



School of Computing and Data Science
The University of Hong Kong

HANDBOOK

for First Year Students

2025-2026

BEng(AI&DataSc)

BEng(CompSc)

BASc(FinTech)

BASc(AppliedAI)

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A. CURRICULA IN DIVISION OF AI&DATA SCIENCE /COMPUTER SCIENCE

The two divisions offer four tracks of study, corresponding to the JUPAS codes 6999, 6248, and 6224 respectively: Bachelor of Engineering in AI and Data Science [**BEng(AI&DataSc)**] (abbreviated hereafter as **AI&DataSc**), Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science [**BEng(CompSc)**] (abbreviated hereafter as **CompSc**), Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Financial Technology [**BASc(FinTech)**] (abbreviated hereafter as **FinTech**), and Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Applied Artificial Intelligence [**BASc(AppliedAI)**] (abbreviated hereafter as **AppliedAI**).

Students admitted to 6999 Computing and Data Science will be registered in BEng(CompSc) programme by default; and they may freely choose to continue in the [BEng(CompSc)] programme or switch to the [BEng(AI&DataSc)] programme, without quota restriction by the end of their first year.

1. Curriculum Structure

To complete the AI&DataSc/CompSc/FinTech/AppliedAI curriculum, students are required to take 240 credits of courses normally spread over four years of full-time study.

For AI&DataSc and CompSc students

	No. of Credits	
	BEng(AI&DataSc)	BEng(CompSc)
University Requirements		
- Language Enhancement Courses		12
- Common Core Courses		36
- AI Literacy Courses		6
- Non-credit bearing courses as required by the University		0
Foundation Courses		36
Disciplinary Core Courses (Introductory)		24
Disciplinary Core Courses (Advanced)		30
Capstone Experience and Internship		18
Disciplinary Elective Courses		36
Elective Courses		42
Total:		240

For FinTech students

	No. of Credits
University Requirements	
- Language Enhancement Courses	12
- Common Core Courses	24
- AI Literacy Courses	6
- Non-credit bearing courses as required by the University	0
BASc Core Courses	18
Major in Financial Technology	96
- Discipline Core Courses (54 credits)	
- Discipline Elective Courses (30 credits)	
- Capstone Experience (12 credits)	
Electives	84
Total:	240

For AppliedAI students

	No. of Credits
University Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Language Enhancement Courses- Common Core Courses- AI Literacy Courses- Non-credit bearing courses as required by the University	12 24 6 0
BASc Core Courses	18
Major in AppliedAI <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Disciplinary Core Courses (Introductory) (48 credits)- Disciplinary Core Courses (Advanced) (18 credits)- Disciplinary Elective Courses (Advanced) (24 credits)- Capstone Experience Courses (6 credits)	96
Electives	84
Total:	240

Please refer to the Regulations and Syllabuses of AI&DataSc/CompSc/FinTech/AppliedAI 2025-26 which could be viewed at <https://www.csai.cds.hku.hk/> for curriculum requirements of each programme.

2. Advanced Standing

Advanced standing may be granted to students in recognition of studies completed successfully before admission to the University in accordance with UG2 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula. The amount of credits to be granted for advanced standing shall be determined by the Board of Studies, in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) a minimum of four semesters of study at this University shall be required before a student is considered for the award of the degree; and
- (b) at least half of the credits requirements of the degree curriculum shall be accumulated through study at this University, or from transfer of credits for courses completed at other institutions in accordance with UG4(d) of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

Credits granted for advanced standing shall not normally be included in the calculation of the GPA unless permitted by the Board of Studies but will be recorded on the transcript of the student.

BEng(AI&DataSc)/BEng(CompSc)/BASc(FinTech) students who wish to apply for advanced standing are required to complete the form "[Application for Advanced Standing Credits](#)" and submit together with course syllabuses and transcript to the Faculty of Engineering Office, whereas BASc(AppliedAI) students should download the application form at <https://www.csai.cds.hku.hk/> and submit all required documents to the Division Office by the designated deadline. Late application or application made in subsequent year of studies will not be considered.

For the BEng(AI&DataSc)/BEng(CompSc) students, the total number of advanced standing credits granted will be recorded on the transcript after students have successfully transferred to a specified programme in their second year of studies.

The policy on granting advanced standing is summarized as follows:

		AD/HD Holders	7-yr Secondary Schooling	
		Direct Admitted to Year 3	IB or GCE A Level	Other Exam Systems
UG 5	Chinese Language	--	6 credits	--
	CCC	AD: ≤ 24 credits HD: ≤ 18 credits	≤ 12 credits	≤ 12 credits
Engineering Core courses		AD: ≤ 96 credits HD: ≤ 102 credits	--	--
Discipline courses			--	--
Free electives			6 credits	6 credits
Total		≤ 120 credits	≤ 24 credits	≤ 18 credits

The above table is for reference only. The granting of advanced standing is subject to the endorsement of the course offering department and approval by the Board of Studies.

3. Credit Transfer (For Student Exchange/Summer Programmes)

BEng(AI&DataSc)/BEng(CompSc)/BASc(FinTech) students are required to apply for leave of absence for participating in the student exchange programme and seek prior approval for credit transfer from host institutions to HKU by completing the form "[Application for Leave of Absence and Credit Transfer \(For Student Exchange Programme\)](#)" and submit to the Faculty of Engineering Office, whereas BASc(AppliedAI) students should download the application form at <https://www.csai.cds.hku.hk/> and submit all required documents to the Division Office for approval on or before the specified deadlines.

