

**Student Handbook for
Master of Arts in
International Affairs Programme
(MAIA)**

2023-24

September 2023

Programme Academic Calendar

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Events |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|
| August 2023 | | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 24: Deadline for Online Registration |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | 29: Orientation of School of Graduate Studies |
| September 2023 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 4: Academic Year of 2023-24, Term 1 STARTS |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 30: The day following the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival |
| October 2023 | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 2: The day following National Day |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 23: Chung Yeung Festival |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | |
| November 2023 | | | | | | | |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 16: Congregation (class suspended) |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |
| December 2023 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 11: Term 1 ENDS (Last day for class) |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 22: Payment Deadline for Tuition Fee of Term 2 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 25-26: Christmas Day and the first weekday after Christmas Day |
| 31 | | | | | | | |
| January 2024 | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1: The first day of January |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 15: Term 2 STARTS |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Events |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|
| February 2024 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 9-16: Chinese New Year Holidays (students) |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 21: Sports Day (classes suspended) |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | | | |
| March 2024 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 29-30: Good Friday and the day following Good Friday |
| 31 | | | | | | | |
| April 2024 | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1: Easter Monday; 4: Ching Ming Festival |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 26: Term 2 ENDS (Last day for class) |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | |
| May 2024 | | | | | | | |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1: Labour Day |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 15: The Birthday of the Buddha |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |
| June 2024 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | 1 | |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 10: Tuen Ng Festival |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | |
| 30 | | | | | | | |
| July 2024 | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1: HKSAR Establishment Day |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |
| August 2024 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 31: Academic Year 2023/24 ENDS |

General Holidays

Important Dates for Students

Term Starts / Ends

Table of Content

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Programme Academic Calendar | 2 |
| 1 About Lingnan University | 6 |
| 1.1 Vision, Mission and Core Values | 6 |
| 1.2 Graduate Attributes for Taught Postgraduate (TPg) Programmes | 8 |
| 2 Programme Information | 8 |
| 2.1 Background | 8 |
| 2.2 Aims and Intended Learning Outcomes | 8 |
| 2.3 Entrance Requirements | 9 |
| 2.4 Mode, Normal and Maximum Duration of Study | 10 |
| 2.5 Medium of Instruction | 10 |
| 2.6 Contributing Departments/Units/External Partners | 10 |
| 2.7 Programme Structure | 11 |
| 3 Academic Regulations | 13 |
| 3.1 Student Classification | 13 |
| 3.2 Change of Personal Particulars | 13 |
| 3.3 Credit Transfer and Course Exemption | 13 |
| 3.4 Adding and Dropping Courses and Changing Course/Sections | 14 |
| 3.5 Study Commitment, Class Attendance and Leave of Absence | 14 |
| 3.6 Withdrawal of Study | 15 |
| 3.7 Discontinuation of Studies | 15 |
| 3.8 Application for Testimonial/Transcript | 16 |
| 3.9 Student Card Replacement | 17 |
| 3.10 Fees | 17 |
| 4 Assessment, Examination and Graduation Regulations | 17 |
| 4.1 Course Assessment | 17 |
| 4.2 Outcome-based Approach to Teaching and Learning (OBATL) | 18 |
| 4.3 Use of Rubrics | 18 |
| 4.4 Grading System | 18 |
| 4.5 Grade Point Average (G.P.A.) | 19 |
| 4.6 Student Progression | 19 |
| 4.7 Graduation Requirements | 20 |
| 4.8 Intermediate Awards | 20 |
| 4.9 Award Classification | 21 |
| 4.10 Appeal | 21 |
| 4.11 Course Attendance Requirement for Examination | 22 |
| 4.12 Re-taking a Course | 23 |
| 4.13 Academic Dishonesty | 23 |
| 4.14 Plagiarism and “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” | 24 |
| 5 Regulations and Code of Conduct | 25 |
| 6 Quality Assurance | 25 |
| 7 Student Support | 27 |

| | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 7.1 | Library..... | 27 |
| 7.2 | Information Technology Services Centre (ITSC) | 27 |
| 7.3 | Office of Student Affairs (OSA) | 27 |
| 7.4 | Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC) | 28 |
| 7.5 | Registry..... | 28 |
| 7.6 | School of Graduate Studies (GS)..... | 28 |
| 7.7 | Finance Office | 28 |
| 7.8 | Chaplain's Office | 28 |
| 8 | Scholarships and Financial Assistances | 28 |
| 9 | Useful Information..... | 29 |
| 9.1 | Bad Weather Arrangements | 29 |
| 9.2 | Employment Policy for Non-local Students in Hong Kong | 29 |
| 9.3 | Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduate (IANG) Policy | 29 |
| 9.4 | Lingnan University Alumni Association (Hong Kong) (LUAA) and Lingnan University Postgraduate Alumni Association (LUPAA) | 29 |
| 9.5 | Useful Telephone Numbers | 29 |
| 9.6 | Staff and Contacts of Programme Office..... | 30 |
| 9.7 | Campus Map | 31 |
| | Appendix - Course Descriptions..... | 32 |
| | DISCLAIMER | 36 |

This Programme Student Handbook is subject to periodic review and changes may be made when needed. Students will be informed of the changes as and when appropriate.

(Last update: 22 November 2023)

1 About Lingnan University

Lingnan University is the liberal arts university in Hong Kong and we have the longest established tradition among the local institutions of higher education. Our history can be dated back to 1888, when our forerunner, the Christian College in China, was founded in Guangzhou, and to 1967, when the institution, as Lingnan College, was re-established in Hong Kong.

It is ranked:

- 1st for “International Faculty”, “Inbound Exchange Students” and “Outbound Exchange Students” (*QS Asia University Rankings 2021*)
- 2nd for “Quality Education” (*THE University Impact Rankings 2023*)
- 33rd for “International Faculty” (*QS World University Rankings 2022*)

Meaning of the Lingnan Logo

The mountain, river, trees and path illustrated in the University logo each symbolise a profound principle:



- The White Cloud Mountain depicts the highest aspiration in life;
- The Pearl River represents the wide dissemination of Lingnan education;
- The lychee trees - with ripe fruit hanging in clusters - represent the commitment to realise the precept "For God, for Country, and for Lingnan";
- The path represents the road to the future by virtue of hard work;
- The panoramic view of the campus in the emblem '*reminds alumni and friends of Lingnan of their loyalty wherever they may be. The red and grey colours of the emblem help nourish the sentiment; they are "blood-red and iron-grey", symbolizing loyalty and steadfastness. The red and grey reflect the Lingnan spirit, a spirit inspiring them to lay the foundations for a splendid future forever*'¹.

1.1 Vision, Mission and Core Values

We offer undergraduate, taught postgraduate and research postgraduate programmes in the areas of Arts, Business and Social Sciences, and our broad curriculum covers an array of general education and interdisciplinary courses to provide students with a firm knowledge foundation across different subjects. We groom students to think critically and creatively, judge independently, care genuinely, and act appropriately and responsibly, and we prepare them to pursue their goals in a rapidly changing environment.

¹ Lee, Sui-ming. *A Phoenix of South China : The Story of Lingnan (University) College Sun Yat-sen University*. Hong Kong: The Commercial Press, 2005.

Vision

To excel as a leading Asian liberal arts university with international recognition, distinguished by outstanding teaching, learning, scholarship and community engagement.

Mission

Lingnan University is committed to

- providing quality whole-person education by combining the best of the Chinese and Western liberal arts traditions;
- nurturing students to achieve all-round excellence and imbuing them with its core values; and
- encouraging faculty and students to contribute to society through original research and knowledge transfer.

Motto

Education for service

Core Values

A collegial community of learning and discovery for students and scholar-teachers

Lingnan aims to build a community of learning and discovery with collegial students and scholar-teachers who respect each other, keep an open mind, embrace diversity, appreciate different views, uphold academic freedom and freedom of expression, and accept responsibility for their words and deeds.

Whole-person cultivation and all-round development

Lingnan endeavours to cultivate students' whole-person and all-round growth. It encourages students to pursue independent and critical thinking, creativity and innovation, excellent communication skills including a high level of literacy, social responsibility, personal virtue, cultural accomplishment and a passion for lifelong learning.

Community engagement and social responsibility

Lingnan encourages its members to care for others, to be responsible for their own actions, to serve the local community and beyond, and to make a positive impact for the betterment of humanity.

The Lingnan spirit

The Lingnan spirit, which has flourished since Lingnan's founding in Canton (Guangzhou) in 1888 as Christian College in China, has served over the years to bond all Lingnanians together, and continues to inspire the University today. The Lingnan spirit is marked by passion, loyalty, perseverance, openness to different ideas and cultures, and a readiness to serve.

