

Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours)

Programme Structure for 2023-24 Intake (4-year curriculum)

The following description specifies the programme curriculum for students who pursue the programme on a **full-time four-year basis**. Flexibility is allowed for completing the programme within a longer or shorter period in accordance with the stipulations in the Regulations Governing Undergraduate Studies.

		Number of Credits		
		1 st	1 st /2 nd	2 nd
		Term	Term	Term
				Total
FIRST YEAR				
CCC8011	Critical Thinking: Analysis and Argumentation (R)*		3	3
CCC8012	The Making of Hong Kong (R)*		3	3
LCC1010	Chinese Communication I (R)		3	3
LUE1001	University English I (R) [#]	3		3
LUE1002	University English II (R) [#]		3	3
ECO2101	Introduction to Economics (R) (for all Majors except ECON Major students)		3	3
ECO2104	Introduction to Microeconomics (R) ~ (for ECON Major students)	3		3
ECO2105	Introduction to Macroeconomics (R) ~ (for ECON Major students)			3
GOV2101	Introduction to Political Science (R)		3	3
PSY2101	Introduction to Psychology (R)		3	3
SOC2101	Introduction to Sociology (R)		3	3
	1 ELE Elective ^{##} or Free Elective [@] for Group B students		3	3
	^ 1 Cluster Course (for all Majors except ECON Major students)		3	3
				30
SECOND YEAR				
CCC8013	The Process of Science (R)*		3	3
CCC8014	China in World History (R)*		3	3
LCC2010	Chinese Communication II (R)		3	3
				9

(R) denotes required course(s).

* Students are assigned to take CCC8011 and CCC8012 in the first year, and CCC8013 and CCC8014 in the second year (or the third year for those designated as Year 3 students upon admission).

Under the revamped English Language Enhancement (ELE) programme, students will be grouped under two streams. Group A students are those who obtained level 3 in HKDSE English or equivalent while Group B students are those who obtained level 4 or above in HKDSE English or equivalent. Students are encouraged to take their first required ELE course, viz. LUE1001 for Group A and LUE1002 for Group B, in First Term of Year 1. However, they are given the flexibility to take the respective courses in Second Term of Year 1. For Group A students who take LUE1001 in Second Term of Year 1, they should take LUE1002 in First Term of Year 2. For details, please refer to <https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/english-language-enhancement-ele-curriculum>.

~ Students under Major in Economics are required to take ECO2104 in Term 1 of Year 1, and ECO2105 in Term 2 of Year 1.

Group A students have to take 1 ELE elective while Group B students have to take 2 ELE electives. ELE electives could be taken from the term in which LUE1002 is taken. For more details, please click <https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/english-language-enhancement-ele-curriculum>.

@ Students are required to take 27 credits of free electives.

^ Students are required to complete 5 Cluster courses in total. For details, please see the Core Curriculum Section.

		Number of Credits			
		1 st	1 st /2 nd	2 nd	
		<u>Term</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Total</u>
SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH YEARS					
LUE4003	Professional Communication in English for Social Sciences (R)		3		3
	+ 4-5 Major Required Courses		12-15		12-15
	+ 5-6 Major Electives		15-18		15-18
	^ 4 Cluster Courses		12-15		12-15
	(for all Majors except ECON Major students), <u>or</u>				
	^ 5 Cluster Courses				
	(for ECON Major students)				
					45
THIRD YEAR					
SSC3319	Junior Research Project (R)		3		3
FOURTH YEAR					
SSC4319	Senior Thesis		3		3
	<u>or</u> 1 Major Elective				
ANY YEAR					
	ELE Elective(s) ^{##} and/or Free Electives [@]		30		30
	(10 courses)				
Minimum credits for Honours Degree:					120

REQUIREMENTS IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

[Note: Students are not advised to take any Major required courses in their first year of study as their free electives.]

Majors

Under the BSocSc (Hons) Programme structure, there are 7 Majors:

1. Major in Economics

Required Courses (4 in all)

ECO3104	Tools for Economic Analysis	%
ECO3105	Introduction to Statistics and Econometrics	%
ECO3201	Intermediate Microeconomics	%
ECO3202	Intermediate Macroeconomics	%

(Note: Students are required to take *ECO3104 Tools for Economic Analysis* and *ECO3105 Introduction to Statistics and Econometrics* in Term 1 of Year 2, and *ECO3201 Intermediate Microeconomics* and *ECO3202 Intermediate Macroeconomics* in Term 2 of Year 2.)