Application can only be submitted **ONCE** before departure. Late application will not be considered. Without prior approval from the School, credits cannot be transferred even if you have successfully completed the course(s) during the exchange study/summer programme.

Students may be granted up to 60 or 30 credits for one year or one semester exchange study respectively. The grades obtained during exchange study/summer programme will not be counted towards the Cumulative GPA.

B. COURSE REGISTRATION

1. General Information

(a) Loading

Students shall normally select not fewer than 24 credits and not more than 30 credits of courses in any one semester (except the summer semester), unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of Studies, or except in the last semester of study when the number of outstanding credits required to complete the curriculum requirements is fewer than 24 credits. Students may, of their own volition, take additional credits not exceeding 6 credits in each semester, and/or further credits during the summer semester, accumulating up to a maximum of 72 credits in one academic year.

Students with unsatisfactory academic progress may be required by the Board of Studies to take a reduced study load.

BEng(AI&DataSc)/BEng(CompSc)/BASc(FinTech) students who wish to apply for credit overload/underload in each semester should complete the form "[Application for Credit Overload/Underload](#)" and submit to the Faculty of Engineering Office, whereas BASc(AppliedAI) students should download the application form at <https://www.csai.cds.hku.hk/> and submit all required documents to the Division Office

(b) Timetable Clash

Students are not allowed to take any courses with timetable clashed. Please refer to the Division's website at <https://www.csai.cds.hku.hk/> or timetable of 2025-26 for first year students.

(c) Pre-requisite

Students are required to check any pre-requisite requirements for the courses to be enrolled. Please refer to the respective syllabus for details.

(d) Common Core Courses

Students are required to complete six courses (36 credits) (AI&DataSc and CompSc students)/four courses (24 credits) (FinTech & AppliedAI students) in the Common Core Curriculum and are strongly advised to complete the courses in their first three years of studies. The five Areas of Inquiry (Aols) are:

- (i) Scientific and Technological Literacy (course code: CCSTxxxx)
- (ii) Arts and Humanities (course code: CCHUxxxx)
- (iii) Global Issues (course code CCGLxxxx)
- (iv) China: Culture, State and Society (course code: CCCHxxxx)
- (v) Artificial Intelligence (course code: CCAIxxxx)

Unless otherwise prescribed in the curriculum regulations and syllabuses, students are required to successfully complete 36 credits in the Common Core Curriculum, comprising at least 6 credits and not more than 12 credits from each Area of Inquiry. Students are not allowed to take more than 24 credits of Common Core courses within an academic year, except for students who are required to make up for failed credits as well as those who take courses offered in the summer semester which are optional. In addition, Common Core courses cannot be taken as free electives.

Approval of course selection of common core courses is on a first-come-first-served basis. Please refer to the Common Core Curriculum website at <https://commoncore.hku.hk> for course description, timetable and enrollment details.

Common Core courses cannot be taken to fulfil the free elective requirements.

(e) Language Enhancement Courses

(i) CAES1001 Academic Communication in English

Candidates are required to complete a non-credit bearing CAES1001 Academic Communication in English (ACE) course, unless they are exempted by having achieved Level 5 or above in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE), or equivalent.

Those students, who granted exemption, may take CAES1001 Academic Communication in English (ACE) as an elective on a non-credit bearing basis.

A list of qualifications recognized as equivalent to achieving Level 5 or above in the HKDSE English Language Examination

- holder of a Bachelor's degree from an English-medium university
- achieved Grade A or above in English Language at **GCSE / GCEO** / English First Language at **IGCSE** / English Second Language at **IGCSE** / English Language or English Literature at **GCE AS/ AL**
- achieved an overall **IELTS** score of no less than 7 **AND** with all sub-scores no less than 6.5 on the Reading, Speaking, Listening, and Writing Tests
- achieved an overall **TOEFL Internet-based test** score of no less than 94 **AND** no less than a 24 on the writing, a 20 on the speaking, a 20 on the listening, AND a 19 on the reading sections
- achieved in **International Baccalaureate (IB)** Grade 4 or above in HL English Language A: Language and Literature / HL English Language A: Literature / HL English Language (B Syllabus) / HL English Language (A1 or A2 Syllabus); Grade 5 or above in SL English Language A: Language and Literature / SL English Language A: Literature / SL English Language (B Syllabus) / SL English Language (A1 or A2 Syllabus)
- achieved Grade 4 or above in the **Advanced Placement (AP) English Language / English Language and Composition / English Literature and Composition Test**
- achieved section scores of 630 or better in Reading and Writing of the **NEW Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)** in the same attempt
- achieved Level C2 in Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English / Grade A in Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English
- achieved a score of 76 or above in the Pearson Test of English Assessment (Academic)
- achieved Grade B or above in H1 General Paper at the **Singapore GCE A-level**
- achieved Grade A or above in English language at **Malaysia SPM examination**
- achieved Grade A2 or above in **Malaysia UEC-Senior English Language**
- attained Level 4 in each set of credits in **New Zealand NCEA Literacy** (10 credits made up of 5 credits in reading and 5 credits in writing)
- achieved a score of 95% or above in English at **All India Senior School Certificate Examination / Higher School Certificate**
- achieved a final score of 90% or above in English at **Grade 12 Canadian high school curriculum.**
- achieved Grade B or above in English Language at **Sri Lanka Ordinary examination**
- achieved a score of 90 or above in English in the **Russian Unified State Exam** (Единый государственный экзамен, ЕГЭ, Yediniy gosudarstvenniy ekzamen, EGE)
- **Academic Speaking and Writing test conducted by CAES** for students who have not taken any of the above tests.
 - *When applying to take the Academic Speaking and Writing Test, students should provide evidence to their Division and the CAES1001 Course Coordinator that they were admitted to HKU using qualifications **other than** those included in the list.*
 - *Applicants are required to show **the evidence of those other qualifications** to the assessor on the day of the Academic Speaking and Writing Test.*

