

> Admission to MPhil/PhD Programmes

Apply for PhD Programmes via the Hong Kong
PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS)

What is the HKPFS?

Established by the Research Grants Council (RGC) of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (the Government of the HKSAR), the HKPFS aims at attracting the best and brightest students in the world to pursue their PhD studies at universities in Hong Kong, China.

Lingnan is one of the universities which can nominate brilliant applicants for the Fellowship award. Each Fellowship awardee will be provided with an annual stipend of HK\$340,800[#] and a conference/research-related travel allowance of up to HK\$14,200/year[#] for a maximum period of three years by the RGC.

(*Rates for 2025-26 subject to annual review) (US\$1 = HK\$7.8)

In addition, the full tuition fee for a Fellowship awardee[^] will be waived by Lingnan for his/her first year of study. For an awardee with a normative study period of four years, the University will offer the same level of Fellowship and conference/research-related travel allowance for his/her fourth year of study.

[^] Eligible local awardees will be given tuition waiver by the Government of the HKSAR under the scheme of **Tuition Waiver for Local Research Postgraduate Students** for their normal study period. For details, please visit the RGC website at www.ugc.edu.hk/eng/rgc/funding_opport/tws.html.



How to Apply for the HKPFS?

Application period

Initial Application to RGC 1 September to 1 December 2025
(Hong Kong Time 12:00 noon)

Full Application to Lingnan 1 September to 1 December 2025
(Hong Kong Time 11:59 p.m.)

No late application will be accepted

Step 1: Submit an Initial Application to RGC

▶ Apply via the HKPFS admission system for **initial application** at www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd by **1 December 2025 (Hong Kong Time 12:00 noon)**

▶ Obtain a **HKPFS Reference Number**

Step 2: Submit a Full Application to Lingnan

▶ Submit a **full application** directly to Lingnan's electronic system at <https://apply.ln.edu.hk/> by **1 December 2025 (Hong Kong Time 11:59p.m.)**

▶ Quote the **HKPFS Reference Number** assigned by the RGC for verification

Step 3: Settle the Application Fee Online

The University will conduct selection of applicants for its PhD programmes and nominate those outstanding and brilliant ones for the Hong Kong PhD Fellowships. The RGC will set up selection panels to evaluate/assess the nominations submitted by universities.

Those who are nominated but are not finally offered the Fellowship, and those not selected for nomination for the Fellowship, will be given consideration for admission as PhD students at Lingnan taking up places assigned to the University with Postgraduate Studentship awards.



HKPFS

Apply for MPhil/PhD Programmes to Lingnan via Direct Admissions



Applicants may seek admission to the MPhil/PhD programmes by applying to the University via Direct Admissions. Full-time students will normally be provided with Postgraduate Studentships. The full Postgraduate Studentships for an MPhil student and a PhD student are HK\$19,010/month and HK\$19,280/month* respectively (rates for 2025-26, subject to annual review)

* To be raised to HK\$19,660/month after confirmation of candidature

Application period¹

Main Round* 1 November 2025 to 16 January 2026
(Hong Kong Time 11:59 p.m.)

1st Clearing Round*² 17 January to 30 April 2026
(Hong Kong Time 11:59 p.m.)

2nd Clearing Round*³ 1 May to 31 August 2026
(Hong Kong Time 11:59 p.m.)

¹For admission in September 2026 intake [^]For admission in January 2027 intake

Notes: 1. Though applications are received up to the end of August 2026, candidates are strongly encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible in the Main Round.
2. Applications will be considered for Clearing Round subject to availability of places after the September intake Main Round.
3. Applications will be considered for Clearing Round subject to availability of places after the September intake Main and Clearing Rounds.

Step 1: Submit Application via Direct Admissions

▶ Apply via the Online Admission System at <https://apply.ln.edu.hk/>

Step 2: Settle the Application Fee Online



Direct
Admissions

Who Can Apply?

Lingnan University welcomes applicants from different parts of the world.

General Admission Requirements

An applicant for admission to candidature for the degree of MPhil or PhD should meet Lingnan’s admission criteria and requirements.

English Language Requirements

In addition to the general admission requirements, an applicant whose degree is not from a tertiary institution where English is used as the medium of instruction (MOI) for all courses for the degree mentioned should also fulfill the English language requirements set by the University.

Programme-Specific Admission Requirements

Some programmes have specified additional requirements for admission.

For details, please visit our website at www.LN.edu.hk/rpg/admission/requirement/additional-admission-requirements.



