

Notes on Course Selection for Incoming Exchange/Visiting Students

1. To perform course selection online, you first have to obtain the login and password in order to access HKU Portal. Please collect the information at the International Affairs Office (for incoming exchange students) or the Faculty Office (for visiting students).
2. You have to perform course selection online by yourself after your arrival at HKU. You can either perform course selection during the course selection period from August 17, 2023 (10:00 am) to August 24, 2023 (4:00 pm) or during the add/drop period in the first two weeks of each semester. Please refer to the Important Dates for 2023-2024 Course Selection Exercise in Appendix A and follow the schedule of Year 1 students.
3. For the list of Science courses and the course details, you may visit the Faculty website at <https://www.scifac.hku.hk/current/ug/academic/syllabuses>.
4. You can select non-Science courses available in the Student Information System. However, please be reminded that at least half of the enrolled courses must be offered by the Faculty of Science.
5. For course selection guidance in Science courses, you are encouraged to seek advice from Course Selection Advisers. A list of Science Course Selection Advisers is available at <https://www.scifac.hku.hk/current/ug/academic/aa/csa>.
6. For advice on courses offered by non-Science Faculties/Departments, please contact the respective Faculties/Departments.
7. Please ensure the level of course you intend to take matches with your academic background. You can identify the level of Science course by the first number of the course code as below:

Introductory level courses (course code starting with 1 and 2) include levels 1 and 2 courses. They are normally taken in Year 1 and 2.

Level 1 courses: give students a very general overview of the subject and basic principles and methods. They serve as 'tasters' as well as free elective courses for the non-faculty students.

Level 2 courses: aimed as foundation courses in a discipline for students who have declared their major of study. They cover concepts and methods essential for preparing the student to progress into the advanced-level courses in the major.

Advanced level courses (course code starting with 3, 4 or 7) include levels 3, 4 and 7 courses. They are normally taken in Year 3 and 4.

Level 3 courses: These courses are the building blocks of the discipline.

Level 4 courses: advanced courses in a sub-field of the discipline, research-based courses, or capstone courses that require students to apply and integrate knowledge learnt in previous courses. Level 4 courses are normally taken in the final year of the study.

Level 7 courses: graduate courses that are offered to the more able undergraduate students as electives.

Please consult the respective Course Selection Adviser should you have any queries about the level of courses.

8. You may, subject to availability, take up to two Common Core Courses from a selective menu, each from a different Area of Inquiry (AoI).
9. The normal course load is 60 credits a year (30 credits per semester).
10. For the class timetable with latest delivery mode information, you may visit the SIS website at https://intraweb.hku.hk/reserved_1/sis_student/sis/SIS-class-timetable.html.
11. The teaching weeks in 2023-24 at HKU is shown in Appendix B.

Faculty of Science, HKU

August 2023

Important Dates for the 2023-2024 Course Selection Exercise

BSc, BSc&MRes, BSc&LLB, BSc(ActuarSc) & BSc(AppliedAI) – Year 1

Date (2023)	Event	Venue
From August 10	The course information system opens for freshmen (after performing master registration online) to preview available courses in the first and second semesters.	HKU Portal – SIS
August 17 (10:00 am) – August 24 (4:00 pm)	On-line course selection system available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semester 1 / full-year courses from 10:00 am Semester 2 courses from 10:10 am (Note: Selection of summer courses will only be available during the 2 nd semester add/drop period.)	HKU Portal – SIS
	Students to seek advice from Course Selection Advisers on how to select courses	Course Selection Advisers' offices / via email
August 18 (12:00 nn) – August 21 (2:29 pm)	Suspension period of the online course selection system (Course add/drop is not allowed.) Students are highly recommended to select courses which require course based approval before the suspension period.	---
August 24 (by 4:00 pm)	Closing date for students' submission of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Application Form for Taking Course Load Deviating from the Normal Load in a given semester (if applicable); (Note: Students are not allowed to take more than the designated maximum course load in the first year of study.) Course Approval Form (if applicable); and Application Form for Taking a Replacement Course (if applicable) 	Science Online Application Submission System (OASS)*
August 29 (10:00 am)	Checking of course selection status and ballot result (including CAES1000) on-line	HKU Portal – SIS

Courses Add/drop periods (for all years)