(R) denotes required course(s).

+ Students are recommended to complete all Major Required courses by the end of the third year. Students under Major in Government and International Affairs or Major in Sociology or Major in Social and Public Policy Studies are required to complete 4 Major required and 6 Major elective courses. Students under Major in Psychology or Major in Health and Social Services Management are required to complete 5 Major required and 5 Major elective courses. Students under Major in Economics are required to complete 4 Major required and 5 Major elective courses. For more details, please refer to the Major structure.

Students are required to complete 5 Cluster courses in total. For details, please see the Core Curriculum Section.

Group A students have to take 1 ELE elective while Group B students have to take 2 ELE electives. ELE electives could be taken from the term in which LUE1002 is taken. For more details, please click <https://www.ln.edu.hk/reg/undergraduate-programmes/english-language-enhancement-ele-curriculum>.

@ Students are required to take 27 credits of free electives.

Elective Courses (Choose 6 in all, but at least 3 in 4000-level)

ECO3001	The Hong Kong Housing Market *
ECO3002	The Economics of the Digital Economy *%
ECO3003	Public Economics, Finance and Policymaking *
ECO3203	Labour Economics
ECO3208	Principles of Public Policy *
ECO3209	The Hong Kong Economy *
ECO3211	Chinese Economy
ECO3213	China, Hong Kong, and the World Economy: the Greater Bay and beyond
ECO3214	Globalisation and Economic Integration
ECO3216	Behavioural Economics
ECO3218	Development Economics
ECO3311	Economics of the Family
ECO3313	Urban Economics *
ECO4001	Economics of Markets and Regulations
ECO4002	Economics of Law and Policy *
ECO4203	Applied Econometrics
ECO4217	Money and Banking
ECO4305	International Trade and Trade Policy
ECO4306	International Finance
ECO4316	Industrial Economics and Competition Policy
ECO4320	Game Theory and Strategic Behaviour
ECO4323	Financial Economics
ECO4324	Environmental Economics and Policy *
SSC2113	Linear Algebra
SSC2114	Calculus
SSC3312	Health Policy *^
SSC4207	International Political Economy
SSC4319	Senior Thesis

* Cross-listed in SPPS Major

^ Cross-listed in HSSM Major

% Cross-listed in SocDS Major

2. Major in Government and International Affairs

Required Courses (4 in all)

GOV3101	Empirical Political Analysis: Approaches and Methods %
GOV3203	International Politics %
GOV3210	Comparative Politics %
GOV3217	Modern Political Ideologies %

Elective Courses (Choose 7 in all, but at least 3 in 4000-level)

GOV3103	Gender and Politics
GOV3104	Media, Data and Politics
GOV3105	Political Economy of Development
GOV3106	Small States in World Politics
GOV3107	Contemporary Asia Pacific
GOV3201	Government and Politics of Contemporary China
GOV3205	Global Governance
GOV3208	Public Policy: Values and Processes *
GOV3214	Government and Politics of Hong Kong *
GOV3215	Taiwan: Politics and Society
GOV3216	American Foreign Policy
GOV3218	War and Peace
GOV3219	Introduction to Computational Political Science % (from 2024-25)
GOV3221	Ethics and Public Affairs (from Term 2, 2025-26)
GOV4001	Seminar in International Political Economy

GOV4003	Comparative Judicial Politics
GOV4004	Elections, Party Competition and Electioneering
GOV4005	Religion and Political Conflicts
GOV4006	Regional Cooperation and Integration
GOV4007	Politics and Foreign Relations of Japan
GOV4303	Global Environmental Politics
GOV4305	Chinese Foreign Policy
GOV4308	Selected Issues in Asian Pacific Governance
GOV4309	Current Issues in International Politics
GOV4319	International Politics of Northeast Asia
GOV4320	International Politics of Southeast Asia
SSC3213	Political Psychology and Behaviour ^
SSC4319	Senior Thesis

^ Cross-listed in PSY Major

* Cross-listed in SPPS Major

% Cross-listed in SocDS Major

3. Major in Psychology

BSocSc students designated as Year 3 students upon admission in 2019-20 and after under the Major in Psychology with Counselling Psychology Concentration are required to complete five counselling-related courses (marked with “@” below) to declare the Concentration in Counselling Psychology. Other students under this Major who have completed the five courses are qualified for declaring the Concentration.