1.2 Graduate Attributes for Taught Postgraduate (TPg) Programmes

For taught postgraduate programmes, Lingnan graduates are expected to possess the following attributes in terms of knowledge, skills and attitude (https://www.ln.edu.hk/sgs/taught-postgraduate-programmes/graduate_attributes):

Independent and Critical Scholar

- LU graduates will possess in-depth discipline specific knowledge as well as a diverse range of a professional and scholarship skills.

Advanced Professional Problem-solver

- LU graduates will have a deep understanding of discipline knowledge to creatively solve complex problems and provide innovative solutions.

Critical and Creative

- LU graduates will be critically analytical and have a creative perspective and outlook in their research areas / professional discipline.

Skilled Communicator

- LU graduates will be advanced communicators and be able to articulate clearly and coherently in written, digital and oral forms.

Ethically and Socially Responsible Researcher/Professional

- LU graduates will be reflective, ethical and socially responsible in conducting their research / professional practice.

2 Programme Information

2.1 Background

The **Master of Arts in International Affairs (MAIA)** is hosted by the Department of Government and International Affairs. The Programme provide postgraduate education and training in international affairs with a political science emphasis.

2.2 Aims and Intended Learning Outcomes

2.2.1 Aims

- The Programme aims to serve the needs of candidates with the following backgrounds:
 - (a) Mid-careers professionals, including civil servants, journalists, corporation executives, diplomats, political and economic analysts, teachers and NGO workers who would benefit for their career development from this academic study and interacting with other professionals in an academic environment;
 - (b) Degree holders in social sciences, humanities, law, communications, business or other relevant training who would like to prepare themselves for international related careers or advanced academic studies;
 - (c) Postgraduate students, civil servants, and social workers in Mainland China and other Asia Pacific regions who wish to further their studies overseas.
- The Programme is designed around a series of courses that cover both fundamental theoretical underpinnings as well as detailed analysis of important international and Asia Pacific issues.

- As the Programme seeks to provide students with a deeper understanding of international and regional affairs, knowledge acquired will not only help students upgrade their professional abilities, but will also ensure they are equipped with the necessary conceptual tools to comprehend the rapidly-changing global and regional forces that shape our world.
- The Programme will provide advance training for students to strengthen their analytical abilities, help them develop the capacity to conduct original research, and bolster their presentation, debating and writing skills.
- Given the choices of courses in international affairs and related areas, some of which may be taught by instructors from outside the Department, students are guaranteed to have their horizons broadened and their learning experiences enhanced.
- Students will be ably instructed by a faculty of dedicated scholars, trained at major universities of the world and well-connected with the academic, diplomatic and policy communities in Hong Kong, the region and the world.

2.2.2 Learning Outcomes

On completing the MAIA Programme, students will be able to:

- Understand and apply theories, methods, concepts and background knowledge in political science, particularly in international relations and comparative politics to the study of current issues and affairs;
- Describe and explain the motives and actions of key state and non-state actors in shaping contemporary world politics and domestic and foreign policies of countries;
- Critically synthesise and evaluate media or official reports, governmental and non-governmental policy statements, and academic literature on international politics and policymaking in contemplating solutions to problems;
- Comprehend and exercise our rights and duties as responsible national and global citizens in enhancing peace, stability, prosperity and welfare.

2.3 Entrance Requirements

- To be eligible for entry into this Programme, candidates should:
 - a) hold a relevant bachelor's degree with first or second class honours or at an equivalent standard awarded by a tertiary education institution recognized for this purpose by the University; or
 - b) have obtained an equivalent qualification; or
 - c) have provided satisfactory evidence of academic and professional attainment.
- For applicants whose degree or, exceptionally, an alternative qualification deemed equivalent from a tertiary institution is not using English as the medium of instruction (MOI) for the programme should obtain:
 - a) a band score of 6.5 or above in the International English Language Testing System

- (IELTS); or
 - b) a minimum score of 550 (paper-based test) or 79 (internet-based test) in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL); or
 - c) an equivalent score in a recognised test; or
 - d) an equivalent qualification to prove his/her language proficiency which will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Interviews may be conducted when needed.

2.4 Mode, Normal and Maximum Duration of Study

2.4.1 The Programme is offered in full time mode. The period of study shall normally be as follows:

| | Full Time |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Minimum study period | 1 year |
| Maximum study period | 3 years |

- 2.4.2 Without prior permission from the Senate, a student is required to fulfil all the requirements for graduation within the maximum study period.
- 2.4.3 Each academic year consists of two terms, and where necessary there may be a summer term.
- 2.4.4 Any periods of leave of absence, suspension of studies, and on approved exchange programmes are included in the maximum period of study.
- 2.4.5 A student who for non-academic reasons intends to extend his/her period of study beyond the prescribed maximum number of years is required to obtain prior permission from the Senate.

2.5 Medium of Instruction

All classes will be conducted in English and all written work by students should be submitted in English.

2.6 Contributing Departments/Units/External Partners

The Department of Government and International Affairs, Lingnan University is responsible for the MAIA Programme.

The Department of Government and International Affairs has a rich teaching and research history in undergraduate and postgraduate studies. The Department has several experienced and internationally renowned scholars who received training from reputable institutions across the globe. The Department of Government and International Affairs works closely with two research centres, namely the **Centre for Asian Pacific Studies (CAPS)** and the **Public Governance Programme (PGP)**. Aside from their primary research objectives, these centres provide opportunities for students to interact with international scholars through the numerous seminars and workshops they organise.

2.7 Programme Structure

2.7.1 Curriculum

For the MAIA degree curriculum, it requires the completion of a total of 24 credit hours, including 4 compulsory courses (12 credits) and 4 elective courses (12 credits).

Our curriculum contains a total of 14 courses, of which 4 are required and 10 are elective courses. The 4 required courses focus more on fundamental concepts and theories and provide essential basic knowledge for students to pursue further studies in the field. The 10 elective courses are all significant political issues or areas, focused either on international politics or comparative politics.

In the first term, students will be first exposed to required courses with fundamental concepts and theories; in the second term, based on student demand and staff availability, elective courses are selectively offered in different academic years. Elective courses are on important international and/or Asian region issues with detailed analyses. The Programme aims to provide students both essential knowledge in the field and a deeper understanding of international and regional affairs.

2.7.2 List of Course

| Course | Credits |
|---|---------|
| Required Courses (12 credits) | |
| MIA501 Theories and Approaches of International Relations | 3 |
| MIA502 Theories and Approaches of Comparative Politics | 3 |
| MIA503 International Security | 3 |
| MIA504 Politics of Global Economic Interdependence | 3 |
| Elective Courses (12 credits required; choose 4 courses from the following category) | |
| MIA601 Politics of Development in Asia Pacific | 3 |
| MIA602 Greater China: Identity, Interaction, Integration and Diversity | 3 |
| MIA603 International Organizations and Global Governance | 3 |
| MIA604 Environmental Politics and Global Governance | 3 |
| MIA605 International Politics of the Asia-Pacific | 3 |
| MIA606 Foreign Policy and International Relations of China | 3 |
| MIA607 NGOs, Civil Society and the State | 3 |
| MIA608 Ethnic Conflicts and Nationalist Crises | 3 |
| MIA609 Youth Movements and Dissent Politics | 3 |
| MIA610 Selected Issues in Contemporary Chinese Politics | 3 |

2.7.3 Curriculum Mapping

The following table indicates the different learning outcomes that can be addressed through different courses in the Programme:

Table 1: Alignment of Courses with Learning Outcomes

| Learning outcome | Required and elective courses – the courses within which MAIA Programme learning outcomes are addressed | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | Theories and Approaches of International Relations | Theories and Approaches of Comparative Politics | International Security | Politics of Global Economic Interdependence | Politics of Development in Asia Pacific | Greater China: Identity, Integration and Diversity | International Organizations and Global Governance | Environmental Politics and Global Governance | International Politics of the Asia- Pacific | Foreign Policy and International Relations of China | NGOs, Civil Society and the State | Ethnic Conflicts and Nationalist Crises | Youth Movements and Dissent Politics |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand and apply theories, methods, concepts and background knowledge in political science and international relations to the study of current issues and affairs | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe and explain the motives and actions of key state and non-state actors in shaping contemporary world politics and domestic and foreign policies of countries | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critically synthesize and evaluate media or official reports, governmental and non-governmental policy statements, and academic literature on international politics and policymaking in contemplating solution to problems | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehend and exercise our rights and duties as responsible national and global citizens in enhancing peace, stability, prosperity and welfare | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |

3 Academic Regulations

3.1 Student Classification

A student is classified as a full-time student if he/she enrolls in 12 or more credits in a term while a student is classified as a part-time student if he/she enrolls in less than 12 credits in a term.

