Induction Day for 6901 BSc Students

BSc Curriculum and Course Selection

Dr Francis C C Ling
Associate Dean (Student Affairs)
August 9, 2019
Welcome to Faculty of Science!
Overview

• 6901 BSc Curriculum & Graduation Requirements
• Academic Advising System
• Course Selection
• Experiential Learning
• Articulation Pathways (New)
• Plagiarism
• Disciplinary Issues
• Inclusive Language in Academic Work
• Regulations on Discontinuation
6901 BSc Curriculum & Graduation Requirements
Curriculum Structure of the BSc Degree (240 Credits)

A Flexible Science Specialisation Programme
Students are free to choose any of the 14 regular or 6 intensive Science Majors offered in the BSc programme as their first major. Students may choose a Minor or a second Major either within or outside the Faculty, and design their own curriculum which suits individual aspirations.

Science Foundation Courses
Two compulsory Science Foundation Courses give students a holistic view of Science. Helps to develop students’ competence in scientific reasoning and the ability to reason in logical and quantitative manners.

Common Core Courses
Enables students to develop broader perspective and critical understanding of the complexities and interconnectedness of contemporary issues through different Areas of Inquiry.

Language Courses
Enhances students’ language skills through mandatory courses in English and Chinese. Provides language training specific to students’ major of study.

Capstone Learning
Requires students to integrate knowledge and skills to accomplish some non-trivial tasks in their areas of disciplinary study.

Subject Focus
Major, Major Minor, Double Major

University Education
Science Majors

Students admitted to the first year of the 6901 BSc programme in the academic year of 2019-20 and thereafter can choose any of the following 14 regular or 6 intensive Science majors as primary Science major

- Biochemistry
- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry
- Chemistry (Intensive)
- Decision Analytics
- Earth System Science
- Ecology & Biodiversity
- Ecology & Biodiversity (Intensive)
- Environmental Science
- Food & Nutritional Science
- Geology
- Geology (Intensive)
- Mathematics
- Mathematics (Intensive)
- Molecular Biology & Biotechnology
- Molecular Biology & Biotechnology (Intensive)
- Physics
- Physics (Intensive)
- Risk Management
- Statistics
Science Minors

18 Science minors

- Actuarial Studies
- Astronomy
- Biochemistry
- Chemistry
- Computational & Financial Mathematics
- Earth Sciences
- Ecology & Biodiversity
- Environmental Science
- Food & Nutritional Science
- Marine Biology
- Mathematics
- Molecular Biology & Biotechnology
- Operations Research & Mathematical Programming
- Physics
- Plant Science
- Risk Management
- Science Entrepreneurship
- Statistics
Minors and 2nd Majors Available for BSc Students

- **2nd Majors**
  - Science
  - Arts
  - Business & Economics
  - Engineering
  - Social Sciences

- **Minors**
  - Science
  - Architecture
  - Arts
  - Business & Economics
  - Education
  - Engineering
  - Medicine
  - Social Sciences

*Non-Science major* can only be taken as the 2nd major. Some non-Science majors/minors may require a minimum academic result before you are allowed to enroll in them.
Major-Minor and Double Major Options

One regular Science Major + Selection of 2nd Major (Major 2)

One intensive Science Major + Selection of Minors (Minor 1, Minor 2)

Optional

Optional

Optional

Selection of Minor (Minor 1)

Science or non-Science disciplines*

* Quota & timetabling restrictions may apply. Some non-Science majors/minors may require a minimum academic result before you are allowed to enroll in them.
BSc Curriculum Requirements

Curriculum requirements (240 credits)

Option A
Students taking one regular Science major

Option B
Students taking one regular Science major and one minor

Option C
Students taking double majors (one regular Science major and a 2nd major (a non-Science major or a regular Science major))

Primary regular Science Major: 96 credits
2 Science Foundation courses (SCNC1111 & SCNC1112, taken in Year 1), 13 Disciplinary courses and 1 Capstone course

Common Core Courses: 36 credits *
6 courses in 4 Areas of Inquiry (at least 1 and not more than 2 courses from each AoI)

Language Courses: 18 credits
English: 12 credits [6 credits in Core University English (CAES1000A, taken in Year 1) and 6 credits in English in the Discipline (CAES9820/CAES9821, taken in Year 2)] Chinese: 6 credits (CSCI9001E, taken in Year 3)

Electives: 90 credits
To make up the 240 total credits

Minor*: 36 – 48 credits

Electives: 42 – 54 credits
To make up the 240 total credits

2nd Major **: 72 – 96 credits
### BSc Curriculum Requirements (cont.)