- *If any applicants fail to provide any evidence that they were admitted to HKU using qualifications other than those included in the list provided by CAES, the CAES assessor has the rights not to allow the applicant to take the test.*
- *The test takes place annually in August. If a student fails to meet the application deadline, they will not have another chance to take the test, as no alternative test dates will be provided.*
- *The test is conducted face-to-face. There will be no alternative testing methods available for applicants.*

Please note that:

- **Optional students can only take the course during their first year of studies.**
- **JUPAS students with HKDSE English Language Level 4 or below are NOT allowed to use any of the above equivalent standards to get exempted from CAES1001.**
- **Non-JUPAS students are NOT allowed to use HKDSE results to get exempted from CAES1001.**
- **Except for IELTS and TOEFL, all qualifications must be obtained in the same calendar year as the student's university admission. If the qualifications are not on the list, students must apply for the exemption test which is only conducted on a specific date. No make-up test will be arranged. Students who miss the exemption test must take CAES1001 as a required course.**
- **Non-JUPAS students are allowed to use IELTS/TOEFL scores which are achieved within 2 years prior to August 1 of the year they are admitted to the University to fulfill the English language requirement for admission.**
- **Re-admitted students with combined HKDSE results with a level 5 or above in the HKDSE English Language examination, irrespective of the year they took the exam, will be eligible for exemption from CAES1001.**
- **Students admitted through the School Nominations Direct Admission Scheme (SNDAS) are allowed to use results of HKDSE English Language Level 5 or above to get CAES1001 exemption. However, these students are not allowed to use any other equivalent qualifications to get exemption.**

Students must enroll in the course CAES1001 in their first year of study if they have attained Level 4 or below in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination (HKDSE) (or equivalent) in the same year in which they are admitted to the University. CAES1001 is optional for students who achieved Level 5 or above in English Language in HKDSE (or equivalent) in the same year in which they are admitted to the University. Such students may take Academic Communication in English (ACE) as an elective on a non-credit bearing basis. All students are welcome to sign up for a CAES1001 class.

Academic Communication in English (ACE) course is a non-credit bearing course for undergraduate students in their first year. ACE is offered in two modes: 1) standard mode (e.g., CAES1001 – 1A1), and 2) intensive mode (e.g., CAES1001 – 1AI). Both modes offer the same teaching and learning hours.

Standard Mode

- The standard mode is conducted during either the first or second semester of the students' first year.
- Students must add/drop a standard mode during the course enrollment period before an academic year begins (i.e. from 19 August 2025 to 25 August 2025) and in the add/drop period during the first or second semester (i.e. until 4pm on September 15, 2025 in the first semester, and 4pm on February 2, 2026 in the second semester). The system will give students a place in a class (the standard mode) using an auto-balloting system.

Intensive Mode

- The intensive mode consists of two modules. Students need to complete both modules to pass the course.
- Two intensive modes will be offered in an academic year:
 - o The first mode of the two modules will take place in the last two weeks of August 2025 and the first two weeks of January 2026 respectively;
 - o The second mode of the two modules will take place in the first two weeks of January 2026 and the first two weeks of June 2026 respectively.
- Students must add/drop a class of the first intensive mode before the standard course enrollment period (i.e., from 11 August 2025 to 14 August 2025).
- Students must add/drop a class of the second intensive mode during the standard course enrollment period before an academic year begins (i.e. from 19 August 2025 to 25 August 2025) and the 2-week add/drop period in the first semester (i.e., the add/drop period for courses of undergraduate programmes is between 1 September 2025 to 15 September 2025).
- Students are allowed to drop the intensive mode after the designated enrollment or add/drop period only if they can provide valid documentation (e.g., medical reasons). Each request will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and the final decision will be made by the CAES1001 Course Coordinator.

Each CAES1001 class, whether in intensive or standard mode, has a quota of 20 and there is no guarantee that you will be allowed to enroll in the class you have selected. Please check your course selection results periodically and choose another timeslot until you can enroll in a class successfully. Make sure you read the instructions carefully when enrolling in CAES1001.

Please refer to the course website <https://caes.hku.hk/caes1001/> for more information about CAES1001.

(ii) English in the Discipline

For AI&DataSc/CompSc/FinTech students

Programme	English in the Discipline		Normally to be taken in
AI and Data Science Computer Science Financial Technology	CAES9542	Technical English for Computer Science	Semester 1, Year 4

For AppliedAI students

Programme	English in the Discipline		Normally to be taken in
Applied Artificial Intelligence	CAES9821	Professional and Technical Communication for Statistical Sciences	Semester 1 or 2, Year 2

(iii) Chinese Language Enhancement Courses

Categories	Course to be taken	Proposed Study Year
Local students	To be advised in Year 3	Year 3
Non-local Putonghua / Mandarin-speaking students	CUND9001 Basic Spoken and Written Cantonese for Mandarin Speakers or CUND9002 Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society or CUND9003 Cantonese for Non-Cantonese Speaking	Year 1

