

哲學系

Department of Philosophy

Undergraduate Student Handbook 2026-27

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INTRODUCTION

Introduction

The word ‘philosophy’ comes from ancient Greece, where it meant ‘the love of wisdom’. Philosophy investigates the world and our knowledge of it, and approaches these issues systematically and at a high level of generality and abstraction. The characteristic, though not exclusive, methods that philosophers use in such investigations include reasoning and conceptual clarification as well as careful attention to examples, whether actual or imagined, that may be relevant in particular debates. Many problems discussed in philosophy have a close connection with everyday moral problems or topics discussed in science, which shows that the widespread picture of philosophy as abstract, dry and irrelevant is misleading.

This student handbook is designed for both **BA Philosophy(BAPHI)** and **BA Philosophy and Artificial Intelligence(BAPAI)** students. Some contents would only cover one of the programme and such contents will be clearly labelled. Students may use the colour codes (shown in the previous sentence) as reference.

Aims

BA Philosophy:

The Honours Degree Programme in Philosophy at Lingnan is designed to provide students with an introduction to contemporary philosophy and to acquaint them with the history of the discipline. Lingnan’s philosophy programme places an emphasis on training students to do philosophy, that is, to become skilled at understanding, responding to, and developing philosophical arguments. Lingnan philosophy students learn about both Eastern and Western philosophical traditions and become familiar with the topics that define their central areas, such as logic, philosophy of language, ethics, and theory of knowledge. The programme trains students to engage in informed reflection and argumentation on a wide range of philosophical questions.

BA Philosophy and Artificial Intelligence:

This programme aims to provide students with training in the core areas of philosophy and the areas of philosophy associated with AI. Students who graduate from this programme will also acquire some basic technical skills and knowledge related to programming. They will gain an understanding of key philosophical areas related to AI, such as the connection between AI and the mind, and the numerous ethical and social issues raised by AI and big data. Among the skills developed through the study of these core areas of philosophy, particular emphasis will be placed on enhancing students’ critical thinking, their ability to construct and assess arguments, and their capacity for conducting conceptual analysis.

Learning Outcomes

The **BA Philosophy** has two main outcomes:

1. Students who study philosophy successfully will have a foundational knowledge of philosophical traditions, arguments, and problems that will enable them to pursue further studies in philosophy in Hong Kong or overseas;
2. The study of philosophy enhances a variety of skills having applications both within and outside of the university or other educational institutions. These skills fall into three broad types:
 - A. analytic and critical thinking abilities, such as the ability to recognize assumptions and conceptual relations, the ability to gather and organize information logically and systematically, and the ability to detect ambiguity, vagueness, inconsistency, and argumentative fallacies;
 - B. interpretative and comprehension skills, such as the ability to understand difficult texts and extract key arguments and issues; and
 - C. communicative skills, including the ability to write and speak on complex topics with clarity

and precision.

Students of the **BA Philosophy and Artificial Intelligence** will be able to do the following upon completion of the programme:

1. To summarise and describe various classic philosophical theories in core areas of the discipline.
2. To evaluate various solutions to ethical problems raised by various applications of AI.
3. To identify and describe core philosophical problems, such as the nature of the mind and of rational thinking, associated to the development of AI technologies and evaluate how such development may influence our thinking about these issues.
4. To utilise basic technical and programming skills related to AI.

Career Potential

Traditionally philosophy graduates go into education or the media as specialised cultural workers valued for their knowledge of central cultural traditions, their argumentative skills and creativity. In addition, there has been an increasing trend in the last fifteen years in the United States and Europe for corporations to hire philosophy graduates for fast track positions as problem solvers. In addition to giving students the knowledge they need to fill relevant positions in publishing, journalism, or teaching, the present programme emphasises the development of analytical ability and critical and creative thinking, preparing students to fulfil with distinction such positions as problem solvers.

Important Information for students

You may find the following important information in their respective websites. You are advised to reach through them carefully in order to plan your studies effectively.