Date	Event	Venue
FIRST SEMESTER (2023)		
August 31 (10:00 am) – September 14 (4:00 pm)	On-line course selection system available to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 students from 10:00 am on August 31 Year 2 students from 12:00 nn on August 31 Year 3 students from 2:00 pm on August 31 Year 4 or above students from 4:00 pm on August 31 	HKU Portal – SIS
August 31 – September 13 (4:00 pm)	Availability of Course Approval Form for change of courses (if applicable)	Science Online Application Submission System (OASS)*
September 1	First day of teaching	---
September 1 (12:00 nn – 4:59 pm)	Suspension period of the online course selection system (Course add/drop is not allowed.) Students are highly recommended to select courses which require course based approval before the suspension period.	---
September 13 (by 4:00 pm)	Closing date for students' submission of Course Approval Form (if applicable).	Science Online Application Submission System (OASS)*
September 14 (by 4:00 pm)	Closing date for submission of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Application Form for Taking a Replacement Course (if applicable); and Application Form for Exemption from Taking a Capstone Course in the Second (Science) Major (if applicable). 	Science Online Application Submission System (OASS)*
September 19 (10:00 am)	Checking of final course selection status on-line	HKU Portal – SIS

* The Science Online Application Submission System (OASS) can be accessed via the following navigation path: <https://www.scifac.hku.hk/> > Current Students > Undergraduate Programmes > Forms (Science Online Application Submission System) or via the link: <https://webapp.science.hku.hk/intranet/OnlineFormUG.html>.

Teaching Weeks 2023-24 for Undergraduate and Taught Postgraduate Students

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	FIRST SEMESTER: SEP 1 - DEC 23, 2023	Week
SEP-23						1	2	First Day of Teaching: Sep 1, 2023	1
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		2
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		3
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		4
	24	25	26	27	28	29	[30]		5
OCT-23	1	[2]	3	4	5	6	7	Reading/Field Trip Week: Oct 16 - 21, 2023	6
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		7(Reading)
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		8
	22	[23]	24	25	26	27	28		9
	29	30	31						
NOV-23	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	Last Day of Teaching: Nov 30, 2023	10
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		11
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		12
	26	27	28	29	30				13
DEC-23						1	2	Revision Period: Dec 1 - 7, 2023 Assessment Period: Dec 8 - 23, 2023	14(Revision)
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		1
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		2
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		3
	24	[25]	[26]	27	28	29	30		Break
JAN-24	31							SECOND SEMESTER: JAN 15 - MAY 21, 2024 First Day of Teaching: Jan 15, 2024	Break
	7	[1]	2	3	4	5	6		Break
	14	8	9	10	11	12	13		1
	21	15	16	17	18	19	20		2
	28	22	23	24	25	26	27		3
FEB-24	28	29	30	31				Class Suspension Period for the Lunar New Year: Feb 10 - 16, 2024	4
	4	5	6	7	8	<9>	[10]		5
	11	[12]	[13]	14	15	16	17		6
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
	25	26	27	28	29				
MAR-24						1	2	Reading/Field Trip Week: Mar 4 - 9, 2024	7(Reading)
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		8
	10	11	12	13	14	15	(16)		9
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		10
	24	25	26	27	28	[29]	[30]		
APR-24	31							Last Day of Teaching: Apr 27, 2024 Revision Period: Apr 29 - May 4, 2024	11
	7	[1]	2	3	[4]	5	6		12
	14	8	9	10	11	12	13		13
	21	15	16	17	18	19	20		14
	28	22	23	24	25	26	27		15(Revision)
MAY-24				[1]	2	3	4	Assessment Period: May 6 - 21, 2024	1
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		2
	12	13	14	[15]	16	17	18		3
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		Break
	26	27	28	29	30	31			
JUN-24						1		OPTIONAL SUMMER SEMESTER JUN 24 - AUG 17, 2024	Break
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		Break
	9	[10]	11	12	13	14	15		Break
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		1
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		2
JUL-24	30								3
	7	[1]	2	3	4	5	6		4
	14	8	9	10	11	12	13		5
	21	15	16	17	18	19	20		6
	28	22	23	24	25	26	27		
AUG-24					1	2	3		7
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		8
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

- [] General Holiday Reading/Field Trip Week
- () University Holiday (Full Day) Revision Period
- < > University Holiday (afternoon only) Class Suspension Period for the Lunar New Year
- Assessment Period

Notes:

First Semester: 10 Mondays, 12 Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 11 Saturdays

Second Semester: 12 Mondays, 13 Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 12 Thursdays, 11.5 Fridays, 11 Saturdays