

Regulations Governing Admission to Undergraduate Studies (applicable to students from 2024 intake)

1. Normal Entrance Requirements

1.1 Applicants must have fulfilled the following General Entrance Requirements and Programme Entrance Requirements stipulated for individual study programmes, if any.

1.2 *General Entrance Requirements and Programme Entrance Requirements*

Applicants must have obtained the following minimum requirements in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) examination:

Chinese Language*:	Level 3
English Language:	Level 3
Mathematics Compulsory Part:	Level 2 (Level 3 for applicants to the Bachelor of Science in Data Science programme)
Citizenship and Social Development:	Attained
Two Elective Subjects:	Level 2

- a. The subjects stipulated in General Entrance Requirements refer to the senior secondary subjects listed as Category A.
- b. The Mathematics Extended Parts (M1/M2) is recognised as an elective subject for the purpose of meeting the University's GERs.
- c. Applied Learning subjects (Category B) may be recognised as electives/bonus score/tie-breakers by individual programmes.
- d. Other Language subjects in Category C will be recognised as unspecified elective subjects.
- e. Passes in HKDSE subjects can be obtained at one or more sittings. The best grade for a subject will be used in the calculation of the score in case of multiple attempts. There is no penalty or mark deduction for repeated sittings of a subject.

* For applicants who have studied Chinese Language for less than six years while receiving primary and secondary education; or those who have studied Chinese Language for six years or more in schools which adopt an adapted and simpler Chinese Language curriculum not otherwise applicable to the majority of students in local schools, the University will accept the following as an alternative to the HKDSE Chinese Language:

- (i) Grade E or above in the alternative Chinese Language qualifications of GCE A-Level/AS-Level; or
- (ii) Grade C/Grade 4 or above in the alternative Chinese Language qualifications of GCE O-Level/GCSE/IGCSE; or
- (iii) "Attained" or above in Applied Learning Chinese.

2. Other Acceptable Qualifications

2.1 Persons who do not possess the qualifications as stated in Section 1 but fit in one of the following categories may apply for admission.

2.2 ***Equivalent Qualifications***

- (a) a degree or a sub-degree awarded by a recognised post-secondary institution;
- (b) Grade E or above in both Advanced Supplementary (AS) Level Use of English (UE) and Chinese Language and Culture (CLC); PLUS Grade E or above in two Advanced Level (AL) subjects OR Grade E or above in one AL subject and in two AS Level subjects other than UE and CLC in the Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE); or
- (c) other acceptable international qualifications, or regional/national curricula.

2.3 Qualifications not listed above will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

2.4 ***Non-local Applicants***

2.4.1 Non-local students are holders of:

- (a) Student visa / Entry permit
- (b) Visa / Entry permit under the Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates (IANG)
- (c) Dependant visa / Entry permit who were 18 years old or above when they were issued with such visa / entry permit by the Director of Immigration of the HKSAR

2.4.2 Non-local applicants who have attained an equivalent qualification as stipulated in Regulation 2.2 and fulfilled the English language requirements, can apply for admission.

2.4.3 Non-local applicants will be considered on an individual basis, subject to the availability of places.

2.5 ***Mature Applicants***

2.5.1 Mature applicants are those who are aged 25 or above on 1st September in the year when admission is sought. They may seek admission provided that they

- (a)(i) are able to show, either by publication or by other acceptable evidence, that they have achieved sufficient competence in their chosen field of study to justify admission, or
- (ii) have shown exceptional ability in appropriate academic or professional fields;
- (b) have at least three years of relevant working experience; and
- (c) can produce evidence of at least three years of continuous residence in Hong Kong.

2.5.2 Mature applicants will be considered separately and each case is considered on its own merits.

3. Applications

3.1 *Applications through JUPAS*

School and non-school local applicants who seek admission to degree programmes on the strength of their HKDSE results must apply through JUPAS. They will be regarded as “JUPAS applicants”. A person who applies for admission through JUPAS is not allowed to submit a separate application to the University directly in the same academic year.

3.2 *Direct Applications to the University*

Non-JUPAS applicants who have fulfilled or will fulfil the University entrance requirements and the English language requirements, and are seeking admission to degree programmes may apply directly to the University. Applicants may indicate on the application forms their programme choices in order of preference as long as they fulfil the entrance requirements for these programmes. However, only one offer will be made to each applicant selected for admission. Change of programme choice after submitting the application is not permitted.

4. Criteria for Selection

4.1 As there are insufficient places for all qualified applicants, admission to the University is on a competitive basis.

4.2 Applications will be considered in the order of preference of the programmes indicated by the applicants, taking into consideration all information provided, such as public examination results (including the relevancy of the subjects to the study programmes concerned), academic/professional qualifications, interests, working experience, suitability, potential, personal qualities and other factors which individual academic units consider relevant.

4.3 Admission criteria for different programmes vary and applicants will either be admitted directly or invited for interview to determine the eligibility for admission.

4.4 For some programmes, applicants may also be required to take an oral and/or written test.

5. Admission of Students

5.1 The admission of a student to the University is based on suitability and other factors which individual programmes consider relevant. There should be no discrimination on the grounds such as sex, age, race, religion, ethnic origin, disabilities or special educational needs.

