cultural understanding. There are also programmes that offer students opportunities to work in NGOs and other organizations both locally and overseas.

## Global Experience

環球體驗



# Experiential Learning

體驗學習



Experiential learning is a distinctive element of HKU's undergraduate curriculum. It takes learning outside the traditional boundary of the classroom. Students have to identify problems, communicate and negotiate with others to find solutions and to make decisions in real-life settings. In this process, they make sense of the theoretical knowledge that they are studying and see things in a different light. In some Faculties, experiential learning is a graduation requirement. Gallant Ho Experiential Learning Centre was set up in March 2012 to facilitate and promote experiential learning at HKU.

[Learn more: ghelc.hku.hk](http://ghelc.hku.hk)

## Faculty of Law: Clinical Legal Education Programme

The clinic allows students the opportunity to learn both the theory and practice of domestic and international refugee law under the direct supervision of staff from Hong Kong Refugee Advice Centre.

"Individuals must be free from persecution and given at least minimal assistance when needed. It made me realize that as a society, it is our responsibility to ensure that refugee applicants are empowered. Charity is not only about giving. It is also about learning, about gaining life-changing and invaluable insights. I truly respect the people who are helped because despite less fortunate circumstances, they try their utmost to live life to the fullest." Jennie Ng, Year 2 LLB.



## Faculty of Architecture: Design and Build in Chinese Village

Year 1 students travelled to Changliu Village in Guangdong Province for a 1-week construction project. The project involved the design and construction of a public plaza in front of the village ancestral hall. Limited to only bricks and mortar, the students working in groups of four designed 18 individual structures.

"The project is instrumental in combining experiential learning projects with credit-bearing courses, especially at the undergraduate level. Students were able to experience first-hand the 'social contract' of the architect in their first year. This will hopefully influence their approach to design in the remainder of their academic and professional career." John Lin, Associate Professor, Faculty of Architecture.



## Faculty of Social Sciences: Creating Social Values through Multimedia - Nonprofit Management Practice

The 6-credit course, Nonprofit Management, is a Political Science undergraduate course offered to advance students' understanding of the management and operation of organizations in the non-profit sector. Students worked directly with community partners to identify the social values created by their community partners and then produced multimedia film to promote them. The course aims to equip students with the essential skills and analytical techniques in coping with various management challenges faced by nonprofit organizations.

The Capstone Experience is an integral part of the major programme or the "professional core" of professional curricula. Students are engaged in projects, research, internships or other activities in their senior year(s) to integrate knowledge and skills acquired in their undergraduate studies.

Students with outstanding academic performance can be awarded an Undergraduate Research Fellowship to undertake a research study under a supervisor. They will receive an internship grant which enables them to do research in Hong Kong or overseas, and be offered early admission into a research postgraduate programme.

## Capstone Experience & Undergraduate Research

總結性學習體驗與  
本科生研究訓練



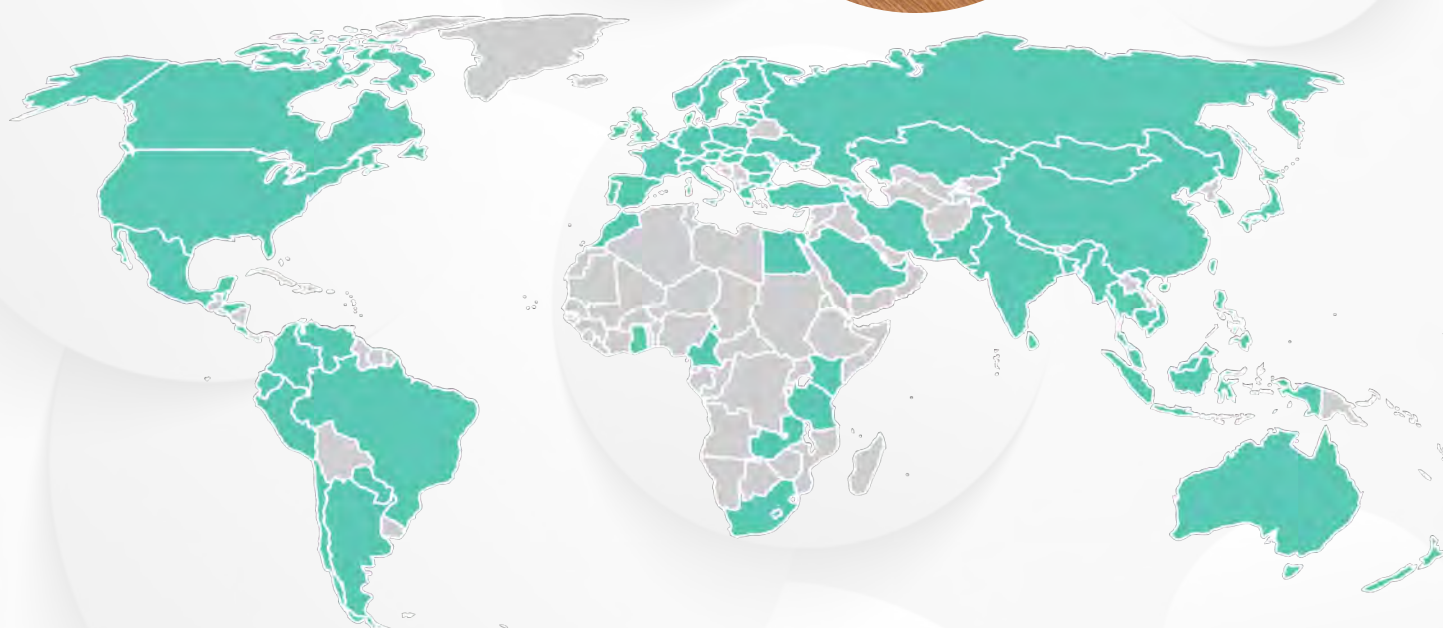
## Internationalized Learning Environment: Multilingual & Multicultural

國際化學習環境:  
多種語言、多元文化



HKU has always had a strong international orientation. More than half of our professoriate staff come from outside Hong Kong. We have the most diverse student population among universities in Hong Kong. In 2013-14, we had more than 9,600 international undergraduate and postgraduate students, representing over 83 different nationalities. The interactions of local and non-local students help to promote intercultural understanding, which has been incorporated into our educational aims.

In support of the internationalization of our campus, English has been adopted as HKU's *lingua franca*. It is the common language used for lectures, tutorials, seminars, forums and other events to enable inclusive participation by Chinese and non-Chinese speaking students and staff. Students also take two 6-credit courses of English language: one to induct them into academic studies at university, and the other to provide English support for their disciplinary studies.



> 9,600 international students > 83 nationalities  
Most diverse student population among HK universities