Academic Regulations	https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/regulations-governing-undergraduate-studies
Programme Structure of BAPHI (Please check your own intake before reviewing it)	https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/programme-structure#boap
Programme Structure of BAPAI (Please check your own intake before reviewing it)	https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/programme-structure#boapai
Core Curriculum	https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/core-curriculum
English Language Enhancement (ELE) Curriculum	https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/english-language-enhancement-ele-curriculum
Course Descriptions (for all courses offered in LU)	https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/course-description
Course Syllabi (for courses offered by Philosophy only)	https://www.ln.edu.hk/philoso/academics/BAPHI/course-syllabi

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

General study plan for **BAPHI** students

For **2023-24 Intake** or before:

Year	Core Curriculum		Language		Philosophy Majors	Free Electives	Normal Yearly Credit Total*
	Common Core Courses	Cluster Courses	English	Chinese / Putonghua			
	Credit						
Year 1	6	15 [#]	9	3	6	27 [#]	30
Year 2	6		-	3	42		30
Year 3	-		3	-			30
Year 4	-			-			30
Total	12	15 [#]	18		48	27 [#]	120

For **2024-25 Intake** onwards:

Year	Core Curriculum		Language		Philosophy Majors	Free Electives	Normal Yearly Credit Total*
	Common Core Courses	Cluster Courses	English	Chinese / Putonghua			
	Credit						
Year 1	9^	12#^	9	3	6	27#	30
Year 2	6		-	3	42		30
Year 3	-		3	-			30
Year 4	-			-			30
Total	15	12#^	18		48	27#	120

#From the 2021-22 academic year, in addition to the required cluster courses, students are allowed to take more cluster courses as free electives, if deemed appropriate.

[^]With effect from 2024-25 intake, a new required course under the category of common core course (CCC8015) is introduced to all students. In response, the minimum requirement of cluster courses for each student has been revised to four.

*The normal study load for a student is: 30 credits in Year 1 and 33 credits in Year 2 or above respectively. They should consult their Academic Adviser in working out their individual study plan. However, additional credits can be studied under special circumstances. For details, please refer to Section 8 of Regulations Governing Undergraduate Studies.

General study plan for **BAPAI** students

For **2025-26 Intake (Senior Year Entry)** onwards:

Year	Core Curriculum		Language		Philosophy and AI Majors	Free Electives	Normal Yearly Credit Total*
	Common Core Courses	Cluster Courses	English	Chinese / Putonghua			
	Credit						
Year 3	6	-	6	3	15	-	30
Year 4	-	-	3	-	27	-	30
Total	6	-	12		42	-	60

*The normal study load for a student is: 33 credits in Year 2 or above respectively. They should consult their Academic Adviser in working out their individual study plan. However, additional credits can be studied under special circumstances. For details, please refer to Section 8 of Regulations Governing Undergraduate Studies.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

1. Academic Advisor

At the beginning of first year of study, each student will be assigned an **Academic Advisor (AA)** from the Department to provide academic advice.

2. Advising Periods

Students are required to seek advice from their Academic Advisors **before course registration**. The Advising Periods are as follows:

Date	Advising
Aug 2026	Academic Advising for New Students (consultation with AA)
Feb to Mar 2027 (Tentative)	Academic Advising for Continuing Students (i.e. those who would continue studying in AY2027-28) (consultation with AA)

3. Study Plan

3.1 Class Timetable

For Year 1 **BA Philosophy** students, Registry has pre-assigned the Common Core Courses (CCC) and two Philosophy major required courses (PHI1002 and PHI1003) for both 1st and 2nd terms. Please be reminded to check your class timetable before consulting your adviser. **This does not apply to those who were admitted as Year 2.**

For Year 3 **BA Philosophy and AI** students, Registry has pre-assigned the Common Core Courses (CCC) and four Philosophy and AI major required courses (PHI2118 and PAI3001-3003) for both 1st and 2nd terms. Please be reminded to check your class timetable before consulting your adviser.

For all other students (**including new students admitted to BA Philosophy as Year 2**), no pre-assignment of courses will be arranged. Please refer to your programme structure and study plan and consult with your academic adviser about the appropriate courses that you should take.

3.2 Study Load

The normal study load of a full-time first year student (**including BA Philosophy students**) is 15 credits per term and the maximum study load is 30 credits for an academic year. Full-time students are advised to register for at least 12 credits but no more than 15 credits in the first year of studies.