BSocSc students under the Major in Psychology who are not pursuing any other Concentration(s) and have completed the five courses related to I-O Psychology (4 required courses marked with “+” and 1 out of 3 elective courses marked with “++” below) are qualified for declaring the Concentration in Industrial and Organisational (I-O) Psychology.

Required Courses (5 in all)

PSY3101	Research Methods and Statistics for Psychology I %
PSY3201	Human Development and Psychology of Adulthood @%
PSY3205	Social Psychology +%
PSY3209	Cognitive Psychology %
PSY4101	Research Methods and Statistics for Psychology II%

Elective Courses (Choose 6 in all, but at least 3 in 4000-level)

PSY3001	Stress and Coping: Theory and Practices @#
PSY3102	Exploring Psychology in Western and Chinese Cultures
PSY3103	Psychology of Human Performance and Technology *++%
PSY3202	Psychology Applied to Occupational Safety and Health * ++
PSY3206	Abnormal Psychology @
PSY3207	Health Psychology #
PSY3208	Personality and Individual Differences +
PSY3210	Engineering Psychology and Human-Centered Design % (from Term 2, 2025-26)
PSY3301	Positive Psychology and Positive Living
PSY3332	Environmental Psychology *
PSY3333	Educational Psychology
PSY4001	Biological Psychology
PSY4002	Sensation and Perception
PSY4003	Psychological Testing and Assessment @ +
PSY4102	Cross-cultural Psychology ++
PSY4103	Contemporary Issues in Psychology
PSY4310	Counseling Psychology @
PSY4325	Industrial and Organisational Psychology +
PSY4326	The Neuroscience of Social Behaviour
SSC3213	Political Psychology and Behaviour ^
SSC4319	Senior Thesis

- ^ Cross-listed in GOV Major
- * Cross-listed in SPPS Major
- # Cross-listed in HSSM Major
- % Cross-listed in SocDS Major

4. Major in Sociology

BSocSc students under the Major in Sociology who have completed the five concentration courses (2 required courses marked with “@” and 3 out of 4 elective courses marked with “@@” below) are qualified for declaring the Concentration in Social Innovation and Social Studies.

Required Courses (4 in all)

SOC3101	Sociological Research Methods **%
SOC3201	Classical Sociological Theory %
SOC3202	Contemporary Sociological Theory %
SOC3204	Society and Social Change %

Elective Courses (Choose 7 in all, but at least 3 in 4000-level and one research method course, either SOC4217 *Quantitative Research Methods* or SOC4101 *Qualitative Research Methods*)

SDA3001	Social Networks % (from 2025-26)
SOC3002	Family and Society **
SOC3003	Ethnicity and Ethnic Minorities @@
SOC3004	Community and Society @@
SOC3102	Mass Communication
SOC3203	Social Gerontology * **
SOC3212	Hong Kong Society *
SOC3311	Urban Sociology *
SOC3323	Organisations and Bureaucracy
SOC3330	Crime and Delinquency
SOC3334	Science, Technology and Society %
SOC3335	Housing and Society * **
SOC3336	Digital Society **%
SOC3338	Social Stratification and Inequality (titled as Social Stratification in 2024-25 or before)
SOC3340	Consumption and Society
SOC3341	Social Innovation Seminar: Dialogue with Change-Makers **@
SOC3342	Non-Profit Organizations and the Voluntary Sector **@
SOC3343	Understanding Social Impact **@@
SOC3344	Measuring Society (from 2024-25)
SOC4001	Historical Justice and Collective Memory
SOC4002	Gender and Society
SOC4101	Qualitative Research Methods
SOC4102	Public Opinion and Opinion Survey (not offered from 2024-25)
SOC4103	Social Issues in Contemporary Chinese Societies
SOC4104	Special Topics in Sociological Analysis
SOC4213	Risk, Society and Modernity
SOC4217	Quantitative Research Methods
SOC4219	Methods and Practice of Social Survey (not offered from 2024-25)
SOC4321	Social Justice **
SOC4324	Work and Occupation
SOC4328	Ageing, Adaptation and Change * **@@
SOC4341	Integrative Seminar in Global Media and Society * (from 2026-27)
SSC4319	Senior Thesis

- * Cross-listed in SPPS Major
- ** Cross-listed in HSSM Major
- % Cross-listed in SocDS Major

5. Major in Social and Public Policy Studies

BSocSc students under the Major in Social and Public Policy Studies who have completed the four required courses in the Major in SPPS and five concentration courses (3 required courses marked with “@” and 2 out of 3 elective courses marked with “@@” below) are qualified for declaring the Concentration in Smart Cities and Digital Society.