	Students or CUND9004 Practical Applied Chinese Writing and Oral Presenting for Non-local Mandarin Speaking Students	
Students who have not studied Chinese language during their secondary education / who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language	Candidates who did not study Chinese language during their secondary education and have not reached the required proficiency level for the Chinese language enhancement course specified for the degree curriculum may take a course in either Chinese language (“CHIN9501 Chinese as a Foreign Language I” or “CHIN9511 Cantonese as a Foreign Language I”) or Chinese culture (“CHIN9521 The Fundamentals of Chinese Characters” or “CHIN9522 Exploration of Major Cultural Themes across Chinese History”) offered by the Chinese Language Centre of the School of Chinese, to satisfy the Chinese language enhancement requirement.	Year 1 (for other Chinese language courses)

(f) Course Requirement

(i) MATH1853 Linear Algebra, Probability and Statistics and MATH1013 University Mathematics II

Mathematics course requirement for students with different qualifications (✓ means you may choose the course in this semester):

Qualification and Result in Mathematics	Take MATH1011?	For FinTech students			For AI&DataSc/CompSc/Applied AI students	
		1 st Semester	MATH1853	2 nd Semester	1 st Semester	2 nd Semester
		MATH1011	MATH1853	MATH1853	MATH1013	
HKDSE students						
With Level 2 or above in M1 or M2	No		✓	✓	✓	✓
Without M1 or M2	Yes	✓	✓	✓		✓
Non-JUPAS						
Local-AD / HD students admitted to Year 3 via Direct Admission Schemes	No	Advanced standing usually granted for MATH1853			Not applicable	
Local-AD / HD students admitted to Year 1 of BEng programmes	Please refer to “HKDSE students” in this table					
International Qualifications						
IGCSE						
Cambridge 0444, 0459, 0580, 0606, 0607, 0980; Edexcel 4MA1, 4MB1, 4PM1	Yes	✓	✓	✓		✓
GCE						
AS level or International AS level (Cambridge 9709 without paper 3; Edexcel 8MA0, XMA01, XFM01, XPM01)	Yes	✓	✓	✓		✓
A-Level or International A-Level (Cambridge 9709 with paper 3, 9231; Edexcel 9MA0, YFM01, YPM01)	No		✓	✓	✓	✓
A-Level or International A-Level (YMA01, 9811) For FinTech Student	No		✓	✓		
A-Level or International A-Level (YMA01, 9811) For AI&DataSc/CompSc/Applied AI Student	Yes	✓				✓
Singapore-Cambridge General Certificate of Education Advanced Level Higher 1 (8865)	No		✓	✓	✓	✓

Others	Case-by-case evaluation					
International Baccalaureate (IB)						
With score of 6 or above in Standard Level Mathematics	Yes	✓	✓	✓		✓
With score of 5 or above in Higher Level Mathematics	No		✓	✓	✓	✓
Advanced Placement (AP)						
With score of 4 or above in Calculus BC in Advanced Placement (AP) Test	No		✓	✓	✓	✓
National Qualifications						
Mainland students who have passed National Joint College Entrance Examination (NJCEE)	Mainland students who have passed National Joint College Entrance Examination (NJCEE) are normally allowed to directly enroll in MATH1853. The Faculty of Engineering will send an email to students with this qualification separately.				Students seek special endorsement from the designated Course Approver via the Science Online Application Submission System (OASS) by completing the online "SF415 – Course Approval Form" and uploading necessary supporting during the course selection period.	
Indian students who have passed All India Senior School Certificate Examination (Grade XII) [AISSCE]	No		✓	✓	✓	✓
Indian CBSE Examination (Class 12)	No		✓	✓	✓	✓
Taiwanese students who have passed General Scholastic Ability Test (GSAT) (For FinTech Student)	No		✓	✓		
Taiwanese students who have passed General Scholastic Ability Test (GSAT) (For AI&DataSc/CompSc/Applied AI Student)	Yes	✓				✓

Notes

- MATH1011 University Mathematics I is a pre-requisite course for MATH1853 for students without Level 2 or above in M1/M2 in their HKDSE examination or equivalent. MATH1011 is not for students with Level 2 or above in M1/M2 of HKDSE Mathematics or equivalent; and not for students who have passed or already enrolled in any one of following courses: MATH1009, MATH1013, MATH1821, MATH1851 and level 2 or above mathematics courses; and not for students who have passed MATH1853. Eligible students are required to take MATH1011 in the first semester.

Any other cases/qualifications not covered above will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

2. Course Enrollment Period

Students can enroll courses for the academic year of 2025-26 through the Student Information System (SIS) during the course selection period in August. Please refer to "2025-26 Course Selection Schedule for Full-time Undergraduate Students" at [Appendix I](#) for details.

The specific course selection period may vary from year to year. Students should pay attention to email announcements made by the Registry and Division concerned.

3. Add/Drop Period

Students can make changes to the selection of courses through the SIS during the add/drop period designated for each semester. Changes are not allowed after the add/drop period. Please refer to "2025-26 Course Selection Schedule for Full-time Undergraduate Students" at [Appendix I](#) for details.