3.2 Change of Personal Particulars

- 3.2.1 Personal particulars provided by students in their applications at the time of admission are used for setting up the student records, and should be updated at all times.
- 3.2.2 The Programme Office assumes that the name recorded at the time of admission is correct, and that the name should be the same as the one which appears on student's HKID Card or Passport. No change will be made to this name in the University's records unless a Statutory Declaration is provided.
- 3.2.3 In addition, students should notify the Programme Office immediately of any changes to their personal particulars. Students may obtain from Registry an application form for changing personal particulars, complete and return it to the Programme Office.
- 3.2.4 Requests to change the HKID card number, name, date of birth, place of birth and nationality have to be supported by legal documentary evidence.

3.3 Credit Transfer and Course Exemption

- 3.3.1 A student who has passed public, professional, or other examinations recognized by the University or has successfully completed a similar course at an appropriate level offered by a recognised institution may apply for credit transfer/course exemption.

3.3.2 Credit Transfer

The student will be exempted from taking the corresponding course offered by the University and granted with equivalent credits, if the application is approved.

3.3.3 Course Exemption

The student will be exempted from taking the corresponding course offered by the University, if the application is approved. However, credits are not granted, and the student has to take another course (may be a specified course or any other course) to make up for the total number of credits required for graduation.

- 3.3.4 No grade will be given but all exempted or recognized courses and the number of credits transferred will be shown in the student's transcript.
- 3.3.5 Normally, a student may not be granted credit transfer/course exemption for more than 50% of the required number of credits for the academic award.
- 3.3.6 **Application**
 - (i) The student is required to obtain from the Programme Office an application form for credit transfer/course exemption, complete and submit the application to the

Programme Director at least two weeks before the start of the term. All such applications must be accompanied by original supporting documents and their photocopies. The Programme Office will return the original supporting documents to the applicant after inspection.

- (ii) The application should be approved by the Programme Director, who should forward it to the Programme Office within two weeks after the beginning of a term.
- (iii) A student should not enrol in a course for which he/she has been granted exemption (with or without credits). If the student has enrolled in a course and is subsequently granted exemption (with or without credits), he/she is not required to apply to drop the exempted course.

3.4 Adding and Dropping Courses and Changing Course/Sections

- 3.4.1 A student who wishes to add or drop a course or change a course or section of a course after registration must complete a prescribed form obtainable from the Programme Office. The deadline is two weeks after the beginning of the term concerned.
- 3.4.2 The student is required to obtain the endorsement of the teachers involved and the approval of the Programme Director.
- 3.4.3 If the application is approved, the student must return the form with the signatures of endorsement and approval to the Programme Office by the specific deadline. Only under very special circumstances may a student apply in writing to the Programme Director for permission to add or drop a course after the stipulated deadline, but no student is allowed to drop a course after a lapse of one-third of the term.
- 3.4.4 A student who adds a course or changes a course or section of a course without going through the prescribed procedure will not be given a grade or credits for the course.
- 3.4.5 A student who drops a course without going through the prescribed procedure will be given an “F” grade for the course.

3.5 Study Commitment, Class Attendance and Leave of Absence

3.5.1 Study Commitment

- (i) A full-time student of the University is not allowed to pursue simultaneously any programme at another tertiary institution. A student in breach of this regulation is subject to having his/her studies at the University discontinued.
- (ii) Full-time students are expected to devote their time fully to their studies.

3.5.2 Class Attendance

- (i) A student should attend required lectures, tutorials and other class activities, tests and examinations and complete the work assigned by the teachers of the courses in which the student has enrolled.
- (ii) Students are expected to attend classes and other class activities punctually and regularly, to the satisfaction of the lecturers of courses. Each course may have specific requirements for student attendance. Appropriate sanctions, where necessary, would be approved by the Board of Examiners.

- (iii) A student who is unable to attend classes should inform the teacher concerned in writing at the earliest opportunity.
- (iv) In the case of absence for more than two days owing to illness, a certificate from a registered medical doctor is required.

3.5.3 Leave of Absence

- (i) A student who wishes to obtain leave of absence of more than three weeks should obtain prior permission from the Programme Director on the basis of a written application, stating the reasons for seeking leave of absence.
- (ii) Leave of absence may be granted for a maximum period of 12 months. Any periods of leave of absence taken shall be included as part of the period of study.
- (iii) In case of illness or other serious emergencies, a student who has been granted leave of absence may apply to the Programme Director for permission to carry out make-up work for assignments, tests and examinations. Such applications are subject to approval by the Programme Director in consultation with the teachers concerned.
- (iv) A student whose accumulated leave of absence exceeds one-third of the term course should not be assessed and awarded credits for the courses enrolled in the term.
- (v) A student may be required to take leave of absence if the condition of the student's health will constitute a definite hazard to the University community. Such a student should seek appropriate treatment. After the prescribed period of absence and before the student applies to resume classes, he/she should obtain a certificate signed by a registered medical doctor, stating that the student no longer constitutes a hazard to the University community.

3.6 Withdrawal of Study

- 3.6.1 A student who wishes to leave the University before graduation must seek official withdrawal from the University. The student should complete and submit an application form obtainable from the Programme Office.
- 3.6.2 Approval will be granted by the Programme Director only after proper clearance by relevant units.
- 3.6.3 A student who leaves the University without prior approval by the Programme Director or is absent for over three weeks continuously without prior permission of his/her programme as stipulated in Regulation 3.5.3 (i) above will be considered as having unofficially withdrawn from studies at the University with effect from the date of confirmation by the Programme Office.
- 3.6.4 An unofficially withdrawn student will not be issued any official documents of the University and will not be re-admitted.

3.7 Discontinuation of Studies

- 3.7.1 The Senate may, on the recommendation of the Committee, discontinue the studies of a student at any time on the grounds of the candidate's unsatisfactory performance or failure to comply with these Regulations.

- 3.7.2 The studies of a student will normally be discontinued if,
- he/she fails to have his/her academic probation lifted at the end of the term when he/she has taken cumulatively 6 or more credits since he/she has been put on probation, or
 - his/her Cumulative G.P.A. is below 2.50 at an academic review after the academic probation is lifted and the student continued on the Programme;
 - he/she fails to fulfil progression requirements of the Programme; or
 - he/she fails to fulfil all requirements for graduation within the maximum study period.
- 3.7.3 A student with studies discontinued on academic grounds is normally not allowed to be admitted to the same programme of the University in the following academic year. If a student is admitted to the same programme or another taught postgraduate programme of the University, recognition of the credits obtained in his/her previous studies at the University will be determined by the course offering unit and the decision shall be based on content relevance and the grade obtained. Only courses passed with grade B- or above will be recognised and recognised grades will be counted in Cumulative G.P.A. calculation. Normally, no more than 30% of the required number of credits for the academic award shall be recognised.
- 3.7.4 Students' academic standing referred to in Regulation 3.7.2 is subject to the approval of the Senate upon the recommendation of the Committee.
- 3.7.5 Notwithstanding Regulation 3.7.4, a student whose studies have been discontinued may appeal through the Registrar against the decision. Details are stipulated in Section 9 of the Regulation Governing University Examinations.

3.8 Application for Testimonial/Transcript

3.8.1 Testimonial

- (i) A current student who wishes to have a letter certifying his/her student status or attendance records may apply to the Programme Office for such a testimonial by email.
- (ii) A student who wishes to have a personal recommendation or reference letter should approach a teacher who knows him/her well.

3.8.2 Transcript

- (i) A student who wishes to apply for transfer or admission to another educational institution or for employment may apply to the Registry for an official transcript.
- (ii) An official transcript shows the relevant particulars of a student, title of his/her programme, all courses taken and retaken regardless of passed or failed, grades obtained, grade point averages, academic scholarships, academic awards, academic honours and disciplinary actions taken, if any.
- (iii) An official transcript will be sent direct by the Registry to the institution or prospective employer upon the student's request and payment of the prescribed fees and postage.
- (iv) An official transcript is not issued to a student as a personal copy or to any private individual.
- (v) Official transcript shall not be issued to students who have not completed a term of

study.

- (vi) A student who has unofficially withdrawn from the University or has unpaid accounts or obligations due to the University will not be issued any transcript or testimonial.