Required Courses (4 in all)

ECO3208	Principles of Public Policy ^ <u>or</u>
SOC3001	Principles and Practice of Social Policy ##
SOC3203	Social Gerontology ** ##
SSC3102	Seminar in Social and Public Policy Issues
Any ONE of the 6 following methods courses offered by the Majors in the BSocSc Programme, i.e. ECO3105 Introduction to Statistics and Econometrics, ECO4203 Applied Econometrics, GOV3101 Empirical Political Analysis: Approaches and Methods, PSY3101 Research Methods and Statistics for Psychology I, SOC3101 Sociological Research Methods, or SOC4217 Quantitative Research Methods	

Elective Courses (Choose 7 in all)

ECO3001	The Hong Kong Housing Market ^
ECO3002	The Economics of the Digital Economy ^@%
ECO3003	Public Economics, Finance and Policymaking ^
ECO3208	Principles of Public Policy ^
ECO3209	The Hong Kong Economy ^
ECO3313	Urban Economics ^@@
ECO4002	Economics of Law and Policy ^
ECO4324	Environmental Economics and Policy ^
GOV3208	Public Policy: Value and Processes ^^
GOV3214	Government and Politics of Hong Kong ^^
PSY3103	Psychology of Human Performance and Technology *@@%
PSY3202	Psychology Applied to Occupational Safety and Health *
PSY3332	Environmental Psychology *
SOC3212	Hong Kong Society **
SOC3311	Urban Sociology **@@
SOC3312	Health and Social Care Services for Older Persons in Hong Kong (not offered from 2024-25)
SOC3320	Population Dynamics and Policy (not offered from 2024-25)
SOC3327	Social Welfare and Social Problems in Hong Kong ##
SOC3335	Housing and Society ** ##
SOC3336	Digital Society **@%
SOC3337	Smart Cities Seminar @
SOC4328	Ageing, Adaptation and Change ** ##
SOC4329	Global Health ##
SOC4340	Digitisation and Datafication of Social Policy % (from 2026-27)
SOC4341	Integrative Seminar in Global Media and Society ** (from 2026-27)
SSC3218	Environment and Society in Hong Kong
SSC3312	Health Policy ^##
SSC3315	Labour Market and Education Policy
SSC4301	Policy-making, Collective Action and Public Choice
SSC4319	Senior Thesis

^ Cross-listed in ECON Major

^^ Cross-listed in GOV Major

* Cross-listed in PSY Major

** Cross-listed in SOC Major

Cross-listed in HSSM Major

% Cross-listed in SocDS Major

6. Major in Health and Social Services Management

Required Courses (5 in all)

HSM3001	Introduction to Health and Social Care
HSM4001	Leading and Managing Health and Social Services
HSM4003	Fundraising and Programme Evaluation
SOC3101	Sociological Research Methods ^{^%}
SOC4329	Global Health *

(Note: Students are required to take *HSM3001 Introduction to Health and Social Care*, *HSM4001 Leading and Managing Health and Social Services* in their Year 3.)

Elective Courses (Choose 6 in all, but at least 2 in 4000-level)

