MPhil & PhD Programmes

哲學碩士及博士學位課程



2027/28

EDUCATION for SERVICE

作育英才・服務社會

Lingnan University 嶺南大學 香港 Hong Kong

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES 研究生院

About *Lingnan University*

A Leading Liberal Arts Research University in Hong Kong, China

History

Lingnan University has the longest established tradition among the local institutions of higher education with a rich heritage that dates back to its founding in 1888 in Guangzhou, China. **In the most recent 2026 Times Higher Education (THE) Asia University Rankings, Lingnan ranked 84th in its first entry**, marking an important milestone and demonstrating the University's growing ascendancy and recognition in the Asian academic landscape. **In the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings in 2025, Lingnan has marked a historic milestone with its worldwide first for SDG 4: Quality Education**, the first time a higher education institution in Hong Kong, China, has reached the top position internationally in any Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) category. This achievement highlights Lingnan's valuable contributions to advancing quality education and promoting the United Nations SDGs. In 2026, Lingnan retained its position as number one worldwide in SDG 4: Quality Education, further consolidating its leadership in this area and reinforcing its commitment to excellence and sustainability in higher education.

Campus

The University campus is located in the northern part of Tuen Mun and is connected to the central business district in a 40-minute subway ride. It has a total area of about 11 hectares and consists of various teaching, learning and sports facilities to provide the best learning experience for students. There is also an off-campus learning hub with state-of-the-art educational resources at Lingnan@WestKowloon in M+, West Kowloon.

Hostels

Lingnan offers affordable accommodation for eligible undergraduate and postgraduate students in ten on-campus hostels, providing around 2,600 residential places.

Rank 1st in the World
for Quality Education
(THE Sustainability Impact Ratings, 2026)

Rank 1st in the World
for Quality Education
(THE Impact Rankings, 2025)

Rank 1st in Hong Kong **and** **65th** in the World
for No Poverty
(THE Sustainability Impact Ratings 2026)

Rank 2nd in the Asia
for International Faculty
(QS Asia University Rankings, 2025)

Rank 3rd in Hong Kong **and** **20th** in the Asia
for Philosophy
(QS World University Rankings by Subject 2026)

TOP40 in the World
for International Faculty
(QS World University Rankings, 2027)

TOP50 in the World
for International Outlook
(THE World University Rankings, 2026)

TOP100 in the World
for International Students
(QS World University Rankings, 2027)

TOP100 in the World
for 7 SDGs
(THE Sustainability Impact Rantings, 2026)

Rank 84th in the Asia
out of 929 universities
(THE Asia University Rankings, 2026)

Rank 257th in the World
out of 2,297 universities
(THE World University Rankings, 2027)



Message from the

Dean of the School of Graduate Studies

Lingnan University is forging a path as a global leader in quality education and impactful research. Transitioning to a liberal arts research university, we seamlessly blend tradition with digital innovation, and prioritise a reimagined liberal arts education, advancing postgraduate studies, and research with real-world impact.

Professor Sam KWONG
Associate Vice-President
(Strategic Research)
J.K. Lee Chair Professor of
Computational Intelligence

Our commitment to quality education has won widespread recognition in recent years, making us an exceptional choice for postgraduate studies. At Lingnan, we offer a unique blend of academic excellence, cultural diversity, and a supportive learning environment. The University boasts a diverse and distinguished faculty, many of whom are leaders in their respective fields.

Besides, our University's strong emphasis on research and community engagement enriches the academic experience. There are various research centres and initiatives that encourage students to collaborate on projects that address societal issues. Besides, we also prioritise student well-being and support services. From academic advising to mental health resources, we are dedicated to ensuring that students have the tools they need to succeed both academically and personally.

Overall, Lingnan University offers a holistic educational experience that combines rigorous academics, a supportive community, and a vibrant cultural environment. For prospective postgraduate students, it represents an ideal destination to pursue their academic and professional aspirations.