**Curriculum requirements (240 credits)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option D</th>
<th>Option E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students taking an intensive Science major</td>
<td>Students taking an intensive Science major and a minor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Primary intensive Science Major:** 144 - 150 credits
- 2 Science Foundation courses (SCNC1111 & SCNC1112, taken in Year 1), 21 - 22 Disciplinary courses and 1 - 2 Capstone course(s)

**Common Core Courses:** 36 credits
- 6 courses in 4 Areas of Inquiry
  (at least 1 and not more than 2 courses from each AoI)

**Language Courses:** 18 credits
- English: 12 credits [6 credits in Core University English (CAES1000[^1]), taken in Year 1) and 6 credits in English in the Discipline (CAES8220/CAES8211, taken in Year 2)]
- Chinese: 6 credits (GSCI9001[^2], taken in Year 3)

**Electives:** 36 - 42 credits
- To make up the 240 total credits

**Minor:** 36 - 48 credits

**Electives:** 0 - 6 credits
- To make up the 240 total credits
### Example of BSc Programme Structure by Year of Study

| Yr 4 | Cap- | Major | Major | Major | Major | | Intensive Major | Intensive Major | (Intensive Major) |
|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Yr 3 | CC   | CC    | Chi   | Major | Major | Major | Intensive Major | Intensive Major | Intensive Major |
| Yr 2 | CC   | CC    | Eng 2 | Major | Major | Major | Intensive Major | Intensive Major |               |
| Yr 1 | CC   | CC    | Eng 1 | SF1   | SF2   | Major | Major           | Intensive Major |               |

CC – Common Core Courses  
SF – Science Foundation Courses  
Eng 1 – Core University English  
Eng 2 – English in the Discipline  
Chi – Chinese

Note: Different distributions of courses over the years are possible. Blank boxes can be used for elective courses, or courses leading to a minor or a 2nd major (Major 2).
Common Core Curriculum

- The Common Core Curriculum is designed to provide key common learning experience for all HKU students and to broaden their horizons beyond their chosen disciplinary fields of study.
- It focuses on issues that have been, and continue to be, of deeply profound significance to mankind, the core intellectual skills that all HKU undergraduates should acquire and the core values that they should uphold.
- The Common Core Curriculum is divided into four Areas of Inquiry (AoSs):
  - (1) Scientific and Technological Literacy;
  - (2) Humanities;
  - (3) Global Issues; and
  - (4) China: Culture, State and Society.
- Students have to pass 36 credits of courses in the Common Core Curriculum. They should select at least one and not more than two courses from each Area of Inquiry with not more than 24 credits of courses being selected within one academic year except where candidates are required to make up for failed credits.
- Common Core courses should be completed normally within the first three years of the BSc study and cannot be extra taken as free electives.
Capstone Requirement

- Capstone experience is an integral part of the major/programme which focuses on integration and application of knowledge and skills gained in the early years of study.
- Student must complete capstone experience for fulfillment of the graduation requirement.
- Capstone course carries a minimum of 6 credits and is normally taken in the senior years (Year 3 or 4) of study.
- The earliest that students are allowed to take a capstone course is their Year 3 study, after the completion of at least 24 credits of advanced level disciplinary core/elective courses in the major (disciplinary core/elective courses in the major) (Please refer to the individual capstone course for the pre-requisites).
- The capstone courses in each Science major may be different but a range of courses (e.g. internship, seminar, field work, capstone project, research project) is offered to suit individual student’s needs and interests.
### List of Capstone Courses by Major