3.9 Student Card Replacement

- 3.9.1 Upon first registration, each student is issued with a Student Identity Card free of charge. Students who wish to replace the card should obtain from the Registry an application form for Application for a Replacement Copy of Student Identity Card, complete and return it to the Registry.
- 3.9.2 A fee will be charged for each replacement card. The student should take good care of the card and present it to staff for inspection as and when necessary.
- 3.9.3 Student identity cards will normally expire at the end of normal study period an academic year. If you are eligible to continue with your study after the expiry of your Student Identity Card, please inform the Programme Office one month before the expiry date.

3.10 Fees

The tuition fees for the academic year are as follow:

| Study Mode | 1 st instalment of tuition fee | 2 nd instalment of tuition fee |
|------------|---|---|
| Full-time | HK\$60,000 | HK\$60,000 |

- 3.10.1 Tuition fees paid are neither refundable nor transferable.
- 3.10.2 Tuition fees are subject to annual revision. Students are required to pay the amount of tuition fees prescribed for each academic year.
- 3.10.3 If a student is required to repeat a failed course or take an additional course, the tuition fee payable will be calculated on the basis of credit units taken in that particular year.

4 Assessment, Examination and Graduation Regulations

4.1 Course Assessment

- 4.1.1 A student is assessed for every course in which he/she has enrolled in the form of any one or any combination of the following: class work, written assignment, laboratory work, field work, research papers, projects, tests, written examinations, oral examinations and any other method(s) of academic assessment. They may be required to submit a thesis/project report covering an element of research or creative work as defined by the programme requirements.
- 4.1.2 A student is required to complete all the course work and take all the prescribed tests and examinations.

- 4.1.3 Reassessment of a failed course is not allowed, except under extenuating circumstances.

4.2 Outcome-based Approach to Teaching and Learning (OBATL)

- 4.2.1 Lingnan University has put in place effective mechanisms to assure and enhance the quality of its education with a view to achieving the **graduate attributes** and **learning outcomes** exemplifying the qualities expected of Lingnan graduates.
- 4.2.2 OBATL is grounded in a set of pedagogical and institutional values and principles that articulate clearly stated “intended learning outcomes” (ILOs) with a set of assessment tasks (methods) for measuring them.
- 4.2.3 OBATL requires that assessment processes be based on **clearly expressed criteria** which are then used for determining the final grade (criterion-referencing).
- 4.2.4 In other words, students are graded on the basis of attaining well defined learning outcomes (i.e., knowledge, skills, attributes criteria) **rather than how they compare with their peer group** (norm-referencing).

4.3 Use of Rubrics

Rubrics are developed for Assessment Tasks to help assessing to what extent students have attained the intended outcomes. The details are described in the relevant syllabus.

4.4 Grading System

- 4.4.1 Letter grades are used to indicate a student’s academic performance in a course.
- 4.4.2 Grades are awarded according to the following system:

| Grade | Standard | Sub-divisions | Grade Points |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| A | Excellent | A | 4.00 |
| | | A- | 3.67 |
| B | Good | B+ | 3.33 |
| | | B | 3.00 |
| | | B- | 2.67 |
| C | Fair | C+ | 2.33 |
| | | C | 2.00 |
| | | C- | 1.67 |
| F | Failure | F | 0 |
| I | Incomplete | | 0* |
| M | Merit | | no grade point given* |
| VS | Very Satisfactory | | no grade point given* |
| S | Satisfactory | | no grade point given* |
| U | Unsatisfactory | | no grade point given* |
| PASS/FAIL | | | no grade point given* |

**Not included in the calculation of grade point average.*

- 4.4.3 Grade F indicates failure. A student who receives this grade in the first term of a year

course is not normally allowed to continue with that course in the second term.

- 4.4.4 Grade I is a temporary grade which indicates that the course work or examination has not been completed for reasons acceptable to both the teacher and the Board of Examiners. The assessment should be completed within four weeks after official release of the preliminary assessment results, and the grade I will be converted to a final grade which includes all assessment marks; otherwise, the grade I will be converted to grade F. The final grade will be used in the calculation of grade point averages.
- 4.4.5 Pass or Fail grade may only be given as specified in the approved syllabus of the course concerned.

4.5 Grade Point Average (G.P.A.)

4.5.1 Term G.P.A.

This is a figure ranging from 0 to 4.00 (A = 4.00) used to indicate the performance of a student in the term concerned.

$$\text{Term G.P.A.} = \frac{\text{Total weighted points for all courses enrolled in the term concerned}}{\text{Total number of credits}^2 \text{ enrolled in for the term concerned}}$$

where weighted points = grade points x the number of credits of the course concerned

4.5.2 Cumulative G.P.A.

This is a figure ranging from 0 to 4.00 (A = 4.00) used to indicate the overall performance of a student in all the terms up to date.

$$\text{Cumulative G.P.A.} = \frac{\text{Total weighted points for all}^3 \text{ courses enrolled in}}{\text{Total number of credits enrolled in for all terms}}$$

- 4.5.3 Courses enrolled, whether passed or failed, will be taken in the calculation of Term or Cumulative G.P.A., but for the courses which have been retaken, only the grade and weighted points obtained in the final attempt will be included in the G.P.A. calculation.
- 4.5.4 Courses which are exempted are not included in the calculation of Term or Cumulative G.P.A.

4.6 Student Progression

A student is required to achieve a Cumulative G.P.A. of 2.50 or above in order to automatically proceed to the next term. A student whose Cumulative G.P.A. is 2.50 or above but below 2.67 will be given a warning. The Board of Examiners shall at the end of each term recommend whether each student is:

- Making satisfactory progress towards the degree;
- Eligible for the degree; or
- Required to withdraw from the Programme.

² Credits of relevant courses only

³ With exception as stipulated in Regulation 4.5.3

A student will normally progress unless he/she falls within the following categories, any of which may be regarded as grounds for termination of studies:

- a) The student is unable to attain a Cumulative G.P.A. of 2.50 at the end of each term;
- b) The student is unable to attain a Cumulative G.P.A. of 2.67 at the end of the Programme, which is the minimum Cumulative G.P.A. requirement for graduation; or
- c) The student has exceeded the maximum period of study, which is 3 years for the full-time mode.

4.7 Graduation Requirements

- 4.7.1 A student will be evaluated for graduation at the completion of the term in which he/she may satisfy all the conditions for an award. If a student is not allowed to graduate, he/she will be re-evaluated for graduation at the end of subsequent terms.
- 4.7.2 For graduation, a student is required to complete a total of 8 courses amounting to 24 credits as specified in the Programme curriculum. The minimum cumulative G.P.A. requirement for graduation is 2.67. The University reserves the right to make amendments to academic programmes from time to time as approved by the Senate.
- 4.7.3 If a student was admitted to the Programme with an English test score just below the minimum as specified in Regulation 2.3 above, the student is required to fulfil an exit requirement on English language competency before graduation. The requirement is considered fulfilled if:
 - a) the student has completed an English enhancement course⁴ and attained a minimum grade as specified by the University,
 - b) the student has obtained a band score of 6.5 or above in IELTS, or a minimum score of 550 (paper-based test) or 79 (internet-based test) in TOEFL, or
 - c) the student has met the Programme's specific exit requirement on English language competency as approved by the University.
- 4.7.4 A student is required to graduate as soon as he/she satisfies all the conditions for an award.
- 4.7.5 A student may graduate upon completion of all requirements at the end of any term in an academic year.
- 4.7.6 A student's eligibility for graduation is subject to Senate approval.

4.8 Intermediate Awards

- 4.8.1 A student will be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma if they complete any 4 courses or more with a minimum G.P.A. of 2.33 and do not continue in the Programme. Acceptance of an intermediate award implies an intention not to complete the final award.

⁴ English Language Enhancement Course: Preparation for IELTS is an approved course for English enhancement, and the minimum grade to attain is B-.

- 4.8.2 If a student was admitted to the programme with an English test score just below the minimum as specified in Regulation 2.3, the student is required to fulfil the same exit requirement on English language competency detailed in Regulation 4.7.3 before graduating with an intermediate award.

4.9 Award Classification

The performance of students in each course is measured by a combination of assessments (as stipulated in the attached individual course syllabus). The assessment process will follow the general grading policy as prescribed by Lingnan University for post-graduate studies. To qualify for the award of the **Master of Arts in International Affairs** issued by Lingnan University, students must, where applicable:

1. attend at least 80% of the lectures or class activities for all courses;
2. complete and pass ALL required courses; and
3. obtain 24 credits with a cumulative G.P.A. of 2.67 (equivalent to B-) or above.

