GLOBAL CHINA STUDIES
Welcome to the HKUST School of Humanities and Social Science.

We are the largest interdisciplinary university-level program in humanities and social science in China and Greater China and the only one to have an explicit program-wide comparative focus exemplified by our undergraduate and graduate degrees in Global China Studies.

Like every university of excellence, we are dedicated to research and teaching. What sets us apart from our peers is our explicit focus on global, especially North American and Chinese, best practice in undergraduate teaching, including blended learning, in graduate training and placement, and in our own research and self-governance.

Strategic partnerships with many of the best North American, European, and Chinese universities – the California Institute of Technology, Lund University, Nanjing University, Peking University, Shandong University, Shanghai jiao Tong University, Shantou University, Sichuan University, Sun Yat-sen University, Zhejiang University, the University of Virginia, and Waseda University – provide ample opportunities for international faculty and student research and collaboration, for faculty and student exchange, for joint student training, and even for dual degree programs in specific fields at the undergraduate and graduate levels. These universities, like our high rankings by QS and Times Higher Education, attest to our standing both as a university of the world and as a world university.

Given our small faculty size – sixty professors, our relative youth – a mean age below 50, and our academic diversity – over fifteen disciplines, we are particularly proud of our global academic impact as measured by our faculty and student’s 50 thousand plus Google Scholar citations, and by the recruitment of our recent PhD graduates to join the faculty of some of the best universities locally in Hong Kong, nationally in China, and worldwide in the United States.

We are also proud of our pedagogical impact on Hong Kong and beyond from the contributions of our Center for Language Education, of our soon-to-be-established Center for Creative Arts Education, as well as of our Divisions of Humanities and Social Science to the HKUST UG Common Core Education, to the development of on-line and blended active learning prototypes for the Humanities and Social Science, as well as the creation of an on-line UG / PG Global China Studies curriculum, and the launch of the first UG degree program in Quantitative Social Analysis.

I invite you to browse our web site and to learn more about our faculty, our teaching mission, our classes, our research, and the opportunities we provide to the world, to China, and especially to Hong Kong.

Prof James Z. Lee
Dean, School of Humanities and Social Science
GLOBAL CHINA STUDIES

Global Studies is the study of what has already or is becoming global and what remains local, and the tension between these two processes. Global China Studies is the study of the Global and the Local in China.

Our approach to China studies transcends the traditional boundaries of area studies by framing the understanding of China in comparative context with a global perspective.

HKUST is the first university in the world to offer UG and PG programs in Global China Studies.
BSc in Global China Studies Program

The principle underlying the term "Global China Studies" is the recognition that China’s historical, contemporary, and future developments are best understood through a dynamic global and comparative perspective. Rather than treating China as a self-contained, static national system, a GCS approach emphasizes the global interactions and ideas that have influenced China’s culture, society, and political economy. This broader lens is equally important for understanding China’s growing influence in global issues.

The GCS curriculum is interdisciplinary and structured to equip students with the analytical, linguistic, and presentation skills that are essential for successful careers in academia, business, government, education, and social and cultural organizations.

Curriculum

- Students share a first-year curriculum consisting of courses on modern and contemporary China, modern Europe and its global impact, the implications of globalization, English and Chinese communication, and select courses in the Humanities and Social Sciences.
- Students are streamed onto a Humanities track and a Social Science track at the end of the first year.
- From the second year onwards students receive additional language training and take track-oriented courses on methodology, disciplinary foundations, and applications of different research approaches in local, regional, and global contexts.
- University Common Core courses, free electives, and minors offer further opportunities for students to broaden their knowledge, perspectives and skills.
- Students gain substantive research experience through completing a capstone project or honors thesis supervised by a faculty advisor in the final year.

Program Features

- Interdisciplinary curriculum.
- Diverse curricular tracks, with the option for minors in business and other fields.
- School-based, first-year advising and one-on-one mentoring by track faculty. Ample overseas study opportunities: Over 80 percent of GCS graduates study one semester abroad
- Dual degree program with Waseda University (Japan): Selected students study for 3 years at HKUST and, funded by the Bai Xian Education Foundation’s Asian Future Leaders Scholarship Program, for 1.5 years at Waseda University. Dual degree students earn an HKUST BSc in Global China Studies and a Waseda University BA in Political Science and Economics.
- Merit-based scholarships from HKUST and the School of Humanities and Social Science.
- Opportunities for internships and community service.