Note: newly admitted **BA Philosophy and AI** students are classified as **Year 3** students and hence the normal study load is 15-18 credits per term and the maximum study load is 33 credits for an academic year.

3.3 Degree Works

Each student has to work out the study plan with their academic adviser based on the class timetable and the curriculum of programme. Please make use of the web-based software 'Degree Works' to complete the advising.

3.4 Language Courses

Normally, Year 1 (including BA Philosophy) students are required to complete 4 Language Courses: (i) LCC1010, (ii) LUE1001, (iii) LUE1002 and (iv) one ELE Elective.

For students admitted under Senior Year entry (e.g. BA Philosophy and AI students), normally they are required to complete 3 Language courses: (i) LCC2010, (ii) LUE1002, and (iii) one ELE Elective.

3.5 Cluster Courses and Free elective (FE) Courses

For BA Philosophy students, you are advised to consult your AA regarding your preferences for Cluster Courses and FE Courses.

For BA Philosophy and AI students, your programme structure does not require you take any Cluster courses or Free Elective (FE) courses as they were block credit transferred upon admission.

Important Reminders

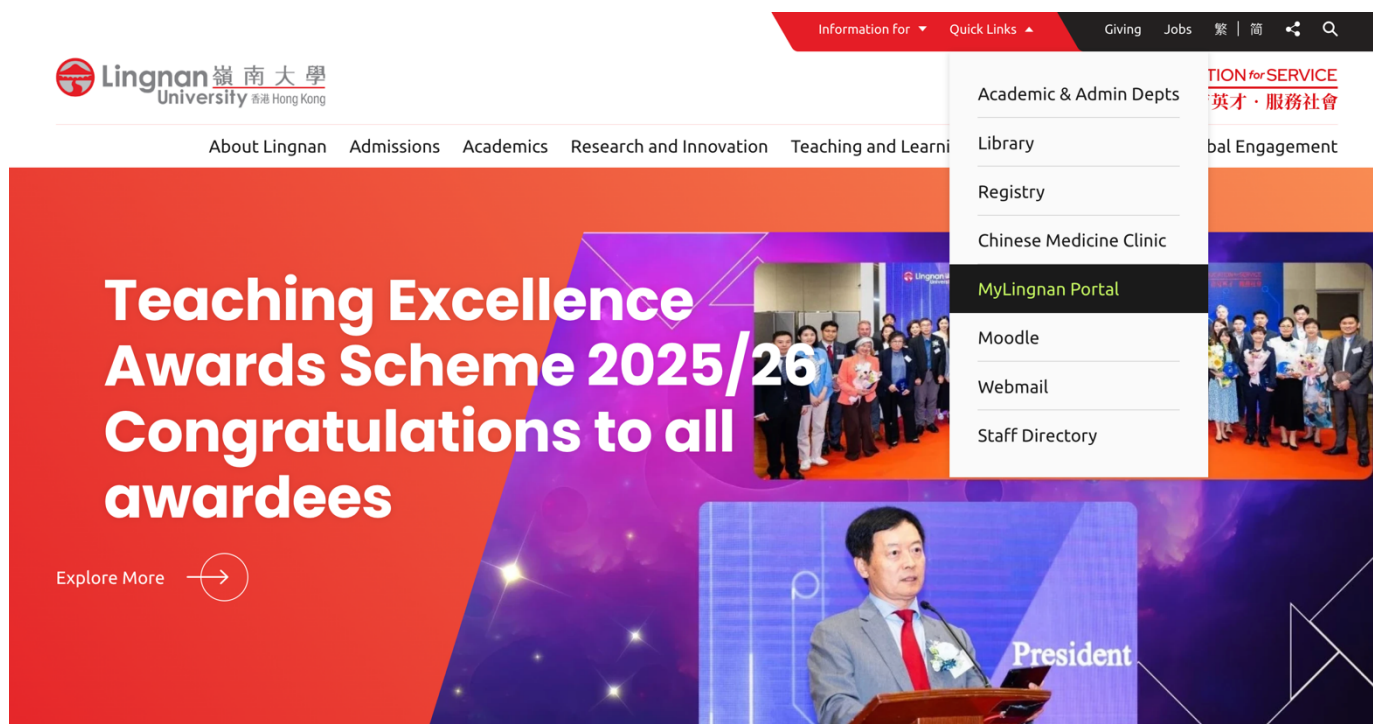
1. A date will be specified for each intake's students to register courses and the exact date is to be announced. Please keep a close eye to your emails and Registry's website. The input of courses in the Degree Works system does NOT mean the completion of course registration.
2. Students are advised to reserve a minimum of 12 free elective credits if they plan to participate in exchange programmes.
3. Normally, a Minor Programme requires students to take 15 credits of courses. Students are advised to use the Free Elective credits to take their minor programmes. For details, please visit <https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/programme-of-studies/minor-programmes-under-4-year-system>.
4. Students from the Chinese Mainland may be requested to attend a session of Chinese Language Ability Assessment in the beginning of first semester organised by the Chinese Language Education and Assessment Centre (CLEAC) in view of the varied language background.