A student who has fulfilled all the requirements for graduation will be awarded an MA degree with one of the following classifications.

| Classification | Minimum Cumulative G.P.A. |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Distinction | 3.50 |
| Pass | 2.67 |

4.10 Appeal

4.10.1 Review of Grades and Reassessment

- (i) As all course grades are assigned according to criterion referencing, a student is entitled to know the basis on which the grade has been assigned. This includes the criteria for grades on individual assessment tasks, and weighting of individual assessment tasks in calculating the course grade.
- (ii) A student unsure of how a course grade has been arrived at is encouraged to seek an explanation from the course instructor. It is the course instructor's obligation to provide this information, which may include an explanation of the criteria used in marking individual assessment tasks and/ or a confirmation of the scores and weightings on which the course grade is based. In case a face-to-face meeting is impossible, the instructor and the student can communicate by other means, such as email or telephone. During the process, the student is not allowed to lobby for a change of grade.
- (iii) When the student approaches the instructor for an explanation, he/she may be required to provide the work in question if this has been returned to him/her.
- (iv) A student may appeal through the Registrar for a **review of grades**. The appeal process requires the student to explain briefly why he or she believes the original calculation is incorrect. The Registrar will refer the appeal to the Programme Director/Head of Academic Unit concerned, who will inform the subject teacher. The Programme

Director/Head of Academic Unit will return the result of the review to the Registrar, who will inform the student.

- (v) A student may appeal through the Registrar for a **reassessment** of one or more written works. The appeal process requires the student to explain briefly why he or she believes the original grade is unfair, with reference to the relevant rubric or marking scheme. The Registrar will refer the appeal to the Programme Director/Head of Academic Unit concerned. The Programme Director/Head of Academic Unit will return the result of the reassessment to the Registrar, who will inform the student.
- (vi) An appeal for review or reassessment requires a deposit, which will be refunded only if the appeal results in a change to the grade.
- (vii) Appeals must be made within two weeks from the release of preliminary examination results.
- (viii) Results of appeals will be determined within 7 working days from the day when the application is lodged.

4.10.2 **Discontinuation of Studies**

- (i) A student whose studies are discontinued at the University due to unsatisfactory academic performance or progression may appeal in writing through the Registrar against the decision, enclosing all the necessary supporting documents. The Discontinuation Appeals Panel is empowered by the Senate to decide on the case, mainly on grounds of extenuating circumstances that affected the studies of the appellant and/or procedural problem(s) in the assessment process. The decision of the Panel will be final.
- (ii) No fees will be charged to students who lodge such appeals.
- (iii) Appeals must be made within one week after the announcement of the resolution of Postgraduate Studies Committee (PSC).
- (iv) Results of appeals will be determined within 40 days from the day when the application is lodged.

4.11 Course Attendance Requirement for Examination

- 4.11.1 A student who fails to attend a test or an examination without a good reason will not be given marks for that test or examination and no supplementary assessment will be given.
- 4.11.2 A student who is unable to sit for an examination but has medical or other compelling reasons acceptable to the Programme Office may apply in writing with documentary evidence to the Programme Office for a supplementary assessment. The application should be made at the earliest possible moment and no later than one week after the examination concerned is held.

4.12 Re-taking a Course

- 4.12.1 A student must retake a failed required course or take a substitute course approved in writing by the Programme Office.
- 4.12.2 A student may retake a required course passed with grade C+ or below or take a substitute course approved in writing by the Programme Office.
- 4.12.3 A student who has failed an elective course or passed the elective course with grade C+ or below may retake it or substitute it with another elective in a subsequent term. Students are required to register the substitution with the Programme Office prior to commencement of the term.
- 4.12.4 A student may retake a course only twice, be it retaking a failed course or a course with grade C+ or below. Course grades for all attempts, inclusive of any course substitute as stipulated in Regulations 4.12.1 to 4.12.3 above, will appear on the student's transcript, but only the final grade and weighted points obtained will be taken in the calculation of the student's G.P.As, and only the credits for the final attempt will be counted towards fulfilment of graduation requirements.
- 4.12.5 A student may choose only two courses passed with grade C+ or below for course retaking or course substitution while each course can have at most two attempts of retaking and/or substitution.
- 4.12.6 For retaking a course, a student shall attend classes, complete assignments, take tests and attend the final examination, if any, as other students. In case a student shall retake a course in a different mode, such shall be considered and approved by the Committee on an exceptional basis.
- 4.12.7 A student shall be charged additional tuition fees for retaking a course, in an amount to be determined by the Programme Office.
- 4.12.8 A student is not allowed to retake any credit bearing or non-credit bearing courses which he/she has previously taken and passed with B- or above.

4.13 Academic Dishonesty

- 4.13.1 If a student attempts to gain an advantage in the assessment of his/her work by undertaking any of the following acts or any other form of dishonest practice, it will be regarded as a case of misconduct:
 - a) Collusion - where two or more students misrepresent their individual work by knowingly withholding crucial information from teachers on who actually do the work.
 - b) Falsification of Data - where the presentation of data in reports, projects or research papers, which is purported to be based on experimental or research work conducted by the student, has actually been invented by the student, copied or obtained by unfair means.
 - c) Plagiarism - the presentation of another person's work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student's own work.
 - d) Dishonesty in connection with test(s) or examination(s), or violation of any rules or regulations governing the conduct of examinations.

- e) Any other form of dishonest practice in course work, e.g. submission of same or substantially same work for two assignments without prior approval.
- 4.13.2 Related to (a) or (c) above, allowing another student to copy his/her work is regarded as an act of misconduct.
- 4.13.3 Any staff member who has reason to believe that a student has committed academic misconduct will present the case to the Board of Examiners and provide the Board with all the relevant facts of the case.
- 4.13.4 The BoE will determine whether it is a case of academic misconduct and decide on the appropriate penalty. The penalty guidelines are as follows:
 - (a) Zero mark is given to that particular examination paper/piece of work;
 - (b) One demerit* is given to student; and
 - (c) The BoE has the discretion to revise downward the overall course grade for a serious case, such as impersonation of or by another person.

*Removal of the demerit from the transcript is subject to review before graduation
- 4.13.5 If a case involves copying work of another student, the BoE should also determine the appropriate penalty on the student allowing his/her work being copied considering relevant factors such as the context and reason for allowing his/her own work being copied, but in any case, the penalty should not be heavier than for the student who plagiarised
- 4.13.6 The BoE shall inform the student of its decision(s) and record the case in the Registry online database. The BoE shall also present a summary of these cases to the **Postgraduate Studies Committee (PSC)** on an annual basis for onward submission to the Senate for noting.
- 4.13.7 The student concerned may appeal against the decision of the BoE through the Registrar within one week from the day he/she is notified of the decision. The Sub-group on Academic Misconduct Appeals (SGAMA) of the Student Disciplinary Committee (SDC) shall make a decision on the appeal case and its decision is final. The SGAMA will present a summary of postgraduate cases to the PSC on an annual basis for onward submission to Senate for noting.
- 4.13.8 If the student concerned is involved in another suspected academic misconduct case, the BoE should commence formal administrative process for this subsequent case only after the appeal period has lapsed and the student has not submitted an appeal during the appeal period, or, in case the student lodged an appeal, the decision on the appeal has been made by the SGAMA.

4.14 Plagiarism and “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness”

- 4.14.1 In order to enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, all new postgraduate students are required to complete an online mini-course entitled “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” **by the end of the first term.**
- 4.14.2 Those students who have not completed the “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” will be blocked from the next course registration.
- 4.14.3 The Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness is an hour long and consists of video and exercises. Students can access to it at the Lingnan Portal or by clicking this link <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>

5 Regulations and Code of Conduct

5.1 Academic Regulations and Guidelines

Students are required to comply with all rules and regulations stipulated by the University. Students are also advised to visit the Registry (<https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg>), School of Graduate Studies (<https://www.ln.edu.hk/sgs/index>) and Programme websites (<https://www.ln.edu.hk/gia/maia/>) regularly to keep themselves informed of any latest announcements and activities.

- [Regulations Governing Taught Doctoral/Master's Degree Programmes](#)
- [Regulations Governing the Format of Theses](#)
- [Regulations Governing University Examinations and Course Work](#)
- [Regulations Governing Discipline of Students](#)
- [Guidelines for Learning](#)
- [Library Rules, Regulations & Policies](#)

5.2 Code of Conduct

In addition to the Rules and Regulations of the University, all students are expected to observe the following code of conduct:

- Students should not eat or drink in lecture theatres, classrooms, laboratories, examination venues and any other areas so designated by the University.
- Smoking is strictly prohibited in all indoor and open areas within the campus.
- Gambling or betting in any form is prohibited in the University.