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major/Programme</th>
<th>Recognized Capstone Courses (for 2019 cohort)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.  Biochemistry</td>
<td>1. BIOC3999 Directed studies in biochemistry (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. BIOC4966 Biochemistry internship (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. BIOC4999 Biochemistry project (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.  Biological Sciences</td>
<td>1. BIOL3994 Directed studies in biological sciences (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. BIOL4964 Biological sciences internship (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. BIOL4994 Biological sciences project (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.  Chemistry</td>
<td>1. CHEM3999 Directed studies in chemistry (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. CHEM4910 Chemistry literacy and research (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. CHEM4911 Capstone experience for chemistry undergraduates: HKUtopia (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. CHEM4966 Chemistry internship (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. CHEM4999 Chemistry project (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Chemistry (Intensive)</td>
<td>1. CHEM3999 Directed studies in chemistry (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(for 2015 cohort and thereafter)</em></td>
<td>2. CHEM4966 Chemistry internship (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. CHEM4999 Chemistry project (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.  Earth System Science</td>
<td>1. EASC4911 Earth system: contemporary issues (6)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### List of Capstone Courses by Major (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major/Programme</th>
<th>Recognized Capstone Courses (for 2019 cohort)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7. Ecology &amp; Biodiversity (Intensive)</td>
<td>1. BIOL3991 Directed studies in ecology &amp; biodiversity (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(for 2015 cohort and thereafter)</td>
<td>2. BIOL4911 Conservation science in practice (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. BIOL4991 Ecology &amp; biodiversity project (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Environmental Science</td>
<td>1. ENVS3999 Directed studies in environmental science (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. ENVS4966 Environmental science internship (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. ENVS4999 Environmental science project (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Food &amp; Nutritional Science</td>
<td>1. BIOL3992 Directed studies in food &amp; nutritional science (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. BIOL4922 Food product development and evaluation (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. BIOL4962 Food &amp; nutritional science internship (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. BIOL4992 Food &amp; nutritional science project (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Geology</td>
<td>1. EASC4955 Integrated field studies (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Geology (Intensive)</td>
<td>1. EASC4955 Integrated field studies (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(for 2015 cohort and thereafter)</td>
<td>2. EASC4955 Integrated field studies (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. EASC4955 Integrated field studies (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Mathematics</td>
<td>1. MATH3999 Directed studies in mathematics (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Mathematics (Intensive)</td>
<td>2. MATH4910 Senior mathematics seminar (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(for 2016 cohort and thereafter)</td>
<td>3. MATH4911 Mathematics capstone project (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. MATH4966 Mathematics internship (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. MATH4999 Mathematics project (12)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### List of Capstone Courses by Major (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major/Programme</th>
<th>Recognized Capstone Courses (for 2019 cohort)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. BIOL4963 Molecular biology &amp; biotechnology internship (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. BIOL4993 Molecular biology &amp; biotechnology project (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Molecular Biology &amp; Biotechnology (Intensive) (for 2015 cohort and thereafter)</td>
<td>1. BIOL4993 Molecular biology &amp; biotechnology project (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Physics</td>
<td>1. PHYS3999 Directed studies in physics (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Physics (Intensive) (for 2016 cohort and thereafter)</td>
<td>2. PHYS4966 Physics internship (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. PHYS4999 Physics project (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Decision Analytics</td>
<td>1. STAT3799 Directed studies in statistics (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Risk Management</td>
<td>2. STAT4710 Capstone experience for statistics undergraduates (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. STAT4799 Statistics project (12)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### List of Capstone Courses by Major (cont.)

FAQs on capstone requirement can be found in the Faculty website at [https://www.scifac.hku.hk/f/page/4788/10863/FAQs_on_Capstone_Requirement.pdf](https://www.scifac.hku.hk/f/page/4788/10863/FAQs_on_Capstone_Requirement.pdf).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major/Programme</th>
<th>Recognized Capstone Courses (for 2019 cohort)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| BSc(ActuarSc)       | 1. STAT4711 Capstone experience for actuarial science undergraduates (6)  
                      2. STAT4767 Actuarial science internship (6)  
                      3. STAT4798 Statistics and actuarial science Project (6)                                                                                                                                                                      |
| BASc(AppliedAI)     | 1. APAI3799 Directed studies in Applied AI (6)  
                      2. APAI4766 Applied AI internship (6)  
                      3. APAI4798 Applied AI project (6)                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
Students Taking Double Majors, Major-Minor or Double Minors with Overlapping Course Requirements

- General Principle
  - Double-counting of courses up to a maximum of 24 credits is permissible with double majors. The double-counted courses in both Science majors must include SCNC1111 and SCNC1112. Additional credits to be double-counted must be for ‘disciplinary core’ courses required by both majors.
Students Taking Double Majors, Major-Minor or Double Minors with Overlapping Course Requirements (cont.)