HSM3002	Health and Social Service Provisions for Special Populations
HSM3004	Community-based Social Services
HSM3005	Modern Technology in Health and Social Services
HSM3006	Human Resources in Health and Social Services
HSM4002	Health and Social Service Project
HSM4004	Social and Healthcare Policies in Hong Kong and China
HSM4005	Social Innovation and Social Enterprises (deleted from 2026-27)
PSY3001	Stress and Coping: Theory and Practices [#]
PSY3207	Health Psychology [#]
SOC3001	Principles and Practice of Social Policy *
SOC3002	Family and Society [^]
SOC3203	Social Gerontology ^{^*}
SOC3327	Social Welfare and Social Problems in Hong Kong * (from 2026-27)
SOC3335	Housing and Society ^{^*} (from 2026-27)
SOC3341	Social Innovation Seminar: Dialogue with Change-Makers [^] (from 2026-27)
SOC3342	Non-Profit Organizations and the Voluntary Sector [^] (from 2026-27)
SOC3343	Understanding Social Impact [^] (from 2026-27)
SOC4321	Social Justice [^]
SOC4328	Ageing, Adaptation and Change ^{^*} (from 2026-27)
SSC3312	Health Policy ^{~*}

~ Cross-listed in ECON Major

Cross-listed in PSY Major

^ Cross-listed in SOC Major

* Cross-listed in SPPS Major

% Cross-listed in SocDS Major

In addition to the above 6 Majors, the Major in Social Data Science is available for students designated as Year 3 students upon admission in 2025-26.

7. Major in Social Data Science

Foundation Courses (3 in all)

SDA1001	Introduction to Social Data Science
Any TWO of the following 4 foundation courses offered by the BSocSc Programme, i.e. ECO2101 Introduction to Economics, GOV2101 Introduction to Political Science, PSY2101 Introduction to Psychology, and/or SOC2101 Introduction to Sociology	

Capstone Course

SSC3319	Junior Research Project
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Required Courses (5 in all)

CDS1001	Introduction to Programming for Data Science
CDS1004	Mathematical Fundamentals for Data Science
CDS2002	Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

Elective Courses (5 in all)

1. Social Data Science Elective(s) (No elective if students select the Concentration in Psychology, or choose 1 elective if students select the other 3 Concentrations or opt out of any Concentrations)

ECO3002	The Economics of the Digital Economy ^ #
GOV3219	Introduction to Computational Political Science ^^
PSY3103	Psychology of Human Performance and Technology * #
PSY3210	Engineering Psychology and Human-Centered Design * (from Term 2, 2025-26)
SDA3001	Social Networks ** (from 2025-26)
SOC3334	Science, Technology and Society **
SOC3336	Digital Society ** #
SOC4340	Digitisation and Datafication of Social Policy # (from 2026-27)

2. Concentration (Choose 1 out of 4 Concentrations, and complete the set of courses in the chosen Concentration)

A. Concentration in Economics (4 in all)

ECO3104	Tools for Economic Analysis ^
ECO3105	Introduction to Statistics and Econometrics ^
ECO3201	Intermediate Microeconomics ^
ECO3202	Intermediate Macroeconomics ^

B. Concentration in Government and International Affairs (4 in all)

GOV3101	Empirical Political Analysis: Approaches and Methods ^^
GOV3203	International Politics ^^
GOV3210	Comparative Politics ^^
GOV3217	Modern Political Ideologies ^^

C. Concentration in Psychology (5 in all)

PSY3101	Research Methods and Statistics for Psychology I *
PSY3201	Human Development and Psychology of Adulthood *
PSY3205	Social Psychology *
PSY3209	Cognitive Psychology *
PSY4101	Research Methods and Statistics for Psychology II *

D. Concentration in Sociology (4 in all)

SOC3101	Sociological Research Methods ** ##
SOC3201	Classical Sociological Theory **
SOC3202	Contemporary Sociological Theory **
SOC3204	Society and Social Change **

From 2026-27 academic year and onwards, and upon the approval by the Major Director and the Programme Director, BSocSc students under the Major in Social Data Science may choose to opt out of any Concentrations. These students are required to complete (a) ONE research methods course, i.e. ECO3104 Tools for Economic Analysis, ECO3105 Introduction to Statistics and Econometrics, GOV3101 Empirical Political Analysis: Approaches and Methods, PSY3101 Research Methods and Statistics for Psychology I, or SOC3101 Sociological Research Methods, and (b) ANY THREE courses other than the research methods courses from the list of courses presented under the Concentration Section.

^ Cross-listed in ECON Major

^^ Cross-listed in GOV Major

* Cross-listed in PSY Major

** Cross-listed in SOC Major
Cross-listed in SPPS Major
Cross-listed in HSSM Major

Free Electives

Students may select courses in any disciplines to obtain the total number of credits required for graduation, subject to timetable, course load and study scheme constraints.