Students are reminded that cases of non-observance of any of the above will be referred to the Student Disciplinary Committee.

6 Quality Assurance

The University is committed to maintaining excellence in teaching and learning, and actively supports evidence gathering processes (e.g., analysis of data about student performance on core assessment tasks, evaluations of teaching effectiveness and courses, achievement of Graduate Attributes, Alumni and Employer feedback) that gather feedback from students, staff and other stakeholders in order to continuously improve the student experience and maximise student learning outcomes and Graduate Attributes. The evidence is disseminated to appropriate groups and/or individuals. The information gathered demonstrates that the development of Lingnan University Graduate Attributes is highly correlated with the academic experiences of students, particularly in the realm of development of critical thinking skills, interpersonal skills, self-managed learning, and problem-solving skills. There is also substantive evidence indicating that the unique nature of the Liberal Arts philosophy, the small class sizes and close teacher-student relationships are seen by many students as some of the most important and defining features of their university experiences. In addition, the co-curriculum is evaluated on an annual basis and provides further evidence of how students value the breadth of experience provided by the University.

The [Academic Quality Assurance Manual](#) captures information on quality assurance and enhancement of teaching and learning of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, co-curricular programmes and internationalisation.

6.1 Senate and Standing Committees of the Senate

Quality Assurance is aligned with the decisions of the University Council that sets major strategic directions and priorities for development. The Senate is the supreme academic body of the University. Through the work of the following 11 standing committees, the Senate supervises all academic development and curriculum planning, and approves policies and regulations on all academic matters.

- Academic Quality Assurance Committee for Undergraduate Programmes
- Campus Life and Student Services Committee
- Committee on Academic Quality Assurance of Sub-degree Programmes
- Discontinuation Appeals Panel (DAP)
- Faculty Boards (FB)
- Postgraduate Studies Committee (PSC)
- Research Committee (RC)
- Student Disciplinary Committee (SDC)
- Student Disciplinary Appeals Committee
- Undergraduate Admissions Committee (UAC)
- Undergraduate Examinations Board (UEB)

For the Terms of Reference and Membership and Actual Membership, please refer to <https://ln.edu.hk/reg/committee-related-information/terms-of-reference-and-membership-of-the-senate-and-standing-committees-of-the-senate> for details.

6.2 Course Teaching and Learning Evaluation (CTLE)

- Lingnan is committed to monitoring and improving the quality of course teaching and learning.
- Students are well placed to provide feedback on many aspects of course teaching and learning.
- The University runs a **formal** and **mandatory** mid-term and term-end CTLE exercises generally for **all** courses to collect students' feedback for timely improvement.
- Online CTLE is a web-based, ongoing Course, Teaching and Learning enhancement process to supplement the conventional paper system.
- It provides a platform for instructors to collect immediate and formative feedback from students at anytime throughout a semester (must be activate by the **9th week**) for the continuous improvement of course and teaching quality.

6.3 Early Alert System

- Purpose of the system is to identify students who encounter difficulties in their studies and provide assistance in an **early stage**.
- Individual programme offices, if adopting the System, will be
 - asking teachers around the middle of the term to report students who might need special attention, e.g. frequent absence, poor performance in test/midterm.
 - compiling a warning list for each course and cross check with other teachers.
 - issuing a mid-term warning to students who have not performed well.
 - academic advisor meeting with concerned students to evaluate the situation

- and suggest remedial measures.
- ongoing communication and monitoring.

7 Student Support

7.1 Library

Library (www.library.ln.edu.hk)

Students can source books and journal articles at Lingnan as well as other local and overseas universities through the Library's website from:

- 1-Search – An Integrated Library System to search books, journals, databases, Lingnan Scholarly Repository (<https://www.library.ln.edu.hk/en/collection/explore/1-Search>);
- Online databases (<http://libguides.ln.edu.hk/databases>);
- HKALL (Library discovery search for eight university libraries in Hong Kong <https://hkall.julac.org/primo-explore/search?vid=HKALL>); and
- Interlibrary Loan Services (ILL) (https://www.library.ln.edu.hk/en/research/publish/copyright/interlibrary_loan).

If deemed necessary, students can make recommendations for book and journal purchase via an online form accessible from the website (<https://www.library.ln.edu.hk/en/collection/build/recommend>) or by emails to the Library Collection Development Team (libcoll@ln.edu.hk).

The Library's Digital Commons platform (<http://commons.ln.edu.hk>) is used to showcase Lingnan's research outputs and most Lingnan publications.

7.2 Information Technology Services Centre (ITSC)

The ITSC provides computing, audio-visual facilities and technical support services. It conducts software annual updates, provides workstations and software updates on request of departments or programmes. Requests from taught postgraduate students can be conveyed to ITSC through departments concerned.

7.3 Office of Student Affairs (OSA)

The OSA (<http://www.ln.edu.hk/osa>) renders student support and services in numerous areas like hostel life and education, counselling, co-curricular activities, career planning, etc.

The OSA has professionally trained counsellors who will listen to student concerns, show understanding, provide support and explore ways for achieving success in the university (<http://www.ln.edu.hk/osa/counselling>).

Support for Students with Special Needs

Students with special needs (including students with Special Educational Needs or students with disabilities) should register with the OSA at the beginning of the academic year and as early as possible if students require support and services such as academic adjustments and special hostel arrangements. Such requests should be supported by documentary evidence such as medical reports. Please visit <https://www.ln.edu.hk/osa/sen> for more details.

7.4 Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC)

TLC is mainly responsible for

- Supporting the realization of an outcomes-based approach to teaching and learning (OBATL)
- Supporting teaching innovation and evaluation, particularly teaching development grants (TDGs) and adopting IT to enhance teaching and learning
- Coordinating the Teaching Excellence Award Scheme (TEAS)
- Evaluating the impact of the curriculum on student learning and achievement of graduate attributes
- Contributing to quality matters and institutional policies
- Promoting the values of a Liberal Arts education

The TLC co-organizes the Development Workshops on goals setting and teaching skills with the OSA for students. Please visit <https://www.ln.edu.hk/tlc> for more details.

7.5 Registry

The Registry provides administrative support for taught master programmes on the following:

- a) examination;
- b) graduation;

Please visit <http://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/> for more details.

7.6 School of Graduate Studies (GS)

The School of Graduate Studies (GS) has been set up from 1 July 2019 to strengthen the central support provided for postgraduate programmes as well as the monitoring of their quality, aligning with one of the key strategic initiatives of the University to expand and provide quality postgraduate education. Besides, the GS also organises activities and provides a suite of learning support services to postgraduate students. Please visit <https://www.ln.edu.hk/sgs/index> for more details.

7.7 Finance Office

Finance Office delivers professional, efficient and client-oriented financial services to the University community. Please visit <https://www.ln.edu.hk/fo/about/mission> for more details.

7.8 Chaplain's Office

The Chaplain's Office provides pastoral care and Christian counselling for the University community. Please visit <https://www.ln.edu.hk/cpo/home/> for more details.

8 Scholarships and Financial Assistances

Several student scholarships are available in the forms of half-fee and/or quarter-fee tuition waiver to academic outstanding applicants. Applicants should indicate in their applications that they would like to be considered for this tuition waiver. Applications for scholarships are only accepted in the early application for admission period. This application period will be stated online in each academic year. The decision of giving out scholarship is solely made by Department of Government and International Affairs.

9 Useful Information

9.1 Bad Weather Arrangements

When Typhoon Warning Signal No. 1 or 3 or the Amber/Red Rainstorm Warning is issued by the Hong Kong Observatory, all classes/activities and examinations should be held as scheduled. As soon as the Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 or Black Rainstorm Warning is issued or “Extreme Conditions” is announced by the Government or when the Hong Kong Observatory announces that Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal No. 8 or above is likely to be hoisted during office hours, the University will transmit the information immediately to all departments and units. For details, please refer to https://www.ln.edu.hk/f/upload/44088/badweather_arr.pdf.

9.2 Employment Policy for Non-local Students in Hong Kong

In Hong Kong, it is illegal for a student visa holder to accept employment (paid or unpaid, volunteer work included) without a valid work permit. Students are only eligible to participate in study/curriculum-related internships arranged or endorsed by the Programme.