- Situation #1
  - For cases with 24 or less double-counted credits, the student must make up an equivalent number of credits by taking other courses offered by any faculties.
The following list shows the major-major combinations that have more than 24 credits of the same ‘disciplinary core’ courses that appear in both Science majors and is subject to the rule of double counting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major-Major combination</th>
<th>Admission Year (Year 1)</th>
<th>No. of common ‘disciplinary core’ courses (credits) appear in both Science majors including SCNC1111 and SCNC1112</th>
<th>No. of replacement courses (credits) to be taken in the 2nd major (‘Major 2’)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major in Astronomy Major in Mathematics/Physics</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>5 (30 credits)</td>
<td>1 (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major in Astronomy Major in Physics</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>6 (36 credits)</td>
<td>2 (12 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major in Biochemistry Major in Chemistry</td>
<td>2015, 2016, 2017</td>
<td>5 (30 credits)</td>
<td>1 (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major in Biochemistry Major in Molecular Biology &amp; Biotechnology</td>
<td>2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019</td>
<td>5 (30 credits)</td>
<td>1 (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major in Biological Sciences Major in Molecular Biology &amp; Biotechnology</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>5 (30 credits)</td>
<td>1 (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major in Biological Sciences Major in Ecology &amp; Biodiversity</td>
<td>All years</td>
<td>7 (42 credits)</td>
<td>3 (18 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major in Biological Sciences Major in Food &amp; Nutritional Science</td>
<td>2014, 2017, 2018, 2019</td>
<td>6 (36 credits)</td>
<td>2 (12 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major in Biological Sciences Major in Molecular Biology &amp; Biotechnology</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>5 (30 credits)</td>
<td>1 (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major in Earth System Science Major in Geology</td>
<td>2014, 2015, 2016</td>
<td>5 (30 credits)</td>
<td>1 (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major in Ecology &amp; Biodiversity</td>
<td>2017, 2018, 2019</td>
<td>5 (30 credits)</td>
<td>1 (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major in Food &amp; Nutritional Science</td>
<td>2014, 2015, 2016</td>
<td>6 (36 credits)</td>
<td>2 (12 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major in Ecology &amp; Biodiversity Major in Molecular Biology &amp; Biotechnology</td>
<td>All years</td>
<td>5 (30 credits)</td>
<td>1 (6 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major in Food &amp; Nutritional Science Major in Molecular Biology &amp; Biotechnology</td>
<td>All years</td>
<td>6 (36 credits)</td>
<td>2 (12 credits)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Students Taking Double Majors, Major-Minor or Double Minors with Overlapping Course Requirements (cont.)

- Situation #2
  - If more than 24 credits (including SCNC1111 & SCNC1112) are listed as required courses (‘disciplinary core’) in both the first (‘Major 1’) and second (‘Major 2’) majors undertaken by a student, the student must make up the number of credits above the 24 permissible by taking replacement course(s) in the second major (‘Major 2’). The replacement course(s) must be the disciplinary elective course(s) in the second major (‘Major 2’) and have the same prefix and at the same or higher level as the double-counted course(s).

  - The double counted credits should count the following courses in this order: (1) SCNC1111 and SCNC1112, (2) introductory level (levels 1 and 2) courses, and (3) advanced level (level 3 or above) courses.
**Example:** A student is taking Ecology & Biodiversity as the first major (‘Major 1’) and Molecular Biology & Biotechnology as the second major (‘Major 2’). The following courses are common ‘disciplinary core’ courses of both majors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ecology &amp; Biodiversity</th>
<th>Molecular Biology &amp; Biotechnology</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCNC1111</td>
<td>SCNC1111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCNC1112</td>
<td>SCNC1112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL1110</td>
<td>BIOL1110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL2102</td>
<td>BIOL2102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL2103</td>
<td>BIOL2103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Double Counting of the first 4 courses is allowed.

Needs to take a replacement ‘disciplinary elective course’ in the 2nd major (‘Major 2’) (with a prefix of BIOL at level 2 or above to make up for BIOL2102 OR BIOL2103 with the approval by the Course Selection Adviser).
Students Taking Double Majors, Major-Minor or Double Minors with Overlapping Course Requirements (cont.)

- **Situation #3**
  - Double counting of credits is not permissible for major-minor or double-minors combinations. When a course is required (‘disciplinary core’) both by the major and minor or by both minors, the student must take a replacement course for the minor. The replacement course must be the disciplinary elective in the minor and have the same prefix and at the same or higher level as the course to be replaced.

- **Situation #4**
  - For students taking the Mathematics related majors/minors should note the exemption and replacement arrangement from [https://www.scifac.hku.hk/current/ug/academic/overlapping-course-requirements](https://www.scifac.hku.hk/current/ug/academic/overlapping-course-requirements).

- For the situations of 2, 3 and 4 above, students have to complete the application form, seek the written endorsement from the Course Selection Adviser of the second major (‘Major 2’) / minor and then return it to the Faculty Office by the closing dates of course selection or add/drop periods.
**Graduation Requirements**

- Satisfied the requirements in UG5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula*;

- Passed no fewer than **240 credits***, comprising **96 credits** of the required courses as prescribed in the regular major programme, or **144 credits** (or a higher credit requirement by the accredited bodies) of the prescribed courses in the intensive major programme, of the BSc degree curriculum.

* UG5 specifies that students have to successfully complete:

- **12 credits** of courses in English language enhancement, including **6 credits** in Core University English and **6 credits** in an English in the Discipline course (i.e. CAES9820 Academic English for Science Students OR CAES9821 Professional and Technical Communication for Mathematical Sciences);
- **6 credits** of course in Chinese language enhancement;
- **36 credits** of courses in the Common Core Curriculum, comprising at least one and not more than two courses from each Area of Inquiry with not more than 24 credits of courses being selected within one academic year except where candidates are required to make up for failed credits; and
- a **capstone experience** as specified in the syllabuses of the degree curriculum.

