GENERAL INFORMATION

Foundation and Development

Hong Kong Baptist University, the former Hong Kong Baptist College, was founded in 1956 with a mission to provide quality higher education in a Christian environment for the young people of Hong Kong, combining broad-based liberal education characteristics with academic and professional vigour. In 1970, the University became the first institution to be recognized by the Hong Kong Government as an approved post-secondary college under the *Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance* (revised 1964).

In 1983, the *Hong Kong Baptist College Ordinance* was enacted by the Legislative Council, thus establishing the College as a statutory body and an autonomous institution. In the same year the College became a fully government-funded institution within the ambit of the University and Polytechnic Grants Committee (UPGC) (renamed University Grants Committee (UGC) with effect from 26 November 1994).

With the improved funding base and strategic planning, in consultation with the UPGC, the College moved at a deliberate pace to introduce its first degree programmes (1986–87), to discontinue admissions to diploma-level programmes (1989–90), to introduce the MPhil (1988–89) and PhD (1991–92) research postgraduate degrees, to introduce the postgraduate degrees by means of coursework (1992–93), and to initiate an integrated programme leading to the award of a bachelor's degree and the Diploma in Education (2001–02). At present, the University provides opportunities for undergraduate studies in various full-time or part-time major/option areas leading to the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Business Administration, Bachelor of Chinese Medicine, Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Pharmacy in Chinese Medicine, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Social Sciences, and Bachelor of Social Work honours degrees. In addition, taught postgraduate programmes are available in major disciplines leading to the award of Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma, Master of Arts, Master of Business Administration, Master of Chinese Medicine, Master of Education, Master of Fine Arts, Master of Human Resources Management, Master of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Master of Public Administration, Master of Science, Master of Social Sciences, Master of Social Work, Master of Visual Arts and Doctor of Business Administration degrees. Postgraduate students can also undertake research work for the degrees of Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy.

In November 1994, legislative amendments were made to the *Ordinance* and the Institution was renamed the Hong Kong Baptist University.

Graduate Attributes

An education at HKBU aims at developing all aspects of the whole person—intellectual, professional, moral, spiritual, cultural, social and physical. In particular, it aims to foster the following attributes among its graduates, who should:

1. Have up-to-date, in-depth knowledge of an academic specialty, as well as a broad range of cultural and general knowledge (*Knowledge*);
2. Be able to think critically and creatively (*Thinking*);
3. Be independent, lifelong learners with an open mind and an inquiring spirit (*Learning*);
4. Have trilingual and biliterate competence in English and Chinese, and the ability to articulate ideas clearly and coherently (*Communication*);
5. Have the necessary information literacy and IT skills, as well as numerical and problem-solving skills, to function effectively in work and everyday life (*Skills*);
6. Be responsible citizens with an international outlook and a sense of ethics and civility (*Citizenship*); and
7. Be ready to serve, lead and work in a team, and to pursue a healthy lifestyle (*Teamwork*).

HKBU Graduates—Whole Person



Outcomes-Based Teaching and Learning

Outcomes-Based Teaching and Learning (OBTL) starts with clearly stating what the learner is supposed to be able to do and at what standard: the Intended Learning Outcome (ILO). Students need to actively participate in the Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs) their teachers have devised for them. These TLAs will require students to apply, invent, generate new ideas, diagnose and solve problems—or to do whatever other things they are expected to be able to do after they graduate. Similarly, the Assessment Methods (AMs) will tell people how well the students can use what they have learned in academically and professionally appropriate ways, such as solving problems, designing experiments, or communicating with clients.

The ILOs, TLAs and AMs mentioned above refer to individual courses. On the programme level, there are also specific sets of Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs). The aim of having students complete all courses within a programme is to ensure that they have achieved the PILOs of their programme of study.

The ultimate aim of education at the University is to nurture students into whole persons—attaining all the Graduate Attributes (GAs) and continue to develop them as they progress in life. By actively engaging in their chosen academic programmes and participating in meaningful co-curricular and extra-curricula activities, it is envisaged that students will become the whole persons that will benefit and lead our society.

To achieve the above, the ILOs, TLAs and AMs need to be constructively aligned. "Constructive" refers to the idea that students construct meaning through relevant learning activities; "alignment" refers to the situation when teaching and learning activities, and assessment tasks, are in line with the ILOs by using the verbs stipulated therein.