Career Prospects

- We prepare our students to compete and excel locally and internationally.
- Our graduates have moved onto diverse paths of employment and personal growth in government, business, NGOs, education, mass media, the creative industries, and advanced studies.
Direct entry admissions for local associate degree holders, international school graduates, and high school graduates from mainland China and overseas.

• Secondary school students sitting for HKDSE.

Prospective Applicants

More Information

Tel: (852) 2358-8023
Fax: (852) 2358-1324
Email: GCS@ust.hk
http://www.shss.ust.hk/ug/major/gcs

Franco Zhang
BSC GCS 2016
PhD Student in Economics
Cornell University

Yishuang Li
BSC GCS 2017
PhD Student in Politics
New York University

Claudius Kim
BSC GCS 2017
PhD student in History
Stanford University

Jamie Tse
BSC GCS 2017
Government AD

MSc in Global China Studies

What’s the program about?

Our interdisciplinary curriculum provides global and local perspectives on China’s past and present. Taught by the best China Studies faculty in Asia, the program enables advanced undergraduates from a consortium of elite universities to take on the challenge of postgraduate study, and receive both a Bachelor’s and a Master’s degree normally within 4 to 5 years.

Curriculum

Students are required to complete 24 credits of coursework, including three core courses (3 credits each) and five elective courses (3 credits each) which cover no less than two of three subject areas. Selected students are provided with an option to take an extra project of 3 to 6 credits.

Core Courses (9 credits/12 credits*)

• MGCS 5001 Understanding China, 1700-2000: A Data-Analytic Approach

• MGCS 5010 Quantitative Methods in Social Science

• MGCS 5024 China in Comparative Perspective

• LANG 5070 Advanced Critical Writing for Academic Purposes*

Subject to Academic Director’s approval, students who can demonstrate a higher level of English proficiency may be exempted from the Advanced Critical Writing course.

Elective Courses (15 credits)

The chosen elective courses should cover at least two of the following areas, and include at least two China-related courses:

Pathway “3+1”: Recommended by our partner universities, non-local undergraduate students in their third year at the time of the application can apply for early admission into the program.

Pathway “1+x”: Recommended by our partner universities, non-local postgraduate students completing their first year at the time of the application can apply for and spend a year in the program.

Pathway “4+1”: Individual applicants satisfying the general admission requirements can apply directly to the program as regular applicants for taught postgraduate programs.

Full-time: 1 year; Part-time: 2 years

What pathways you should take?
History and Social Science
- MGCS 5002 The Economy and Society in Imperial China
- MGCS 5003 The Political Economy of State-formation
- MGCS 5005 Narratives on China’s Legal Past and Present
- MGCS 5020 Chinese Social Stratification in Comparative Perspective
- MGCS 5021 Reform and Social Conflicts in Contemporary China
- MGCS 5022 Political Economy of China
- MGCS 5023 China’s Innovation System: Domestic and International Dimensions

Quantitative Social Analysis
- MGCS 5011 Quantitative Studies of China
- MGCS 5012 Quantitative Data Analysis

Humanities and Creative Art
- MGCS 5030 Social Theory and World History
- MGCS 5031 An Introduction to Socio-cultural History of China
- MGCS 5032 Ethnicity in Chinese Context
- MGCS 5033 Accommodating the Provocative Others: Translation and Cultural Encounters between China and the West
- MGCS 5034 Chinese Creative Writing: Reading Literary Classics, Writing Essays and Novels

Subject to the approval of the Academic Director, students may take MGCS 6000 Special Topics under the above subject areas to fulfill the elective requirement. Students may substitute no more than six elective credits (two courses) from other courses (and a maximum of one undergraduate course at 4000-level) offered by the School of Humanities and Social Science to fulfill the program requirements with prior approval of the Academic Director. The approved substituting courses should be either China-related or global-related.

Optional Project (3 - 6 credits)
Selected students can take an extra project course:
- MGCS 6980 Research Project in Global China Studies

Credits earned from MGCS 6980 cannot be counted toward the credit requirements

* The courses listed were offered in the past and listed only for reference. Not all courses are offered in each term.