myLingnan Portal – ONE STOP ACCESS TO IMPORTANT APPLICATIONS

You may retrieve many useful information from the Banner System in myLingnan Portal. For example, you may access:

- Your timetable;
- Moodle;
- The University's ChatGPT service;
- The DegreeWork System;
- Course Registration System;
- Course Outlines; and
- Many other more!

You may access the “myLingnan Portal” via the University's homepage:



COURSE REGISTRATION

Requirement

Each student is required to consult their academic advisor **before** course registration. **Otherwise, the “hold” set in the Degree Works will NOT be removed, and a student will be denied access to the web registration system.**

Assigned Time-slot

Students must follow the **assigned time-slot** to complete the course registration. Please read the course registration guideline provided by the Registry at <https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/course-registration>.

Remarks: Students admitted via Direct Admissions have to complete the course registration on a different date.

Students may also re-access the registration system for revision to registration.

Add/Drop Periods in 2026-27:

Term 1	28 August 2026 – 7 September 2026 (for courses offered in Term 1 and 2)
Term 2	5 – 14 January 2027 (for courses offered in Term 2 only)

Course Registration User Guide: https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/f/page/40852/cr_userguide.pdf.

Before you enter the Course Registration system

1. Have your study plan ready. Make sure that you have fulfilled the required pre-requisites (if any) of the course(s) that you wish to register and observe the course restrictions (if any). The pre-requisite requirements and restriction(s) of each course (if any) are stated on the course descriptions under the Registry webpage: <https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/course-description>.
2. View the Course Offering List for 1st and 2nd Terms, 2026-27 in the Registry webpage: <https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/course-registration>.
 - a. The teaching modes of the courses are outlined in the column “L/T”. “LEC” means Lecture and “TUT” means Tutorial. If both “LEC” and “TUT” are found, the teaching mode of the course is in “Lecture-cum-Tutorial” mode. In this case, you have to register one section of lecture plus one section of tutorial in the same submission.
 - b. Mark down the CRN (Course Reference Number) of each section of the courses you would like to register in your study plan.

For example, you wish to register CLA9006 in Term 1. Suppose this course is conducted in “Lecture-cum-Tutorial” mode with one section of Lecture and two sections of Tutorial on offer as shown below (Similar information can be found from the course offering list). You have to register a combination of one Lecture (CRN 170) AND one Tutorial (CRN 753 or 754) for the course CLA9006.

CRN	Course Code	Course Title	Sect	Lang	L/T	Day	Time	Venue	Instructor Name
170	CLA9006	Creat&Indiv Diff:Theory&Applic	1	E	LEC	WED	15:00 – 16:59	WYL102	Dr LI Yau Wai Simon
753	CLA9006	Creat&Indiv Diff:Theory&Applic	2	E	TUT	MON	15:30 – 16:29	WYL101	Dr LI Yau Wai Simon
754	CLA9006	Creat&Indiv Diff:Theory&Applic	3	E	TUT	FRI	09:30 – 10:29	WYL109	Dr LI Yau Wai Simon

COURSE OFFERING LIST FOR 2026-27

The Registry has published the course offering list on their website. As different departments might do last-minute changes to their course offering, you are advised to keep a close eye to the Registry's website for the most up-to-date list:

<https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/course-registration>

In addition, some departments might circulate promotional emails in regards to their courses just before the add/drop period. You may find more information from their website or emails.