9.3 Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduate (IANG) Policy

Under the Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates (IANG), non-local graduates refer to non-local students who have obtained an undergraduate or higher qualification in a full-time and locally-accredited local programme in the HKSAR. They may apply to stay/return and work in the HKSAR under the IANG, regardless of when they obtained the requisite qualification. There is no restriction on the number of times a non-local graduate may apply to stay/return and work under the IANG. For details, please visit website of Immigration Department, HKSAR: <https://www.immd.gov.hk/eng/services/visas/IANG.html>.

9.4 Lingnan University Alumni Association (Hong Kong) (LUAA) and Lingnan University Postgraduate Alumni Association (LUPAA)

Lingnan University Alumni Association (Hong Kong) (LUAA) was founded in the early 40s and was established as a registered society in Hong Kong in April 1960. The mandate of which is to strengthen the bond between Lingnanians, to embrace Lingnan spirit and to serve the community. We welcome alumni to join LUAA as member. For further information, please refer to their website at www.luaa.hk.

Lingnan University Postgraduate Alumni Association (LUPAA) (嶺南大學研究生校友會) was formed in 2020 to promote the professional network of our postgraduate alumni. For more information, students could contact lupaa.alumni@gmail.com

9.5 Useful Telephone Numbers

| Department/ Institution | Telephone Number |
|--|------------------|
| Hong Kong Emergency Service (24 hours) | 999 |
| Tuen Mun Hospital | 2468 5111 |
| Campus Emergency hotline (24 Hours) | 2616 8000 |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Security Control (24 Hours) | 2616 8705 |
| Information Technology Services Centre (ITSC) | 2616 7995 |
| Library | 2616 8586 |
| Sports Complex Service | 2616 7147 |
| Lingnan House Chinese Restaurant | 2616 7990 |
| Chaplain's Office | 2616 7245 |

9.6 Staff and Contacts of Programme Office

9.6.1 Programme Administration

- Programme Director**
 Prof. TAM Wai Keung
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| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Monday – Friday | : 09:00 – 12:30 14:00 – 17:36 |
| Saturday, Sunday & Public Holiday | : Closed |

9.7 Campus Map

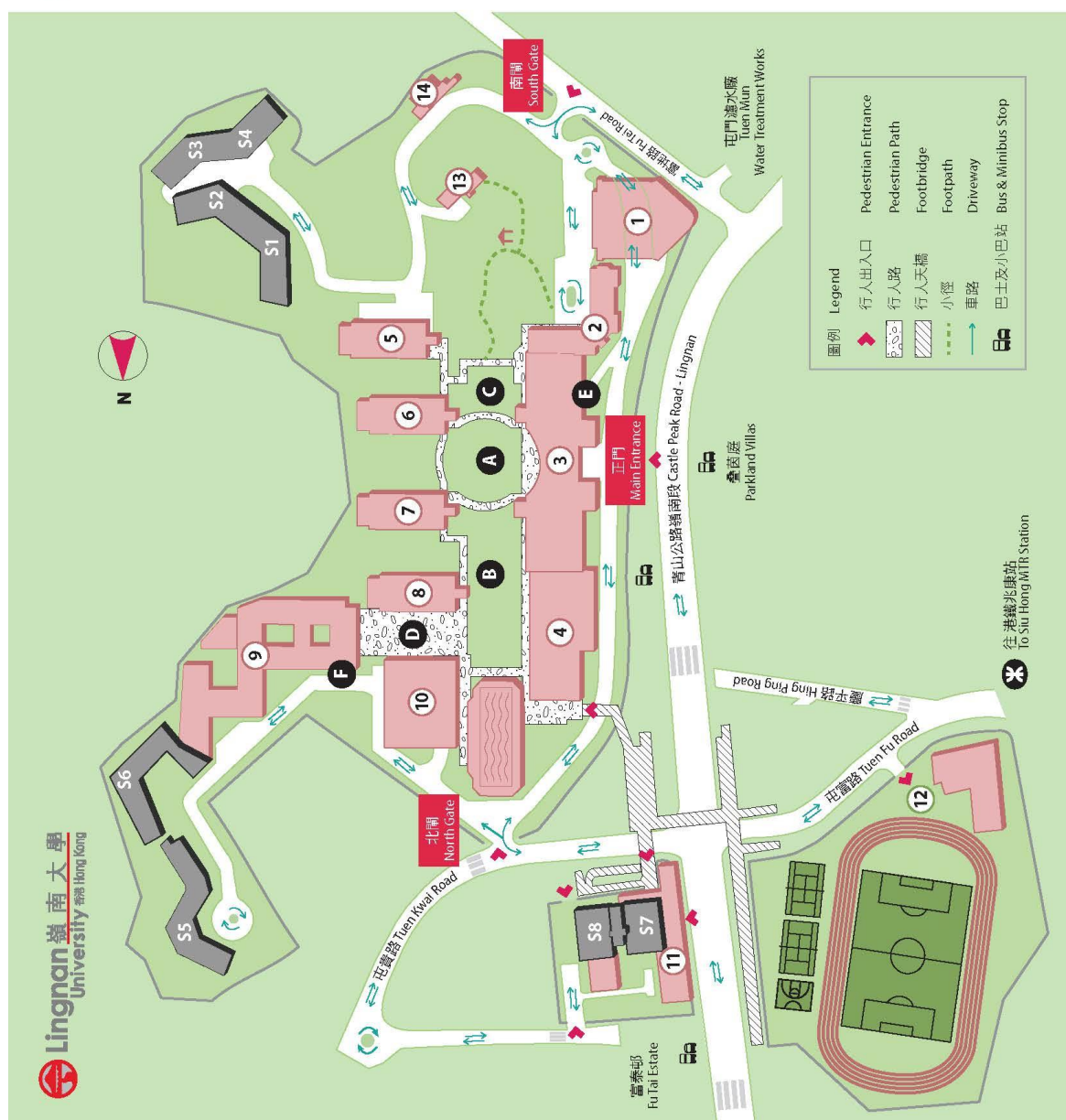
校園地圖

Campus Map

- | | AD | MIB | HSH | LKK | LBV | WYL | LCH | LYH | SEK |
|--------------------------|--|--|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Chan Tak Tai Auditorium | Wong Administration Building | Park Lee Wan Keung Academic Building • Fong Sun Wood Library • Tin Ka Ping Swimming Pool | Ho Sin Hang Building | Leung Kau Kui Building | B. Y. Lam Building | Dorothy Y. L. Wong Building | Lau Chung Him Building | Lau Lee Yuen Haan Amenities Building | Simon and Eleanor Kwok Building |
| Pan Sutong Sports Ground | • Wofoo Joseph Lee Student Activities Centre | President's Lodge | Visitors' Quarters | Wing On Plaza | Contemporary Garden | Yu Kan Hing Memorial Garden & Pavilion | Kin Sun Square (Skylight) | Underground Car Park Entrance Covered Car Park Entrance | |
| ① 陳德泰大會堂 | ② 黃氏行政大樓 | ③ 李達鴻教學大樓 • 歐森活圖書館 | ④ 綜合運動大樓 • 田家炳游泳池 | ⑤ 何晉衡樓 | ⑥ 梁秋垣樓 | ⑦ 林炳炎樓 | ⑧ 黃玉蘭樓 | ⑨ 劉仲謙樓 | ⑩ 劉子璇胡康樂樓 |
| ⑪ 郭少明伉儷樓 | ⑫ 潘祿通運動場 • 和豐宗禮學生活動中心 | ⑬ 校長萬所 | ⑭ 訪客宿舍 | ⑮ 永安廣場 | ⑯ 現代園 | ⑰ 余近郊紀念園及紀念亭 | ⑱ 乾新坊(天幕) | ⑲ 地下停車場入口 | ⑳ 有蓋停車場入口 |

學生宿舍

- | | | |
|------|-------|-----------------------------|
| S1. | 蘇民健樓 | William M. W. Wong Hall |
| S2. | 其亞堂 | The Bank of East Asia Hall |
| S3. | 香港總督府 | Tsung Tsin Association Hall |
| S4. | 馮國璋樓 | Fok Cho Min Hall |
| S5. | 忠臣堂 | Chung Shun Hall |
| S6. | 馮國璋樓 | Yue Min Hall |
| S7. | 馮國璋樓 | Lam Woo Hall |
| S8. | 馮國璋樓 | The Jockey Club Hall |
| S9. | 馮國璋樓 | The Jockey Club New Hall |
| S10. | 馮國璋樓 | Wong Hoo Chun Hall |
| S11. | 馮國璋樓 | Wu Jieh Yee Hall |



Appendix - Course Descriptions

Core Course

MIA501 Theories and Approaches of International Relations

The course introduces students to the core issues and major historical developments in the advanced study of international relations, including the key theoretical and methodological approaches to understanding global politics. Through an understanding of different and competing analytical and normative frameworks, including realist, liberal, constructivist, Marxist and critical perspectives, you will learn about how the various actors, forces and ideas have influenced, shaped and transformed past and contemporary international relations and global events. The course will also examine some of the more significant features of the international system – such as how change occurs, the relations between politics and economics, and the interconnections between individuals and governments. Scholarly writings and illustrations from case studies and issues are designed to assist you to better appreciate the dynamic relations between conceptual debates and policy-making in the international arena.