* The maximum curriculum study load for the normative period of study: 288 credits
## Honours Classification

- Classification of honours is calculated using the **Graduation Grade Point Average GGPA** as below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of honours</th>
<th>GGPA range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Class Honours</td>
<td>3.60 – 4.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Class Honours Division I</td>
<td>3.00 – 3.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Class Honours Division II</td>
<td>2.40 – 2.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Class Honours</td>
<td>1.70 – 2.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>1.00 – 1.69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- GGPA is the GPA in respect of courses attempted by a candidate (including failed courses) at the point of graduation. 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 four Areas of Inquiry), or all six courses will be counted towards Graduation GPA, depending on which generates the higher Graduation GPA.
Honours Classification (cont.)

- Credits granted for advanced standing in recognition of studies completed successfully before admission to the curriculum and credits transfer in recognition of studies completed on exchange during candidature at HKU are NOT included in the calculation of GPA.

- Honours classification may not be determined solely on the basis of a candidate’s Graduation GPA and the Board of Examiners for the Degree of BSc/BSc(ActuarSc)/BASc(AppliedAI) may, at its absolute discretion and with justification, award a higher class of honours to a candidate deemed to have demonstrated meritorious academic achievement but whose Graduation GPA falls below the range stipulated in UG9(a) of the higher classification by not more than 0.1 Grade Point.
Academic Advising System
I am a freshman...

What do I want to do after graduation?

How much time and effort am I willing to devote to studying?

What major am I truly interested in?

Where can I find relevant information?

I want to have someone to discuss with... or should I read the information by myself?

What do I want to achieve for my university study?

I am a freshman...

How much time and effort am I willing to devote to studying?

What major am I truly interested in?

Where can I find relevant information?

I want to have someone to discuss with... or should I read the information by myself?

What do I want to achieve for my university study?
Before selecting your minor, or courses……

Think…

What’s the qualification/prerequisite required of by that minor or course? Am I eligible to take?

What are my strengths and weaknesses?

What are my academic goal and interests?

You can explore different possibilities using a semester or so……
Where can you obtain information & advice?
Faculty Academic Advisory System

- Information-based Advising
  - Web resources
- Personal Academic Advising
  - Academic Advisers
- Course Selection Advisers
  - Deal with course selection/approval on a specific major
- Student Peer Advisers
  - Academic advising by Year 2 and above students
Web Resources

Faculty of Science website
https://www.scifac.hku.hk/current/ug/about

- A list of information is available for students online in our website
- Important information about the BSc curriculum and course selection
- Update regularly for latest information from the Faculty
Web Resources (cont.)

Faculty of Science website: [https://www.scifac.hku.hk/current/ug/about](https://www.scifac.hku.hk/current/ug/about)

- **BSc regulations, course selection procedures and important events**
- **Advice and self-exploration** before selection of majors and minors
- **BSc syllabuses** (full list of majors and minors and BSc courses with courses description)
Web Resources (cont.)

Academic Advising Office (AAO) of the University
http://aao.hku.hk
Faculty Academic Advising Team

✓ Academic Advisers
  • You can select your Academic Adviser or have one assigned according to your intended major by using the **online sign-up system**
  • Facilitate freshmen to set academic and personal goals
  • Offer academic advice on intended major
  • Offer guidance for your transition from secondary school to university, and enrich your total learning experience

✓ Your ‘My Course History’ has to be endorsed by your Academic Adviser by the end of the add/drop period in the 1st semester.
Sign-up System for Academic Adviser

Sign up for your Academic Adviser from 6:00 pm, August 9, 2019 (Friday) to 11:59 pm, August 15, 2019 (Thursday) at https://ugaa.hku.hk/signup-faa.php.

If you do not sign up by August 15, 2019 (Thursday), the System will randomly assign one for you according to your intended major.
Sign-up System for Academic Adviser (cont.)