You should also refer to the course description to check whether you fulfill the pre-requisite of your desired courses:

<https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/course-description>

ACADEMIC HONESTY & ACADEMIC STANDING

- Plagiarism is an unacceptable misconduct with grave consequences. The Department adopts a zero tolerance policy toward plagiarism, and reserve the right to exercise severe sanction to students who have committed such serious academic misconduct, including automatic failure in the course concerned.
- All the quotation and paraphrases taken or derived from the work of other authors should be properly acknowledged within the text of all assignments, and full bibliographic details of books/articles/websites used should be included in the reference list.
- It is the student's responsibility to seek help from the professors if he/she has problems in differentiating plagiarism from properly adopting others' ideas in academic work.

Students must always adhere to the Academic Regulations. Your special attentions are drawn towards the following sections of the relevant regulations:

- Section 5 of Regulations Governing University Examinations and Course Work; and
- Section 2.3 of Regulations Governing Discipline of Students

A full set of academic regulations are available on Registry's website:

<https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/regulations-and-guidelines>.

For any doubts in regards to the regulations, please consult the Academic Adviser or the General Office of the Department of Philosophy. Alternatively, please contact the Registry directly.

GRADING SYSTEM

- Letter grades are used to indicate a student's academic performance in a course.
- The University-wide grading system can be found under Section 18 of Regulations Governing Undergraduate Studies:

<https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/regulations-governing-undergraduate-studies>

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. Internship Programmes

Office of Student Affairs (OSA) provides internship programmes:

<http://www.ln.edu.hk/osa/career/internships>

2. Student Exchange Programmes (SEP)

Office of Global Education (OGE) provides a wide range of exchange programme.

Details: <https://www.ln.edu.hk/oge/outgoing-students/study-abroad>

3. Academic Advising

▪ Can I change the pre-assigned study pattern?

Yes, you can change the pre-assigned pattern during the online registration and add/drop period.

▪ Can I study the two Common Core (CCC8011 & 8012) courses in the same term?

Yes. Normally students will study one Common Core course in a term, however, it is also possible that students could study two Common Core courses in one term.

▪ What is the difference between 'Cluster Courses' and 'Free Elective Courses'?

Cluster courses are part of the Core Curriculum which all students have to take throughout their four years of studies. Apart from the Common Core courses, each student is required to take 4 cluster courses (*for 2024-25 intake onwards*) or 5 cluster courses (*for 2023-24 intake or before*), 1 from any of the following 5 clusters. All cluster courses are denoted with course codes CLA, CLB, CLC, CLD or CLE and they represent different clusters:

CLA - Creativity and Innovation

CLB - Humanities and the Arts

CLC - Management and Society

CLD - Science, Technology and Society

CLE - Values, Cultures and Societies

Free Elective courses are not part of the Core Curriculum and are not denoted with codes CLA-CLE. However, a student is permitted to take additional cluster courses as free electives.

▪ Will there be any consequences if I do not study the common core courses within the first year of studies?

Students are recommended to take the 5 Common Core courses in the first two years in order to provide a solid foundation for their undergraduate studies. Students have to enroll for Common Core courses in their other years of studies if they do not take them in the first or second year.

▪ Apart from the Academic Advisor (AA), who may I consult to obtain course information of different departments?

Students should contact the respective departments directly. Normally, the Academic Adviser and admin staff of the Department of Philosophy would not have detailed information about courses offered by other departments.

4. Course Registration

- **How should I get prepared for the Course Registration Day?**

You should have completed the academic advising beforehand, read the pre-requisite requirement(s) of the course(s) you plan to take, check which term the course(s) you plan to take will be offered in, make sure you are able to access to the University Portal especially if you are out of town.

- **Is it a must for students to do the course registration process at campus?**

No, but we highly recommend new students to do their first time course registration at the University. Registry will provide on-the-spot supporting services to all new students during the course registration scheduled in August.

- **Will there be any guidance from the Academic Adviser during the course registration period?**

You are welcome to contact the Adviser for advice during course registration period.