Admission
Criteria and
Requirements

Admission Timeline

1 September 2025 (Hong Kong Time 12:00 noon)	Application period for admission to PhD programmes via HKPFS begins
1 November 2025	Application period for Main Round of Direct Admissions to MPhil/PhD programmes for the September 2026 intake begins
1 December 2025 (Hong Kong Time 12:00 noon)	Deadline for HKPFS applicants to submit initial applications to the RGC
1 December 2025 (Hong Kong Time 11:59 p.m.)	Deadline for HKPFS applicants to submit full applications to Lingnan
16 January 2026	Deadline for Main Round of Direct Admissions to MPhil/PhD programmes for the September 2026 intake
17 January 2026	Application period for the 1st Clearing Round Direct Admissions to MPhil/PhD programmes for the September 2026 intake begins
30 April 2026	Deadline for the 1st Clearing Round Direct Admissions to MPhil/PhD programmes for the September 2026 intake
1 May 2026	Application period for the 2nd Clearing Round Direct Admissions to MPhil/PhD programmes for the January 2027 intake begins
May 2026	Announcement of results to the HKPFS applicants at the RGC website
31 August 2026	Deadline for the 2nd Clearing Round Direct Admissions to MPhil/PhD programmes for the January 2027 intake



Sharing from Our Students



Faculty of Arts

Mr MNSAH Sandford
PhD in History (Year 2)
[HKPFS awardee]

My Experience as a Research Postgraduate Student and HKPFS Awardee

My one-year journey as a PhD in History student at Lingnan University has been incredible. Having presented at two local conferences and with the guidance of topnotch historians, Prof HAMPTON Mark Andrew and Prof ZHANG Lei, together with enriching seminars by the School of Graduate Studies, the Faculty of Arts and the Department of History, have shaped my academic life. Hong Kong, China, is an ideal city for postgraduate studies and the HKPFS has freed me from financial difficulties. I highly recommend Lingnan to prospective students. Come and feel the Lingnan Spirit!



Faculty of Business

Ms XU Qianqian
PhD in Business (Year 3)

Where Academic Excellence Meets Personal Development

Pursuing my PhD at Lingnan University has been an inspiring journey. Supportive mentorship of my supervisors, Prof LI Na Yolanda and Prof LEE Xue Ren Randy, has been invaluable to my academic growth. The Department of Management and the Faculty of Business have further enhanced my experience through diverse academic activities, fostering both intellectual and personal development. I truly appreciate Lingnan University's generous research funding, academic resources, and vibrant learning environment.



Faculty of Social Sciences

Ms CHEN Lisha
PhD in Government and International Affairs
(Graduate in 2025)

Academic Growth and Global Impact: Reflections on My PhD Experience at Lingnan

My PhD journey at Lingnan University was profoundly enriching, shaped by its commitment to academic excellence and supportive research environment. During my studies, I presented at leading international relations conferences and published in prestigious journals, including *The Chinese Journal of International Politics*, *The Pacific Review*, and *Journal of Contemporary China*. These achievements would not have been possible without the generous support from Lingnan University, the Department of Government and International Affairs, and my Supervisor, Prof ZHANG Baohui.



School of Data Science

Ms CHEN Shumei
PhD in Data Science (Year 3)

Forging Innovation Through Data at Lingnan University

At Lingnan University, I am not just studying data science; I am forging a path to become a catalyst for innovation in a data-driven world.

Studying at the School of Data Science positions me at the forefront of the next wave of digital transformation in higher education. With a vision to become Asia's leading hub for data innovation, it cultivates top data scientists equipped with integrity, critical thinking, and strategic skills. I received generous financial support to pursue my academic growth and develop the skills needed to thrive in the evolving data landscape.



School of Graduate Studies

Mr CELEBRADO Jan Erron Raña
PhD in Sociology and Social Policy (Year 3)
[HKPFS and Belt and Road Scholarship awardee]

From Aspiration to Impact: How Lingnan Shaped My Postgraduate Path

In 2023, I took a leap of faith to pursue my research postgraduate studies at Lingnan University in Hong Kong, China, and it has been one of my best life decisions. Two years later, I am still impressed by how deeply the university invests in its students. My research on Filipino migrant domestic workers' mental health has benefited immensely from Lingnan's excellent research and learning environment, supportive supervisors, and generous funding from the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme and the Belt & Road Scholarship. My academic journey here is truly a rewarding experience.



School of Interdisciplinary Studies

Ms CHAN Tsz Ying
MPhil in Environmental Science (Year 2)

Balancing Science and Sport: My Holistic Journey at Lingnan University

Pursuing my MPhil in Environmental Science at Lingnan University has provided me with many opportunities and encouraged me to explore my interests, both research and sport. My Supervisor and colleagues have been supportive and have taught me many valuable skills in my studies of insect pollinators, in particular bees and wasps in Hong Kong, China. I also have the opportunity to further develop my sporting endeavor in Taekwondo and represent the University in both local and international competitions. This holistic development and work-life balance has greatly enhanced my lifelong development.



GS



RPg Admission

School of Graduate Studies (GS)

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Website : www.LN.edu.hk/rpg

School of Graduate Studies, September 2025