5.2 The Senate will determine the entrance requirements and equivalent qualifications for individual programmes and admission procedures. Within University policy guidelines, programmes should have autonomy in admitting their students as long as they fulfil the relevant entrance requirements.

- 5.3 It is the intention of the University to provide aid and support to students with disabilities as far as possible. Applicants are therefore invited to contact the Registry for information concerning existing facilities for disabled persons at the University. Newly admitted students are also encouraged to inform the University of their needs so that timely assistance may be provided.

6. Credit Transfer and Course Exemption

- 6.1 An applicant who has passed public, professional, or other examinations recognised by the University or has successfully completed a course at an appropriate level offered by the University or another tertiary institution may apply for credit transfer/course exemption.

- 6.2 The transfer of credits upon admission should be a one-off exercise. No subsequent transfer of credits will be approved during the course of the student's study at Lingnan University except for newly gained qualifications after admission.

6.3 Credit Transfer

- 6.3.1 In case there is a similar course being offered by the University, the student may be exempted from taking the course and granted with equivalent credits, if the application is approved.

- 6.3.2 In case there is no similar course being offered by the University, the student may be exempted from taking a free elective course, or in some cases a course in the Core Curriculum if deemed appropriate, and granted with equivalent credits, if the application is approved.

- 6.3.3 In case there is no similar course being offered by the University but the course completed at another recognised tertiary institution falls in the Major discipline(s) of the student, the student may be exempted from taking a course in the Major discipline(s) and granted with equivalent credits, if the application is approved.

- 6.3.4 A minimum grade C is required for credit transfer of courses taken in sub-degree programmes to undergraduate degree programmes.

6.4 Course Exemption

In case there is a similar course being offered by the University, the student may be exempted from taking the course, 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.

- 6.5 No grade will be given but all exempted or recognised courses and the number of credits transferred will be shown in the student's transcript.

6.6 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 or the Minor Programme. The limit does not include credit transfer or course exemption associated with approved student exchange programmes.

6.7 Application for credit transfer/course exemption should be made upon submission of application for admission, which will be processed following procedures stipulated in the academic regulations for credit transfer and course exemption.

6.8 ***Block Credit Transfer for HKALE / IB / GCEAL / IAL Holders***

Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE) / International Baccalaureate (IB) / GCE Advanced Level (GCEAL) / International Advanced Level (IAL) holders with seven years of secondary schooling will be granted 15-credit block transfer on free electives.

6.9 ***Block Credit Transfer for Graduates from Local Sub-degree Programmes Accredited with Level 4 of the Qualifications Framework for Senior Year Entry***

6.9.1 Block credit transfer will be granted to an eligible sub-degree, viz. Associate Degree and Higher Diploma, graduate who is designated as a Year 3 student upon admission, as prescribed in the academic regulations.

6.9.2 Effective from 2021-22 intake to 2025-26 intake, block credit transfer of 60* credits will be granted with details as follows:

- (a) 21 credits of the Core Curriculum comprising 6 credits in the Common Core (CCC8011 Critical Thinking: Analysis and Argumentation and CCC8012 The Making of Hong Kong) and 15 credits in the cluster courses;
- (b) 3 credits of Chinese language course (normally LCC1010 Chinese Communication I);
- (c) 3 credits of English language course (normally LUE1001 University English I);
- (d) 6 credits on programme required/elective courses; and
- (e) 27* credits of free electives.

Effective from 2026-27 intake, block credit transfer of 60* credits will be granted with details as follows:

- (a) 21 credits of the Core Curriculum comprising 9 credits in the Common Core (CCC8011 Critical Thinking: Analysis and Argumentation, CCC8013 The Process of Science, and CCC8014 China in World History) and 12 credits in the cluster courses;
- (b) 3 credits of Chinese language course (normally LCC1010 Chinese Communication I);
- (c) 3 credits of English language course (normally LUE1001 University English I);
- (d) 6 credits on programme required/elective courses; and
- (e) 27* credits of free electives.

* For admittees to the BBA Accounting/Accounting and Corporate Governance Stream/Major and BBA-Risk and Insurance Management programmes, as they are required to take a total of 24 credits of free electives under the programme structure, only 24 credits of free electives can be transferred. Thus, only 57 credits instead of 60 credits in total will be transferred. For a transfer student of these programmes which requires 126 credits for graduation, he/she may apply for additional credit transfer/course exemption of up to 6 credits.

6.10 ***Block Credit Transfer for Students/Graduates from Local Sub-degree Programmes Accredited with Level 4 of the Qualifications Framework for First-Year-First-Degree (FYFD) Entry***

6.10.1 Block credit transfer will be granted to an eligible sub-degree student/graduate who is designated as a Year 2 student but using FYFD places upon admission, as prescribed in the academic regulations.

6.10.2 Block credit transfer of 30 credits will be granted with details as follows:

- (a) 12 credits of cluster courses of the Core Curriculum;
- (b) 3 credits of English language course (normally LUE1001 University English I); and
- (c) 15 credits of free electives.

6.10.3 The transfer student may apply for additional credit transfer/course exemption following provisions in other sections of the academic regulations.

Last updated in June 2025