Young Scientist Scheme (YSS) for Outstanding Students in 6901 BSc

Enrolment:
• Automatic for JUPAS students with best 5 HKDSE score 35 or above
• Selected Non-JUPAS students

Highlights:
• Summer Research Fellowship
• Overseas Research Fellowship
• International exchange, visiting or summer study
• International scientific conference
• Research mentor
• Entrance scholarship
• Stipends for research programmes

Your Dream Starts Here
What is Young Scientist Scheme (YSS) all about?

As a strong, research-oriented faculty, the Faculty of Science is committed to providing our students with the best science education and incubating future scientists. YSS provides outstanding students with ample early research experiences in 6901 BSc Programme.

Students in YSS are guaranteed with:
- Enrolment in our flagship Summer Research Fellowship (SRF) Scheme to conduct research under the supervision of our professors in the first summer
- A further SRF or Overseas Research Fellowship (ORF) in a foreign institution in subsequent years
- International exchange, visiting or summer study
- Attendance in international scientific conference on frontier research
- Guidance from a research mentor individually from the start of the undergraduate study
- Enrolment in our Frontiers of Science Honours Seminar to learn how our award-winning professors solve their research problems
- Stipends for research programmes
- An entrance scholarship ranging from HKD 20,000 to HKD 70,000

How to join YSS:
JUPAS students admitted to 6901 BSc programme with a total score of 35 or above in their best 5 HKDSE subjects (Category A subjects/M1/M2) are automatically accepted to YSS. No interview is required.

The HKDSE ‘level to score’

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<th>5*</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score</td>
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<td>5.5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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Selected Non-JUPAS applicants will be invited to enrol in YSS. No application is necessary.

What our YSS research mentor says:
The YSS provides a great opportunity for undergraduate students to have hands-on experience and training in research. Previous YSS students have enjoyed working in my laboratory on projects related to luminescence and molecular functional materials. The YSS will enable students to have first-hand and early experience in getting to know what frontier research is all about, which will be extremely rewarding to them for the years to come.

Examples of institutions for Overseas Research Fellowship
North America
- California Institute of Technology
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- MIT
- Stanford University
- University of California at Berkeley
- University of California at Los Angeles

Europe
- CERN
- University of Cambridge
- University College London

Examples of universities for international exchange, visiting or summer study
North America
- University of California
- University of Chicago
- Columbia University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Stanford University
- Yale University

Europe
- University of Cambridge
- Imperial College London
- King’s College London
- University of Oxford

A wide spectrum of scientific research areas:
- Chemistry
- Earth and planetary science
- Ecology and biodiversity
- Mathematical and statistical science
- Molecular and cell biology
- Physics and astronomy
Eye-opening Exchange Study Opportunities

"Spending my third year in Oxford was an unforgettable and exciting experience. Its focus on individual attention on extensive essay-writing practices posed a great challenge to me. I was overwhelmed by the amount of effort required to produce a good essay piece. Yet I felt worthwhile when I received high praise from my tutor for my first biochemistry essay.

The visiting opportunity offered by YSS allowed me to contrast the academic styles at HKU and Oxford and explore what was more suitable for me. It served as an invaluable reference for my choices for pursuing future studies. I am truly grateful for this eye-opening opportunity."

Judy Shao  
Year 3 BSc Student (Double major in Biochemistry & Biological Sciences)  
Visiting student at University of Oxford in 2018-19

"I was on a full-year exchange at the National University of Singapore (NUS) under YSS in 2018-19 and worked on a project on rice genetics. Throughout the year I made countless mistakes in the lab and in life. Each of these failures, while painful, is crucial for shaping me into a more independent and all-rounded person. From my lab mentor and seniors, I learned how to cope with challenges related to my research project and the frustration that came with failed experiments, as well as skills from handling maintenance in my dorm to choosing the best data plan — things that would allow me to lead a better independent life."

George Wong  
Year 4 BSc student (Major in Chemistry)  
SRF Participant at Department of Chemistry

"The learning opportunities I gained from YSS were wondrous. As I was able to expose myself to early research experiences through participating in two SRFs, I learned to appreciate the importance of evidence-based learning in scientific research. The critical thinking skills that I gained from these experiences were beyond my expectations. I also became more proactive in self-learning."

Anna Tse  
Year 4 BSc student (Major in Molecular Biology & Biotechnology and Minor in English Studies)  
Exchange study at the National University of Singapore in 2018-19

Engaging in research early

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