OBTL with Constructive Alignment enable students to become active learners who would not just apply what they have learned to practice, but also reflect on that application so that they will continue to improve.

Medium of Instruction

The medium of instruction for formal classroom teaching at HKBU is English, except for those courses that are granted exemption.

Undergraduate Programmes

Full-time Programmes

The University offers full-time integrated undergraduate programmes which consist of single and interdisciplinary programmes on both departmental and faculty/school basis. In general, students who complete 96 to 99 units (exact requirement depending on the degree) in three years will be awarded the appropriate bachelor's degrees. Though most undergraduate programmes are of three years, the University offers the following programmes that require four or five years to complete:

1. Bachelor of Chinese Medicine and Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Biomedical Science programme is a five-year programme. In the final year, students will spend eight months on clinical internship in out-patient clinics and Chinese medical hospitals in Hong Kong and mainland China. Clinical practice is also required during the summer of Year III and IV studies.
2. Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons) in Chinese Medicine programme is delivered in a four-year mode. In the final year, students will be required to undertake clinical internship and prepare for their graduation thesis.
3. Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Translation is a four-year "sandwich" degree programme, with the third year in full-time professional placement.
4. Bachelor of Social Sciences (Hons) in European Studies is a four-year "sandwich" degree programme, with the third year spent in Europe comprising a combination of academic study and placement.
5. The double degree programmes in an academic major and Education Studies are four-year programmes which provide thorough preparation in two disciplines. Students who successfully complete the programme will hold recognized teacher status.
6. Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Computing Studies (Information Systems) and Computer Science programmes, though both programmes are three-year by design, students can opt for full-time employment in the third year and complete the programme in four years.

In addition, the University offers an integrated four-year programme leading to the award of a bachelor's degree in an academic major plus a Diploma in Education which is a required qualification for teaching in secondary schools.

The University also offers minor programmes to undergraduate degree students. A minor programme comprises 15 units and the courses required are specified by the minor offering department.

All students must fulfil the programme requirements, university attendance requirements, unit and grade point average requirements for graduation.

Full-time programmes offered:

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Chinese Language and Literature
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in English Language and Literature
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in History
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Humanities
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Music
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Music Studies
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Physical Education and Recreation Management
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Religious Studies
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Translation
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Visual Arts
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in English Language & Literature and Bachelor of Education (Honours) in English Language Teaching
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in History and Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Liberal Studies Teaching
Bachelor of Arts in Liberal and Cultural Studies
Bachelor of Business Administration (Honours)
Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) in Accountancy
Bachelor of Commerce in Human Resources Management
Bachelor of Commerce in Marketing
Bachelor of Chinese Medicine and Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Biomedical Science
Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours) in Chinese Medicine
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Applied and Computational Mathematics
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Applied Biology
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Chemistry
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computer Science
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing Studies (Information Systems)
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Mathematical Science
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Physics
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Statistics and Operations Research
Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in China Studies
Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Communication
Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in European Studies
Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Geography
Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Government and International Studies
Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Psychology
Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Sociology
Bachelor of Social Sciences in Sport and Recreation Leadership
Bachelor of Social Work (Honours)
Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Geography and Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Liberal Studies Teaching
Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Sociology and Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Liberal Studies Teaching

Part-time Programmes

The University also offers part-time degree programmes for students who would like to pursue their studies in a part-time mode. In general, students who complete the specific programme requirements will be awarded the appropriate bachelor's degrees. The Bachelor of Chinese Medicine programme is offered by the School of Chinese Medicine. The Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood Education programmes is offered by the School of Continuing Education. All students must fulfil the programme requirements, university attendance requirements, units and grade point average requirements for graduation.

Part-time programmes offered:

Bachelor of Chinese Medicine
Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood Education

Postgraduate Programmes

The PhD and the MPhil programmes are essentially research-oriented. Students are required to pursue approved programmes of research, to fulfil the coursework requirements as laid down by the Faculty/School concerned and submit written theses. They must also satisfy the Board of Examiners in oral examinations in matters relevant to their theses. The taught postgraduate programmes are based on coursework with lectures, seminars and projects. Assessment is based on performance in the term paper, project or examination.