MIA502 Theories and Approaches of Comparative Politics

This course attempts a general survey in the field of comparative politics. Some important concepts and methods of the discipline are introduced. Specific topics include methods and approaches of comparative politics; government, regime and state; unitary, federal and confederal systems; typologies of state-society relations, specifically on bureaucratic-authoritarianism, totalitarianism, corporatism, civil society and populism; political culture and nationalism; interest group and political party; election and political participation; parliamentary, presidential and semi-presidential systems; comparative democracies between majoritarian and consociational model; and lastly on the topic of democratization and regime change.

MIA503 International Security

This course studies the conditions that encourage and permit conflicts between states as well as ways to build lasting peace. Specifically, the course uses structural, domestic, and individual level theories to make sense of the origins of wars. It then employs these theories to shed lights on World War I, World War II, and the Cold War. The course will also study various pathways toward peace by examining the roles of democratic regimes, interdependence, international organisations, alliances, and nuclear weapons in the prevention of wars. Toward the later parts of the course, contemporary security issues will be examined. They include the spread of nuclear weapons, the rise and wane of terrorism, and the on-going power transition between China and the United States. The course will also study prominent hot spots in East Asia that have the potential of triggering military conflicts. They include the Korean Peninsula, the Taiwan Strait, and the South China Sea. The course will conclude with a general assessment of the future direction of international security in the context of an emerging multipolar system.

MIA504 Politics of Global Economic Interdependence

The world economy has become increasingly integrated and interdependent, posing a great challenge to global governance. What role do domestic and international politics play in shaping the global economic order? To what extent do economic forces constrain or empower political actors? This seminar intends to expose postgraduate students to the major debates of global political economy and help students develop an analytical toolkit to study the interplay between the state and the market or politics and economics. We are devoted to understanding international trade, international finance, international production, international development and international migration.

Elective Course

MIA601 Politics of Development in Asia Pacific

The course provides students with the leading political science theories and approaches to studying the development in Asia Pacific. Specific topics include the strategic context of the rise of Asia Pacific in the post-war era, the roles of state and societies in economic development, factors explaining the diverse trajectories of development among major East Asian states, the relative rise of China, Singapore and South Korea and relative decline of Japan and Taiwan, East Asian regionalism, sustainability of development in the region, and others.

MIA602 Greater China: Identity, Interaction, Integration and Diversity

This course focuses on identity, development, interaction, integration and diversity of Greater China and compares the economic, societal and political development of its four regions – Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau. Different forces of nationalism, exchanges and globalization have drawn these different parts of Greater China sometimes closer and sometimes apart from each other; nevertheless, they remain separate and distinctive. Their differences are reflected in culture, society, values and norms, and economic and political systems. This course examines the causal factors that have shaped the different destinies of Greater China as well as the forces that are pulling them together or pushing them apart.

The concept of Greater China will be analysed and the four regions' relationships with each other and with the outside world will be examined. The focus will be put on the period of the last sixty years. During this period, the four regions have had their different paths of modernization, yet at the same time we witness increasingly significant interactions among the four regions. Based on the concept of Greater China, theoretical issues such as the explanatory powers of culture and ethnicity versus economic development and modernization are also considered.

MIA603 International Organizations and Global Governance

This course explores the relationship between major international organizations (the United Nations, the Bretton Woods Institutions (the World Bank, the IMF and GATT/WTO) and

global governance. It examines how these organizations, including particular, international regimes have addressed pressing economic, political, and security issues such as global economic cooperation, terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, human rights, environment protection and rising global inequality. The challenges these organizations face and its implications for global order will also be examined.

MIA604 Environmental Politics and Global Governance

This course studies how environmental issues are interconnected with international affairs and globalisation, and how they contribute to creating a new domain in global politics. Through examining the most pressing global environmental challenges that the international community is facing (e.g. climate change, biodiversity loss, deforestation, etc.), the course intends to help students develop theoretical visions and practical insights to understand better the prominent global environmental issues, and to discuss solutions and alternatives to the current situation.

MIA605 International Politics of the Asia-Pacific

This course focuses on the study of Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia, by examining the major issues and themes in the post-World War II international politics of these two vital regions of the Asia-Pacific. In the first part, this course examines through the perspective of history the implications of the rise of China, Japan-United States security cooperation, regional hotspots such as Taiwan and the Korean peninsula, the diversity of cooperative security and economic institutions involving Northeast Asian states, and their political developments and regional interactions. In the second part, this course focuses on relations among the states of Southeast Asia; and between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the US, India, Australia, Japan and China; traditional and non-traditional security issues on post-Cold war Southeast Asia; and Southeast Asian regionalism and economic cooperation.

MIA606 Foreign Policy and International Relations of China

The turn of this century has witnessed China's rising international status in the global arena. Determined to be an important player in a post-Cold War world, China has been carrying out a pragmatic foreign policy to ensure a favorable environment for its economic growth. Through reviewing its relations with the US, Japan, two Koreas, Russia and central Asia, India and south Asia, Europe and Africa, this course aims to further understand how this pragmatic foreign policy has been formed and implemented by the Chinese authorities and the impact of the formation and implementation to the international political order.

MIA607 NGOs, Civil Society and the State

The course equips students with leading theories and approaches for studying the interrelationship between non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society and the state. It examines the rise of NGOs in international, national and local governance and advocacy. Specific topics include the definition and classification of NGOs and civil society, the roles

played by NGOs in development, the major approaches to studying NGOs, and the challenges and limitations facing NGOs. It concludes with an preliminary examination of the latest development of civil society and NGOs in the Greater China Region.

MIA608 Ethnic Conflicts and Nationalist Crises

Political, social and cultural movements rooted in conceptions of ethnicity or nationhood is a major feature of the modern world that we live in. This course will focus on the interaction among ethnic communities and nations within the domestic politics of sovereign states. It will introduce students to concepts and definitions of ethnicity and nationalism, explore the historical and contemporary basis for their development and significance, and examine some benchmark research that will guide us to understand these phenomena better. Conflicts generated by nationalist claims for separate statehood or some form of political recognition, and how states respond to such demands, will be discussed. This course will conclude with an investigation into the issue of intervention by other states and international organizations in ethnic conflicts within sovereign states.

MIA609 Youth Movements and Dissent Politics

Youth (student) movement is generally regarded as a phenomenon of youth's rebellion against the older generation and an important part of dissent politics. Theories or explanations illuminating nature and occurrence of youth movements will be investigated in this course. They include life-course effect, emerge of a new political generation, change of dominant social value and alignment with establishment elites. Prominent cases of youth movements are studied to examine differences and similarities. These cases span from 1960s to 2014, including the 1960s US civil rights and anti-Vietnam War student demonstrations, the 1968 French May Movement, the 1966-69 Chinese Red Guard Movement, the 1989 Tiananmen student movement, the 2013 Arab Spring Movement, the 2014 Taiwan Sunflower Movement and Hong Kong Umbrella Movement.

MIA610 Selected Issues in Contemporary Chinese Politics

The period of study focuses on the economic reform era since late 1970s. This course focuses on the social and political aspects of the reform and puts special emphasis on the effect of the reform measures and open-door policies initiated by Deng Xiaoping in the post-Mao Zedong period. Major changes in both the state, society and people in the last four decades will be studied. Reform measures taken by the state and reactions from the society are the two major lines of investigation.

Depending on the instructor's expertise, several important and argumentative social, economic and political issues in contemporary China will be selected for study in this course. (For illustrative purpose, 6 issues respectively on changing official ideology, political reform, civil society, Chinese nationalism, corruption and sports development in China are put here as examples.)

DISCLAIMER

Lingnan University (“the University”) has taken all reasonable measures to ensure that this handbook is correct at the time of issue. The University reserves the right to make changes at any time. The University shall under no circumstances be liable to a student for any failure to perform any of its obligations or any delay in performing them where such failure or delay is due to the acts or omissions of any third party or to any cause whatever beyond the control of the University.