Message from the

Vice-President (Research and Innovation)

With a long and distinguished history and a commitment to excellence, Lingnan University is undergoing transformative changes and is becoming a research-intensive liberal arts university. While maintaining our century-old strengths in arts, business and social sciences, we are emerging as a powerhouse in data science and artificial intelligence (AI) research.



Professor Xin YAO
Tong Tin Sun Chair Professor of Machine Learning

Our newly established School of Data Science and Lingnan University Institute for Advanced Study have attracted some of the world's most distinguished scholars. This newfound strength in data science and AI has elevated our traditional research to a new height, fostering a number of new interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research areas emerging within the University.

Our recent transformative changes and enhanced research capabilities have significantly benefited our postgraduate programmes in terms of both depth and breadth. As a student at Lingnan University, you will have unparalleled opportunities to interact closely with world-leading scholars on campus and explore diverse career prospects across academic research, business or NGOs.

PhD and MPhil programmes are at the heart of our drive to international research excellence. We provide a wide range of strong support, both intellectually and financially, to our PhD/MPhil students for them to grow and shine. Join our vibrant community at Lingnan University for a transformative postgraduate educational experience.

A sustained commitment to research excellence, innovation and impact

Lingnan University is committed to research excellence and making a positive societal impact, endeavours to contribute to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As we transition to a research-intensive comprehensive university in arts and sciences in the digital era, we are committed to blending tradition with digital innovation, boosting international interdisciplinary research, advancing postgraduate studies and research with real-world impact.

In the 2026/27 Research Grants Council (RGC) funding exercise, Lingnan secured funding for 49 GRF/ECS/HSSPFS projects, with total funding amounting to nearly HK$27 million, marking a record high for the University.

In 2026, the University won 16 awards for 14 inventions at the Silicon Valley International Invention Festival, including eight Gold Medals, six Silver Medals, and two special awards—the "IFIA Best Invention Award" and the "Thailand Award for the Best International Invention and Innovation". This achievement marks the second consecutive year that Lingnan has been the Hong Kong SAR higher education institution receiving the highest number of awards and Gold Medals at this international innovation event.

At the 51st International Exhibition of Inventions Geneva, the University won 14 awards, including one Gold Medal with Congratulations of the Jury, five Gold Medals, three Silver Medals, four Bronze Medals and a special award– Thailand Award for the Best International Invention and Innovation. The number of projects entered and awards received have more than doubled since last year, setting a new record for Lingnan, and confirming the University's excellence in groundbreaking interdisciplinary research.

Research & Innovation

Research Excellence

Global Research Collaboration

The University will also be offering the following full-time PhD programmes in collaboration with Chinese Mainland universities in the AY 2027/28:

Faculty of Business

- *Double PhD Degree Programme in Business with South China University of Technology*
- *Double PhD Degree Programme in Mathematics and Business with Renmin University of China*

Faculty of Social Sciences

- *Double PhD Degree Programme in Economics with Shandong University*
- *Double PhD Degree Programme in Economics with Wuhan University*

School of Data Science

- *Double PhD Degree Programme in Data Science with Chongqing University*
- *Double PhD Degree Programme in Data Science with Shandong University*

Some new collaborative programmes are also in the pipeline. For further details and updates on our collaborative programmes, please visit our website at www.LN.edu.hk/rpg/admission/list-of-programmes/collaborative-programmes.

Diverse Research Areas

36 exciting MPhil/PhD

Arts
Chinese, Cultural Studies, English, Film and Visual Arts, History, Philosophy, and Translation

Business
Accounting, Finance, International Business, Management, Marketing, Operations Management, Risk Management and Insurance

Data Science
Data Science

Science/Interdisciplinary Studies
Environmental Science, Sustainability

Social Sciences
Economics, Government and International Affairs, Psychology, Sociology and/or Social Policy, and Urban Studies

The normal study period for full-time MPhil programmes is two years, while that for full-time PhD programmes is three years for candidates who possess a relevant master's degree or four years for candidates without a relevant master's degree.

List of Programmes





What Will You Gain from Our MPhil/PhD Programmes?