Students are not allowed to make any further changes to the selection of courses after the add/drop period unless there are strong justifications for making such changes. For any requests of changes, BEng(AI&DataSc)/BEng(CompSc)/BAsC(FinTech) students should seek prior approval from the course offering department and Home Division by completing the form "[Application for Special Approval on Course Enrollment](#)" and submit together with supporting document(s), if any, to the Faculty of Engineering Office, whereas BAsC(AppliedAI) students should download the application form at <https://www.csai.cds.hku.hk/>

and submit all required documents to the Division Office

4. Leave of Absence

BEng(AI&DataSc)/BEng(CompSc)/BASc(FinTech) students should apply for leave of absence by submitting the form "[Application for Leave of Absence](#)" together with relevant supporting document(s) to the Faculty of Engineering Office, whereas BASc(AppliedAI) students should download the application form at <https://www.csai.cds.hku.hk/> and submit all required documents to the Division Office under the following circumstances:

Situation	Document(s) to be provided	Remarks
Non-medical reasons Absent for more than two consecutive days for non-medical reasons such as internship, student competition, personal reasons etc.	Relevant supporting document(s) such as employment letter (for internship) etc.	Permission shall be granted only in exceptional circumstances; and shall not be granted by reason only that the student has already made arrangement to be absent
Medical reasons Absent for three to seven days due to illness	Certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner	N/A

5. Voluntary Withdrawal of Studies

BEng(AI&DataSc)/BEng(CompSc)/BASc(FinTech) students who wish to withdraw from their studies should complete the "[Withdrawal of Study](#)" form and submit to the Faculty of Engineering Office, whereas BASc(AppliedAI) students should download the application form at <https://www.csai.cds.hku.hk/> and submit all required documents to the Division Office for processing.

C. DECLARATION OF 2ND MAJOR / MINOR

1. For AI&DataSc/CompSc/FinTech/AppliedAI Students

Students can opt for a second major option or minor study in either another engineering discipline, or options offered by other faculties. Since students may need to overload if they take a 2nd major option, they are strongly advised to seek advice from their School Academic Advisers.

Students can start to declare 2nd major/minor in the 1st semester of their second year of studies and they have to finalize their declaration by the 1st semester of their final year of studies. No further changes will be allowed afterwards. Please refer to the website of the Academic Advising and Scholarships Office at <https://aas.hku.hk/major-and-minor-selection/> for information on the requirements of different major/minor options.

D. ACADEMIC ADVISING

1. School Academic Advising System

The School Academic Advising System is designed in alignment with the University's recommendations. It assists students make a smooth transition from secondary school to university, offering personalized academic advice and guidance tailored to their individual needs. The system provides ongoing support to students throughout their undergraduate education.

2. School Academic Advisers

Each first-year undergraduate student will be assigned a School Academic Adviser (SAA), who will serve as a key source of academic guidance throughout their studies. During the first year, SAAs provide advice on a range of academic matters, including course selection and enrollment, programme selection, learning opportunities, and career planning, etc. Students are encouraged to meet with their SAA at least once per semester in their first year to discuss any academic concerns. For a complete list of SAAs, please refer to [Appendix II](#).

First year students can select their SAAs during a specified period. Should students fail to do so by the prescribed deadline, they will be assigned a SAA automatically by the system. They can check their advisers via the SIS by the following procedures:

- a) Login to HKU Portal.
- b) On "My Page", click "Find your adviser" on the right-hand side.

For details, please visit the website of [Academic Advising and Scholarships Office](#).

The SAAs may refer students to the Academic Advising and Scholarships Office for further advice on academic matters or to relevant University units for follow up on non-academic matters, if appropriate.

3. School Peer Advisers

Each first-year student will be assigned a School Peer Adviser (SPA), who will offer guidance and information to help freshmen adapt to their first year of studies. SPAs provide information on course enrollment, programme details, and planning for exchange or internship opportunities, working in conjunction with School Academic Advisers (SAAs) to ensure comprehensive support.

First year students can select their School Peer Adviser during a specified period. Should students fail to do so by the prescribed deadline, they will be assigned a SPA automatically by the system. They can check their School Peer Adviser via the SIS by the following procedures:

- (a) Login to HKU Portal
- (b) On "My Page", click "Find your adviser" on the right-hand side. Details of your SPA will be shown if you have one.

For details, please visit the website of [Academic Advising and Scholarships Office](#).

E. ASSESSMENT AND GRADING SYSTEM

1. Assessment

Examinations are normally held in December for first semester courses, and in May for second semester and full-year courses. Assessment may be conducted in any one or any combination of the following manners: written examinations or tests, continuous assessment, laboratory work, field work, project reports, or in any other manner as specified in the syllabuses.

2. Examination Timetable

The examination timetable is normally available in November for the first semester, and in March for the second semester, on the website of [Examinations Office](#).

3. Arrangements during Bad Weather

Under the situations as listed below:

- (i) Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 (or above) is hoisted; or
- (ii) Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 will be issued within two hours as announced by the Hong Kong Observatory; or
- (iii) "Extreme conditions" after super typhoons are in force (announced by the Government before the Hong Kong Observatory replaces Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 with Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 3); or
- (iv) Black Rainstorm Signal is in force, the following arrangements will apply:

For classes and examinations not yet started

If any of the warnings or announcements is hoisted or in force <i>at or after</i> 6:00 am	All classes and examinations commencing <i>before 2:00 pm</i> will be cancelled automatically.
If any of the warnings or announcements is hoisted or in force <i>at or after</i> 11:00 am	All classes and examinations commencing at any time <i>from 2:00 pm and before 6:00 pm</i> will be cancelled automatically.
If any of the warnings or announcements is hoisted or in force <i>at or after</i> 3:00 pm	All classes and examinations commencing from <i>6:00 pm onward</i> will be cancelled automatically.

For classes and examinations already started

When Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 or above is hoisted or the No. 8 Signal will be issued within two hours as announced by the Hong Kong Observatory, or "extreme conditions" are in force	All classes and outdoor examinations will be suspended immediately. All examinations, except those held outdoors, will continue until the end of that examination session.
When Black Rainstorm Signal is hoisted	All classes and examinations, except those held outdoors, will continue. For outdoor classes and examinations, the responsible staff members on the spot should suspend the activities immediately, ensure that all students are taken to a safe place, and remain there until it is safe for them to return home.

When Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 3 or below or Red or Amber Rainstorm Signal is in force, it should be assumed that all classes and examinations will be held as scheduled unless an announcement to the contrary has been made by the University. Please view the website of [Examinations Office](#) for details.

4. Failure in Examination

Students are required to make up for failed courses in the following manner:

- (a) Undergoing re-assessment/re-examination in the failed course to be held no later than the end of the following semester (not including the summer semester); or
- (b) Re-submitting failed coursework, without having to repeat the same course of instruction; or
- (c) Repeating the failed course by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessments; or
- (d) For elective courses, taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements.

5. Absence from Examination

If for any reason you have been unable to attend for any paper in an examination you must, within seven calendar days of the examination concerned, write to the Examinations Secretary at the Registry giving reasons for your absence.

If you are unable because of illness to be present for any paper in the examination or if you believe that your state of health either immediately before or during the examination has significantly affected your performance, you should arrange to submit a prescribed Form of Medical Certificate. You should consult a doctor on the same day of the examination concerned, and also complete Part I of the Form and give it to your doctor for completion of Part II of the Form. The completed Form, together with the original of the sick leave certificate issued by the attending doctor, should be submitted to the Examinations Office (address: Room 239B, 2/F, Main Building, The University of Hong Kong, Pokfulam) and must reach it within seven calendar days of the examination concerned. Late or incomplete submission will not be accepted. The form is downloadable at <http://www.exam.hku.hk/pdf/133-1221reamd.pdf>.

6. Grading System

The grades, their standards and the grade points for assessment shall be as follows:

Grade		Standard	Grade Point
A+	}	Excellent	4.3
A			4.0
A-			3.7
B+	}	Good	3.3
B			3.0
B-			2.7
C+	}	Satisfactory	2.3
C			2.0
C-			1.7
D+	}	Pass	1.3
D			1.0
F		Fail	0

Special permission may be given by Senate for courses in individual curricula to be graded as 'Pass', 'Fail' or 'Distinction'. Such courses will not be included in the calculation of the GPA.

7. Honours Classification

The degree of Bachelor of Engineering/Bachelor of Arts and Sciences shall be awarded in five divisions: First Class Honours, Second Class Honours Division One, Second Class Honours Division Two, Third Class Honours, and Pass. The classification of honours shall be determined by the Board of Examiners for the degree of BEng/BASc(FinTech) in accordance with the following Graduation GPA (GGPA) scores, with all courses taken (including failed courses) carrying weightings which are proportionate to their credit values¹:

<u>Class of Honours</u>	<u>GGPA range</u>
First Class	3.60 – 4.30
Second Class	(2.40 – 3.59)
Division One	3.00 – 3.59
Division Two	2.40 – 2.99
Third Class	1.70 – 2.39
Pass	1.00 – 1.69

Honours classification may not be determined solely on the basis of a student's Graduation GPA and the Board of Examiners for the degree of BEng/BASc may, at its absolute discretion and with justification, award a higher class of honours to a student deemed to have demonstrated meritorious academic achievement but whose Graduation GPA falls below the range stipulated in the Regulations for the Bachelor of Engineering in AI and Data Science [BEng(AI&DataSc)]/Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science [BEng(CompSc)]/Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Financial Technology [BASc(FinTech)]/ Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Applied Artificial Intelligence [BASc(AppliedAI)], of the higher classification by not more than 0.1 Grade Point.

8. Progression and Discontinuation

Unless otherwise permitted by the Board of Studies, students will be recommended for discontinuation of their studies if:

- (a) they fail to complete successfully 36 or more credits in two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester), except where they are not required to take such a number of credits in the two given semesters; or
- (b) they fail to achieve an average Semester GPA of 1.0 or higher for two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester); or
- (c) they have exceeded the maximum period of registration specified in the Regulations for the Degree of BEng(AI&DataSc)/BEng(CompSc)/ BASc(FinTech)/BASc(AppliedAI).

¹ For students in the 2017-18 intake and thereafter who have successfully completed six Common Core courses, the calculation of Graduation GPA is subject to the proviso that either five Common Core courses with the highest grades (covering all five Areas of Inquiry), or all six courses will be counted towards Graduation GPA, depending on which generates the higher Graduation GPA.

F. STUDENT ENRICHMENT PROGRAMMES

1. HKU Worldwide Undergraduate Exchange Programme & Faculty Exchange Programme

The School encourages students to participate in the HKU Worldwide Undergraduate Exchange Programme and the Faculty of Engineering Exchange Programme to study abroad during their course of studies. Students could join either programme to spend one semester or one academic year at prestigious schools so that they can widen their horizons, expand their international exposure, enrich their learning experience and learn to appreciate different cultures.

All non-final year undergraduate students of BEng(AI&DataSc)/BEng(CompSc)/ BAsc(FinTech)/BAsc(AppliedAI) programmes are eligible to apply for the exchange programme. Preference of outgoing exchange offers will be given in the following order:

- (a) Third year students
- (b) Second year students
- (c) First year students

More information on exchange study could be obtained from:

[HKU Worldwide Undergraduate Exchange Programme](#)
[Faculty Exchange Programme](#)

Briefing session on the Faculty Exchange Programme organized by the Faculty of Engineering will normally be held in **November**. More information will be provided nearer the time.

2. Summer Programmes

The Faculty of Engineering collaborates with several universities, including Peking University and Nagoya University, to offer summer programmes during the optional summer semester for students. BEng(AI&DataSc)/BEng(CompSc)/ BAsc(FinTech) students could pay attention to email notifications from the Faculty.