- **What should I do if the course registration system is not responding?**

You can try to logout and login to the system again; check if you are using the Internet browsers recommended by ITSC. If you still encounter problems, please contact ITSC hotline at 2616-7995 or email ITSC@LN.edu.hk.

- **What should I do if I cannot get a place in a course?**

You can try to enroll the course at a later time on the registration day and/or during the add/drop period. If there is still no study place available, you may submit an application for special approval on course enrolment via myLingnan Portal.

- **What should I do if I have not completed the course registration process within the assigned timeslot?**

You can login to the Portal again to add/drop courses after the designated timeslot during 5:30 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. on the same day. If you still cannot finish, you have to do it during the add/drop period.

- **What are the common error messages during course registration?**

The system has a variety of error messages; the common error messages are listed but not limited as below:

Prompt out wording	Message
Reserved closed	No quota left
Section closed	No quota left
Class Restriction	UG students cannot take AD course, vice versa
Major Restriction	The course is only offered for the major stream students
Link Error	For Lec+Tut mode courses, students have to add/drop both lecture and tutorial at the same time
Time Conflict	Time crash of selected courses
Repeat Count Exceeds	The student has already taken the course
Maximum Hours Exceeds	The student has already reached maximum credit limit of the term

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (FOR 2024 YEAR 1 INTAKE ONWARDS)

As stipulated in Section 22 of the Regulations Governing Undergraduate Studies, in addition to the requirements stipulated in the curriculum of their major programme, students are required to fulfill the following requirements before graduation:

1. *English Language Graduation Requirement*

More information can be found on Registry's website:

https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/english-language-requirements_from-2021-22

2. *Integrated Learning Programme (ILP)*

More information can be found on Office of Student Affairs (OSA)'s website:

<https://www.ln.edu.hk/en/osa/ilp>

3. *Information Technology Fluency Programme (ITFP)*

More information can be found on Centre for Innovative Teaching and Learning (CITAL)'s website: <https://www.ln.edu.hk/cital/support-for-students/itfp>

4. *Service-Learning*

More information can be found on Office of Service-Learning (OSL)'s website:

<https://www.ln.edu.hk/osl/students/faq>

If you are from a different intake, your graduation requirements might not be the same as everyone else. You should check the Registry's website for details:

<https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/graduation-requirements>

CREDIT TRANSFER AND COURSE EXEMPTION

A student who has passed public, professional, or other examinations recognised by the University or has successfully completed a course at an appropriate level, such as a Sub-degree (SD) programme, offered by the University or another tertiary institution may apply for credit transfer/course exemption. More information can be found under Section 9 of Regulations Governing Undergraduate Studies:

<https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/regulations-governing-undergraduate-studies>

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The academic calendars are published on the Registry's website:

<https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/useful-links/academic-calendar> The Registry has published a list of important dates. You are highly recommended to have a look before planning for any activities which might interfere with your studies: <https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/important-dates>

GETTING IN TOUCH

If you encounter any difficulties, whether it is study-related or not, you are more than welcome to approach your Academic Adviser or the General Office of the Department. If you have any questions related to a specific course, you may also wish to contact the Course Instructor directly.

The contact details of the General Office of the Department are:

Email:	dphilo@ln.edu.hk
Hotline:	2616-7445 or 2616-7434
Service Counter:	HSH201, 2/F, Ho Sin Hang Building

You may find the contact details of our teaching staff on our website:

<https://www.ln.edu.hk/philoso/people>

USEFUL CONTACTS

We have listed a list of websites for departments/units which students frequently wish to contact. If the department/unit you wish to contact is not listed below, please proceed to their individual website via this link: <https://www.ln.edu.hk/about-lu/academic-administrative-departments>

Office/Department	Website
Centre for English & Additional Languages	https://www.ln.edu.hk/ceal/
Chinese Language Education & Assessment Centre	https://www.ln.edu.hk/cleac
Information Technology Services Centre	https://www.ln.edu.hk/itsc
Library	https://www.library.ln.edu.hk/
Office of Global Education	https://www.ln.edu.hk/oge/
Office of Service-Learning	https://www.ln.edu.hk/osl
Office of Student Affairs	https://www.ln.edu.hk/osa/
Registry	https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/
Teaching and Learning Centre	https://www.ln.edu.hk/tlc