Lingnan is transforming from a traditional teaching and research liberal arts university into a research-focused liberal arts university under the digital age. This means that it not only emphasises both teaching and research, but also commits to developing students the essential 21st-century skills and equipping them with digital literacy to tackle current challenges and excel in the digital era with integrity.

Like many American liberal arts colleges, and like the colleges at Cambridge and Oxford, Lingnan believes that the ethos of liberal arts education requires relatively smaller student numbers and an intimate campus setting. One of the key values of liberal arts education is student-centred learning. This approach ensures close and supportive thesis supervision, while at the same time encouraging candidates to exercise intellectual creativity in their research endeavours.

As the University community is intimate, familiar and collegial, postgraduate students at Lingnan do not get "lost in the system". They establish peer-type working relationships with academics in their departmental homes; they have generous opportunities to gain undergraduate or even postgraduate teaching experience; and they experience a strong sense of membership of a campus-wide postgraduate community.

- **Critical Thinking**
- **Global Leadership**
- **Digital Era**
- **Postgraduate Advancement**
- **Interdisciplinary Innovation**
- **Global Connections**

Financial Support

Generous funding to fuel your research ambitions

LU Presidential PhD Scholarship

(Prestigious top-up scholarship for HKPFS awardees)*

Award	HK$40,000 per year for the entire duration of the study, up to four years of normative study period
Tuition Fee Waiver	Full waiver for the whole normative study period
Additional Scholarship	Up to HK$60,000 per year (performance-based)
University Accommodation	Guaranteed hostel accommodation place for three years

**Applicable to HKPFS awardees for the 2027/28 admission intake*

Fellowships and Studentships

A full-time PhD student will normally be awarded with either a PhD Fellowship or a Postgraduate Studentship. A full-time MPhil student will normally be awarded a Postgraduate Studentship.

Fellowships	Studentships
HK$28,700 per month (for HKPFS awardee)	MPhil student: HK$19,010 per month
	PhD student: HK$19,280 per month (before confirmation of candidature) HK$19,660 per month (after confirmation of candidature)

(Rates for 2026/27, subject to annual review)

Research Postgraduate Student Conference/Field Trip Sponsorships

The Sponsorships aim to provide financial support to students for conference participation and conducting field trips, and exceptionally, participating in other academic activities.

	Maximum Amount
MPhil Student	HK$19,000 (during the entire period of study)
Regular PhD Student	HK$25,000 (during the entire period of study)
PhD Fellowship Awardee	HK$14,400 per year*

**The rate in 2026/27, subject to annual review and will be provided to a PhD Fellowship awardee during his/her normal study period.*

Research Postgraduate Scholarships for Overseas Research Visits

The Scholarships aim to encourage PhD students to undertake a short-term research visit for a term and up to six months normally at an overseas institution and to attract overseas students to conduct research at Lingnan for a short period of time.

Depending on the duration and destination of the visit of the Lingnan student/the country from which the overseas student comes from, the amount of each Scholarship ranges from HK$25,000 to HK$50,000. The Scholarships are offered on a competitive basis.

Other Scholarships

Research postgraduate students are also eligible for a number of scholarships, which are normally awarded based on academic merit and recommendation.

Financial Support

Supervision by Distinguished Scholars

Quality Education and Research



332 Faculty from 29 Countries

with **PhD** and **other advanced degrees** from Cambridge, Chicago, Columbia, Edinburgh, Harvard, Imperial, Melbourne, NTU Singapore, NUS, Northwestern, Oxford, Peking, Pennsylvania, Princeton, Stanford, Sydney, Toronto, Tsinghua, UC Berkeley, UCLA, UNSW, Yale, etc.

54 Lingnan Scholars/Fellows

in the World's Top 2% Scientists

(published in 2026 by Stanford University in the US)

1 Lingnan Scholar

received the worldwide 2025 H. George Frederickson Award for Career Contributions to Public Management Research

(Public Management Research Association)

16 Awards

for 14 inventions

(Silicon Valley International Invention Festival 2026)

14 Awards

for 13 inventions

(51st International Exhibition of Inventions Geneva)

GS

RPg Admission

School of Graduate Studies (GS)

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School of Graduate Studies, October 2026

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