3. Internship

Internship is a compulsory course for BEng(AI&DataSc) and BEng(CompSc). Students shall normally conduct their internship after their third year of studies

4. Integrated Study-Work Programme

Under the Integrated Study-Work Programme for BEng(AI&DataSc) and BEng(CompSc), students may take a 6 to 12 months internship in industry in accordance with the arrangements made for them by their Home Division.

During the internship, guidance and counseling will be provided by faculty member of the students' Home Division. In addition, the practical experience gained by working may count towards the period of training that engineers are required to undergo before receiving professional recognition.

Students may approach their Home Division/internship coordinators for details.

5. Undergraduate Research Fellowship Programme

The Undergraduate Research Fellowship Programme (URFP) is a prestigious programme which aims at enhancing students' learning experience and to nurture the next generation of researchers/scholars. It offers opportunities for academically strong students to undertake research under the guidance and supervision of academics who have a strong research track record and experience in training research postgraduate students, either in HKU or in prestigious overseas institutions like the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign, Imperial College London, Eindhoven University of Technology and Tsinghua University.

The URFP participants are eligible to enroll in specified postgraduate courses. Successful completion of the URFP will be recorded in the students' transcripts, and those who perform well under the URFP will be considered for early admission to research postgraduate programmes of HKU.

6. Professional Preparation Programme

The Professional Preparation Programme (PPP) is an intensive career programme which aims to

- (a) facilitate students to make informed career choices;
- (b) broaden their knowledge in the job market; and
- (c) enhance students' employability.

By taking PPP, BEng(AI&DataSc)/BEng(CompSc)/BAsc(FinTech) students could sharpen their job-seeking skills, equip themselves with the necessary skills for workplace and widen their horizons to be better prepared in their pursuit of future career.

Second year or above students will be eligible to apply for the programme. Details and registration information will be announced by email and shown in the Faculty of Engineering website.

7. Tam Wing Fan Innovation Wing

Tam Wing Fan Innovation Wing was completed in late-2020 and is located on the G/F and LG/F of existing Hui Oi Chow Science Building. This iconic landmark is a new facility on the main campus to nurture innovation and creativity of our future engineers. Being one of the world-class integrated makerspaces in Hong Kong as well as in Asia, Tam Wing Fan Innovation Wing is fully equipped with comprehensive prototyping facilities and equipment under the same roof.

Tam Wing Fan Innovation Wing provides a stimulating intellectual environment to facilitate cross-disciplinary collaboration among engineering and non-engineering students. BEng(AI&DataSc)/BEng(CompSc)/BAsc(FinTech) students can turn their ideas into reality and work together with peers of common interests. The Innovation Wing is not only a makerspace, but also a place to connect students with advanced technologies.

8. Innovation Academy

The Innovation Academy was established in mid-2020, aiming to cultivate future innovators and enlighten them to generate ideas and products which will benefit business and society as a whole.

The Innovation Academy serves as a magnet to attract new talents to work together on innovative projects. A series of programmes and activities are organised to capture three goals: Inspire, Equip and Showcase, and will engage professors, BEng(AI&DataSc)/BEng(CompSc)/BAsc(FinTech) students and other stakeholders such as industrial advisors.

G. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious offence in the academic world. It constitutes academic theft – the offender has ‘stolen’ some intellectual property and presented it as his or her own. Plagiarism speaks to a person’s integrity and honesty, stifles creativity and originality, and defeats the fundamental purpose of education.

In this University, plagiarism is a disciplinary offence. Any student who commits the offence may face disciplinary action. It is the responsibility of all students at all levels to familiarize themselves with proper academic practice of writing, citation and referencing. For detailed information about plagiarism, please visit the website at <https://tl.hku.hk/plagiarism/>.

Students are also expected to seek specific guidance within their discipline and to consult the relevant University policies and regulations.

H. APPENDICES

Appendix I – 2025-2026 Course Selection Schedule for Full-time Undergraduate Students

Appendix II – List of First Year Advisers

Appendix III – Important Dates for First Year Students

Appendix IV – Useful Contacts and Websites

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

香港大學



Online Course Selection Schedule for Full-Time Undergraduate Students (2025-26)

(I) First Semester Course Selection Period

		Year 1 students	Year 2 students	Year 3 students	Year 4 or above students
Online course information available for planning your courses (Pre-enrollment period)		From Aug 2025 (after master registration)	July 28, 2025		
Course Selection Period starts	Semester 1/ full-year courses	Aug 19, 2025 (10:00 a.m.)	Aug 5, 2025 (2:00 p.m.)	Aug 5, 2025 (12:00 noon)	Aug 5, 2025 (10:00 a.m.)
	Semester 2 courses	Aug 19, 2025 (10:10 a.m.)	Aug 5, 2025 (2:10 p.m.)	Aug 5, 2025 (12:10 p.m.)	Aug 5, 2025 (10:10 a.m.)
Suspension Period (course selection will not be available)		Aug 20, 2025 (12:00 noon) – Aug 21, 2025 (2:29 p.m.)	Aug 6, 2025 (9:00 a.m. – 2:29 p.m.)		
Course Selection Period ends		Aug 25, 2025 (4:00 p.m.)	Aug 11, 2025 (4:00 p.m.)		

(II) First Semester Add/Drop Period

	Year 1 students	Year 2 students	Year 3 students	Year 4 or above students
Add/Drop Period starts (Note: You must finish enrolling the Semester 1/ full-year courses before the Semester 2 courses)	Sep 1, 2025 (10:00 a.m.)	Sep 1, 2025 (12:00 noon)	Sep 1, 2025 (2:00 p.m.)	Sep 1, 2025 (4:00 p.m.)
Suspension Period (course selection will not be available)	Sep 2, 2025 (12:00 noon – 4:59 p.m.)			
Add/Drop Period ends	Sep 15, 2025 (4:00 p.m.)			