University-wide Academic Advising System

Sign-up of Faculty Academic Adviser in academic year 2019-20
Please choose a Faculty

Faculty of Science
Sign-up System for Academic Adviser (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major/Programme</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision Analytics</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth System Science</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecology &amp; Biodiversity</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecology &amp; Biodiversity (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Science</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food &amp; Nutritional Science</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geology</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geology (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular Biology &amp; Biotechnology</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular Biology &amp; Biotechnology (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk Management</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sign-up System for Academic Adviser (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Faculty/Department</th>
<th>Major/Programme</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ho Yu AU-YEUNG</td>
<td>Dept of Chemistry</td>
<td>Chemistry/Chemistry (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Pauline CHIU</td>
<td>Dept of Chemistry</td>
<td>Chemistry/Chemistry (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Xiang LI</td>
<td>Dept of Chemistry</td>
<td>Chemistry/Chemistry (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Xiaoyu LI</td>
<td>Dept of Chemistry</td>
<td>Chemistry/Chemistry (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Jinyao TANG</td>
<td>Dept of Chemistry</td>
<td>Chemistry/Chemistry (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Angela P L TONG</td>
<td>Dept of Chemistry</td>
<td>Chemistry/Chemistry (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Edmund CMTSE</td>
<td>Dept of Chemistry</td>
<td>Chemistry/Chemistry (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Yufeng WANG</td>
<td>Dept of Chemistry</td>
<td>Chemistry/Chemistry (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Jun YANG</td>
<td>Dept of Chemistry</td>
<td>Chemistry/Chemistry (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Angela M Y YUEN</td>
<td>Dept of Chemistry</td>
<td>Chemistry/Chemistry (Intensive)</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I have no preference and would like an automatic assignment by the system.
Faculty Academic Advising Team (cont.)

✓ Administrative Assistant of the Faculty Office
  • General advice

✓ Course Selection Advisers
  • Teachers representing all majors/minors offered in the Faculty of Science
  • Provide academic advice on major(s)/minor(s) and course selection

✓ Approval of pre-requisite / timetable clashes waiver

✓ Approval of replacement course (if a major/minor or major/major combination shares the same core course)

✓ [Approved by Chief Course Selection Adviser only] Approval for taking course load deviating from normal load (taking <24 credits or >36 to 42 credits in a semester or taking <60 credits or >72 to 84 credits in an academic year)

✓ Students are NOT allowed to take more than 72 credits in Year 1.
Faculty Academic Advising Team (cont.)

✓ **Student Peer Advisers**
  
  - A group of dedicated senior students that serve as a contact point for freshmen regarding academic enquiries
    
    [https://www.scifac.hku.hk/current/ug/academic/aa/spa](https://www.scifac.hku.hk/current/ug/academic/aa/spa)
  
  - Starting from 2019-20, there will be a matching between freshmen and Student Peer Advisers
  
  - You will be informed of your assigned Student Peer Adviser in mid- to late August.
Faculty Academic Advising Team (cont.)

✓ Student Peer Advisers

Student Peer Advisers will also be available at the ‘Student Peer Advising Corner’ counter at the Faculty Office during the add/drop period of the 1st semester of 2019-20 to answer your enquiries!
SIS for Academic Advising
Student Center (cont.)
Course Selection
Timetable of Events for Course Selection (BSc I only)

- **August 21 – 27, 2019**: Course selection period
- **September 2, 2019**: 1st semester starts
- **September 2 – 16, 2019**: Course add/drop period (1st semester)
- **January 20, 2020**: 2nd semester starts
- **January 20 – February 10, 2020**: Course add/drop period (2nd semester)
What you MUST do ...

Step 1
• Select your courses for the 1\textsuperscript{st} and 2\textsuperscript{nd} semesters from the SIS
• Obtain approval from Course Selection Advisers if necessary

Step 2
• Make an appointment with your Academic Adviser
• Print out ‘\textit{My Course History}’ from the SIS and bring it to your Academic Adviser for his/her endorsement

Step 3
• Bring your endorsed ‘\textit{My Course History}’*, Course Approval Form (if applicable), Application form for taking a replacement course (if applicable) to the Faculty of Science Office

\textit{only for the 1\textsuperscript{st} semester of the 1\textsuperscript{st} year of study}

\textbf{By 4 pm on Sept 16}
Course Add/Drop Periods
(August – September 2019 and January 2020)

On-line course selection system available for course selection (add/drop) *(Sep 2 / Jan 20, 10 am)*

Students prepare Course Approval Form for courses required special approval (if any) and seek endorsement by Course Selection Adviser(s) of the course offering department(s)/school(s)

Students select courses on-line *(Sep 2 – 16 / Jan 20 – Feb 10)*

Students who have applied for BSc courses required course based approval to check approval status

Students finalize course selection on-line

Print out “My Course History” from SIS for endorsement by Academic Advisers
(mandatory to all Year 1 students)

For all Year 1 students: submit the signed print-out of “My Course History” to the Faculty Office by deadline

**Submission deadline: Sep 16, 4 pm**

Submit the signed Course Approval Form (if applicable) to the Faculty Office by the end of add/drop period for students who have any course changes

Check course selection status on-line *(Sep 21 / Feb 15, 10 am)*
Notes on Course Selection of Science Foundation Courses

- The two Science Foundation courses can be taken in **ANY ORDER**, i.e. it is not necessary to take SCNC1111 first.
- Please enroll in **BOTH courses (including the one to be taken in Semester 2)** in one go. If you have not enrolled in both courses by the end of the course selection period in August, you will be randomly assigned to the class.
- Please check the ballot result on a regular basis until the status for both courses are “approved”.
Declaration of Major/Minor

You do not have to decide your major in the first year!

