

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) in early August 2026.
2. You have to perform course selection online by yourself after your arrival at HKU. You can perform course selection during the course selection period from August 18, 2026 (10:00 am) to August 24, 2026 (4:00 pm). Please refer to the Important Dates for 2026-2027 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 2026-27 at HKU is shown in Appendix B.

Faculty of Science, HKU

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