MGCS Consortium Universities

Our Graduates

Han Liu
MSc GCS 2014
PhD student in Sociology

Weiran Deng
MSc GCS 2014
PhD Student in Economics
University of Southern California

Kewei Cui
MSc GCS 2015
Yip’s Chemical Hong Kong

Zhongqi Wang
MSc GCS 2015
Pfizer Hong Kong
Universities around the world today are committed to providing an education that combines research-embedded teaching with capacity building instruction emphasizing connectivity, creativity, and English-language communication.

SHSS faculty have developed a GCSOL Curriculum to achieve these goals through a variety of blended or flipped classroom formats taught entirely in English, and designed for a multi-lingual student body whose first language is generally not English.

**The GCSOL Curriculum**

GCSOL courses already completed or scheduled to be completed this Academic Year:

- **Science, Technology, and Society in China, Parts 1&2**
  Professor Naubahar Sharif with the help of Christian Daniels 2012 and 2016

- **Understanding China, 1700-2000: A Data Analytic Approach, Parts 1&2**
  Professor James Lee 2013 and 2015

- **Business English for Cross-cultural Communication**
  Dr. Sean McMinn 2015 and Ms. Delian Gaskell

- **China and the World**
  Professor David Zweig 2015 and 2016

- **Social Science Approaches to the Study of Chinese Society**
  Professor Cameron Campbell 2016

- **Intimacy of Creativity: Entering the Minds of Composers**
  Professors Bright Sheng and Matthew Tommasini 2016

- **China’s Economic Transformation, Parts 1 & 2**
  Professor Albert Park 2016 and 2017

- **Inequality and Hard Times in the Past**
  Professors Tommy Bengtsson, Campbell, Lee, and Feng Wang 2017 (co-offered with Lund)

- **Chinese Political Economy**
  Professor Jenny Smith

- **Max Weber and Western Society**
  Professor Joshua Derman

- **Global Transformation of Rural Society in the 20th and 21st century**
  Professors Tommy Bengtsson, Campbell, Lee, and Feng Wang 2017 (co-offered with Lund)

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**MSc GCS 2016**
- Xiaona Li
  Phoenix Satellite Television Beijing

**MSc GCS 2017**
- Yurika Enomoto
  Medical Consulting Firm Japan
- Yuxue Fang
  MSc GCS 2017 Mjur Oxford
- Yawen Shen
  MSc GCS 2017 E&Y Consulting Shanghai

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More Information

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Our Faculty

Prof Naubahar Sharif  Prof Christian Daniels

Prof James Z. Lee  Mr Sean McMinn

Ms Delian Gaskell  Prof David Zweig

Prof Cameron Campbell  Prof Bright Sheng

Prof Matthew Tommasini  Prof Albert Park

GCSOL Programs

Interested universities can teach GCSOL courses as part of a General Education program, as a minor, or as a major.

More Information

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SUMMER GLOBAL SEMINARS

Our annual summer Global Seminars Program Offers you an opportunity

- to embrace global thematic emphases in living academic community
- to incubate deep intellectual sharing with peers from diverse cultural backgrounds
- to develop a global frame of reference that will set you apart in the future
Past Courses

- Megacities: System Thinking and Complex Challenge
- Environmental Control and Management for a Modern Society
- Urban Air Pollution
- Political Islam: Medieval Theology, Modern Ideology
- Max Weber, the West, and the World
- A New History for a New China, 1700-2000: New Data and New Methods
- Global Islam
- Hollywood Goes to Asia: Transnational Asian Media
- City and Modernity
- Sciences, Religion and Politics
- A Global Perspective on a Sustainable Environment
- Nexus of Power: Warfare, Trade and the State in Chinese History
- The Bible in the Film
- An introduction to Hong Kong
- International Law
- The Foreigner’s Look at China
- Global Hong Kong in Literature and Film

Previous Participants

Susan Caixuan Ji
2016 Summer Global Seminars
BSc Global China Studies
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Lily Yinghui Lin
2017 Summer Global Seminars
BSc Global China Studies and Waseda BA Economics
Dual Degree Program
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Mahak Sharma
2017 Summer Global Seminars
BEng Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
2013 HKSAR Government Scholarship

Emma Ricketts
2017 Summer Global Seminars
World Politics Year 3
Leiden University

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