Talk with your Academic Adviser for ideas and suggestions!!!
Declaration of Major/Minor (cont.)

• Online course selection via SIS under the HKU Portal website (https://hkuportal.hku.hk/)
• You have to declare your primary Science major (and/or minor(s) and 2nd major (major 2)) online during the course selection period in August before the start of your third year of study, the latest.
• Your declared major/minor can be changed afterwards.*

* As long as the course selection system is opened in the course selection period and course add/drop period of each semester (Latest: in the 1st semester of the last academic year for graduation).
Experiential Learning
Experiential Learning Activities

- To complement and enhance the curriculum so as to give students an all-rounded and holistic education;
- To require students to tackle real-life issues and problems by drawing on theoretical knowledge that they have learnt in formal curriculum;
- To address the limitations in lecture and classroom-based learning.
Experiential Learning Activities (cont.)

- Project-based Learning
  - Undergraduate Research Opportunities
    - Final Year Project
    - Directed Studies
  - Summer Research Fellowship (SRF) Scheme
  - Overseas Research Fellowship (ORF) Scheme
  - Undergraduate Research Fellowship Programme (URFP)
  - Undergraduate Research Colloquium for Science Students
    - Seminar Course
    - Capstone Experience
- Field Studies
- Discipline Internship and Professional Preparation Programme
- Student Exchange Programme / Visiting Studies / Summer Schools offered by Faculty/School/Departments
Experiential Learning Activities (cont.)

One Mainland China, One Overseas Learning Opportunity

- To promote global citizenship and competitiveness, students are strongly encouraged to participate in at least one mainland China and one overseas learning opportunity, with duration of **no less than three weeks** of which at least two weeks must be outside Hong Kong, in their undergraduate study.

Stay tuned for the Opportunities at:

- International Affairs Office
- Admissions and Academic Liaison Section, The Registry
- Centre of Development and Resources for Students The University of Hong Kong
- HKU Horizons
- Academic Advising Office
- HKU Summer Institute
- China Affairs Office, The University of Hong Kong
Project-based Learning
Field Studies
Articulation Pathways (New)
HKU BSc + UoMelb DVM

(articulation pathway to Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Melbourne)

Provides a new pathway to talented students who aspire to pursue a career in veterinary

HKU 6901 BSc

- BSc I
- BSc II
- BSc III
- (optional) BSc IV (1st sem)

HKU BSc degree

Doctors of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) at the University of Melbourne (UoMelb)

- DVM1
- DVM2
- DVM3
- DVM4

DVM degree at the University of Melbourne (UoMelb)

Remarks: students can also choose to study in HKU for 3.5 years, and obtain both degrees in 7.5 years

a minimum of 7 years
HKU BSc + UoMelb DVM
(articulation pathway to Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Melbourne)

**Eligible majors**
- Biochemistry
- Biological Sciences
- Ecology & Biodiversity
- Molecular Biology & Biotechnology
- Food & Nutritional Science

**Prerequisite for application**
Gain 186 credits upon successful completion of at least 6 semesters

**Selection period**
Year 3 of the study

**Quota**
up to 5 students every year

**Scholarship**
to cover partial tuition fees of 1st year of study at UoMelb

**CGPA Requirement**
≥ 3.45
HKU BSc + UoMelb DVM
(articulation pathway to Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Melbourne)

After completion
Students will obtain international accreditation AVBC (Australia), AVMA (USA) and RCVS (UK)

6901 BSc
the only Doctor of Veterinary Medicine articulation programme in HK

UoMelb
QS World University Rankings 2019 by Subject – Veterinary Science
#17

Graduates are also qualified to register as veterinary surgeons and practise in Hong Kong
4 years in 6901 BSc/ 6729 BSc (ActuarSc) plus 1 year in MSc/MStat or 1.5 years in MDASC (articulation pathway to Science Master Programmes at HKU)

Guaranteed admission to the taught postgraduate programmes offered by the Faculty to selected outstanding science students

TPg Programmes include:
- MSc in the field of Applied Geosciences
- MSc in the field of Food Safety and Toxicology
- Master of Statistics
- MSc in Environmental Management
- MSc in the field of Food Industry: Management and Marketing
- MSc in Data Science

CGPA requirement (at graduation) \( \geq 3.5 \)

Quota
- MSc in Data Science: 2
- No quota for other TPG programmes

Scholarship for the TPG study
- Students who are awarded the highest amount of scholarship will only need to pay 50% of tuition fee

Accepts applications from students completing Year 3

Provide a convenient channel of specialized training for deepening knowledge in specific fields of science
Plagiarism
Plagiarism and Academic Honesty

• An academic misdemeanour is a SERIOUS disciplinary offence.