(III) Second Semester Add/Drop Period (students should select summer semester courses (if any) during this period)

	Year 1 students	Year 2 students	Year 3 students	Year 4 or above students
Add/Drop Period starts (Note: You must finish enrolling the Semester 2 courses before the Summer Semester courses)	Jan 19, 2026 (10:00 a.m.)	Jan 19, 2026 (12:00 noon)	Jan 19, 2026 (2:00 p.m.)	Jan 19, 2026 (4:00 p.m.)
Suspension Period (course selection will not be available)	Jan 20, 2026 (12:00 noon – 4:59 p.m.)			
Add/Drop Period ends	Feb 2, 2026 (4:00 p.m.)			

(IV) Summer Semester Add/Drop Period

For all Full-Time Undergraduate Students (except for Final Year Students)

Add/Drop Period	Jun 15, 2026 (10:00 a.m.) – Jun 22, 2026 (4:00 p.m.)
Suspension Period (course selection will not be available)	Jun 16, 2026 (12:00 noon – 4:59 p.m.)

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
SCHOOL OF COMPUTING AND DATA SCIENCE**

School Academic Advising System 2025-26

Programme	Representative(s)
AI and Data Science Computer Science	All faculty members
Financial Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Anthony Tam (tamtca@hku.hk) - Prof. Yiu, Siu Ming (smyiu@hku.hk) - Prof. Liu, Qi (liuqi@hku.hk) - Dr. Dougherty, Alan William (alanwd@hku.hk) - Prof. Chow, Ka Ho (kachow@hku.hk) - Prof. Chen, Ho (chenho@hku.hk)
Applied Artificial Intelligence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prof. Cao, Yuan (yuancao@hku.hk) - Prof. Han, Kai (kaihanx@hku.hk) - Prof. Qu, Liangqiong (liangqqqu@hku.hk) - Prof. Yu, Lequan (lqyu@hku.hk) - Prof. Wu, Zhenqin (zhenqin@hku.hk) - Prof. Liang, Yingyu (yingyul@hku.hk)

Important Dates for First Year Students

Date	Event
August 14, 2025 (10:00am – 1:00pm)	School Induction Talk Venue: Rayson Huang Theatre Format: Face-to face (Details will be sent to students via email)
September 1, 2025	First day of teaching of first semester of 2025-26
January 19, 2026	First day of teaching of second semester of 2025-26
June 2026	BEng(AI&DataSc) and BEng(CompSc) Programme Selection
July 2026	Confirmation Email of BEng(AI&DataSc) and BEng(CompSc) Selection Results

Useful Contacts and Websites

Supporting Units	Contact Information	Website
Division of AI and Data Science	General Enquiry: aieng@hku.hk Programme Enquiry: BEng(AI&DataSc) ai6999@hku.hk BAsc(AppliedAI) app6224@hku.hk Address: Room 207,2/F, Chow Yei Ching Building, HKU	https://ai.hku.hk
Division of Computer Science	General Enquiry: cseng@hku.hk Programme Enquiry: BEng(CompSc) cs6999@hku.hk BAsc(FinTech) fin6248@hku.hk Address: Room 207,2/F, Chow Yei Ching Building, HKU	https://cs.hku.hk
School of Computing and Data Science	Tel: 3917 2180 Email: askcds@hku.hk Address: Room 206 Chow Yei Ching Building, HKU	https://www.cds.hku.hk/
Academic Advising and Scholarships Office	Tel: 3917 0128 Email: Academic advising matters: ug.advising@hku.hk Scholarships matters: scholarships@hku.hk	https://aas.hku.hk/
Academic Support and Examinations Section, Registry	Tel: 2859 2433 Email: asoffice@hku.hk	https://ase.hku.hk/
CEDARS, Campus Life Section	Tel: 3917 2305 Email: cedars@hku.hk	https://cedars.hku.hk
CEDARS, Careers and Placement Section	Tel: 3917 2317 Email: careers@hku.hk	https://cedars.hku.hk
CEDARS, Counselling and Person Enrichment (CoPE) Section	Tel: 3917 8388 Email: cedars-cope@hku.hk	https://cedars.hku.hk

CEDARS, General Education Team	Tel: 3917 5044 Email: gened@hku.hk	https://cedars.hku.hk
Mainland Affairs Office (MAO)	Email: mainlandaffairs@hku.hk	https://mainlandaffairs.hku.hk/
Common Core Curriculum Office	Tel: 2219 4957 Email: commoncore@hku.hk	https://commoncore.hku.hk/
Equal Opportunity Unit	Tel: 3917 5115 Email: eounit@hku.hk	https://www.eounit.hku.hk/en/
Examinations Office	Tel: 2859 2439/2859 2434 Email: exam@hku.hk	http://www.exam.hku.hk/index.php
International Affairs Office (IAO)	Tel: 2219 4549 For incoming exchange: Email: exchange@hku.hk For outgoing exchange: Email: goaboard@hku.hk For summer study abroad: HKU Summer Institute Tel: 2219 4549	https://intlaffairs.hku.hk/
University Health Service (UHS)	Tel: 2549 4686 Email: uhealth@hku.hk Address: 2/F&3/F, Meng Wah Complex	https://www.uhs.hku.hk/
Information Technology Services & Student Information System	Tel: 3917 0123 Email: ithelp@hku.hk	https://www.its.hku.hk/