The situation is particularly SEVERE in course assessment involving submission of report/poster/presentation, where students have been caught copying materials in bulk.
Plagiarism (cont.)

The Faculty **DOES NOT TOLERATE**

**PLAGIARISM.**

Commitment of **PLAGIARISM** could result in **SEVERE PENALITY AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION INCLUDING REPRIMAND AND DISCONTINUATION.**
Plagiarism (cont.)

Details for plagiarism can be found in the Faculty of Science homepage (https://www.scifac.hku.hk/current/ug/academic/academic-honesty)

“What is Plagiarism?” available at https://tl.hku.hk/plagiarism/
In what situation would I be defined as having committed plagiarism?

Copying
- Text
- Work
- Graphics

A mean of violating Academic Honesty
from internet, books, or any forms of information WITHOUT proper paraphrasing or acknowledgement

When in doubt, talk to your Academic Adviser / Teacher / Tutor.
Disciplinary Issues
Disciplinary Issues

• Besides plagiarism, you should be aware of your conduct, behaviour and always uphold your integrity.
• NEVER attempt cheating, falsification of documents.
• Any disciplinary infringements will be considered by the Disciplinary Committee; penalty ranges from reprimand to expulsion from the University depending on the seriousness of the offense.
Inclusive Language in Academic Work
Inclusive Language in Academic Work

• Awareness and sensitive to the use of language
  • To generate more thoughtful and respectful use of language
  • To reduce discrimination by promoting a balanced and considerate engagement with social diversity
  • To avoid words and phrases that stereotype, marginalise and demean social groups

Regulations on Discontinuation
Progression and Discontinuation

- The Faculty stresses the importance of the academic performance of students. Students who do not perform satisfactorily may be recommended for discontinuation of their studies.

- Sc5(h) Candidates shall be recommended for discontinuation of their studies if they have:
  (i) failed 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
  (ii) failed to achieve an average Semester GPA of 1.0 or higher for the two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester); or
  (iii) exceeded the maximum period of registration specified in Sc3, unless otherwise permitted by the Board of the Faculty.
Progression and Discontinuation (cont.)

- G11 Unsatisfactory performance or progress:
  A student whose performance at examinations or in coursework or in such class tests as may be held from time to time is unsatisfactory, or in the case of a higher degree student whose progress is unsatisfactory, may be required by the Senate to discontinue his studies.

- Students who are recommended for discontinuation of their studies will be interviewed by the Faculty Review Committee on Student Performance and Discontinuation (FRC) before their cases are considered by the University's Committee on Discontinuation (CoD). The FRC normally meets in January/February and July every year.
How does the Faculty contact you?

- Mostly by **email** to your **HKU email account**
- Students have the responsibility to **check your HKU email account daily** and take timely action accordingly
- Always read the **email** sent by the Faculty of Science (**science@hku.hk**)

Please keep the Faculty **updated** of your **contact information** (e.g. telephone, personal email, address) in your SIS account!!!
Useful Contact

- **Faculty of Science Office**
  - Address: G/F, Chong Yuet Ming Physics Building
  - Email: science@hku.hk
  - Tel.: 3917 2683
  - Website: [https://www.scifac.hku.hk/](https://www.scifac.hku.hk/)

- **Academic Advising Office (AAO)**
  - [http://aao.hku.hk](http://aao.hku.hk)

- **Academic Support and Examinations Section**
  - [http://www.ase.hku.hk](http://www.ase.hku.hk)

- **HKU Worldwide Undergraduate Exchange Programme**
  - [https://aal.hku.hk/studyabroad/](https://aal.hku.hk/studyabroad/)
Advice and Support from the University

- Academic Advising Office (AAO)

- Centre of Development and Resources for Students (CEDARS)
  - Counselling & Person Enrichment / Careers & Placement / Campus Life / Student Development

- University Health Service (UHS)
  - Health issues
Reminder

Please indicate your *intended major* at
https://webapp.science.hku.hk/student/IntendedMajor.html

*by August 15, 2019 (Thursday)*
- Thank you -

Wish you have a brilliant beginning at the Faculty of Science!