



# MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM 2020 – 2021





# MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY (MPP)

Our Master of Public Policy (MPP) is an interdisciplinary program that equips students with knowledge of the full impact of science and technology innovations and professional skills in the formulation and implementation of innovative solutions to current and emerging global challenges. Situated in the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), the program draws from research and teaching excellence from across a diverse range of disciplines to equip students with a set of core skills in data analytics, economic analysis and management to become effective policy professionals.

Designed for students with diverse educational backgrounds, including social science, science, engineering, business, and other fields of study, this two-year full-time program consists of a core curriculum, an optional summer internship upon completion of first year, a second year client-based policy analysis project and elective courses allowing students to develop their areas of specialization. The first of its kind in Hong Kong, this program provides students with complete professional training that focuses on problem-solving skills with real-world cases and examples.



"Our MPP program features a unique two-year curriculum taught by our renowned professors that emphasizes on training critical thinking skills to understand policy issues in depth, enhancing technical and analytical skills to create solutions effectively, and cultivating communication skills to manage policy implementation practically. With this two-year program, students will not only gain extensive training to boost their marketability, but also get more opportunities to secure full-time employment immediately after graduation, or better position themselves in competing for a fully-funded PhD study."

# CAREER PROSPECT

Our program places an emphasis on knowledge, analytic skills and management capacities, that are highly transferable across sectors, issue areas and global regions. Graduates of the program may work as analysts, managers, researchers and consultants in a wide variety of organizations, including government agencies, non-profit organizations and private sector business. The training provided by the program is particularly relevant for policy professionals in both public and private sectors seeking to advance their careers in industries at the frontline of science and technology advancements, such as information technology and telecommunications, environment, energy, health care, transportation and finance.





# **CURRICULUM**

The degree requires the completion of 48 credit hours (most courses are three credit hours). All students admitted to the MPP will be required to complete the program on a full-time basis, a minimum of 12 credits and up to a maximum of 15 credits of coursework per semester.

# **CORE COURSES (24 CREDITS)**

The required core courses provide students with a grounding of the various perspectives, skills and tools that policy professionals must possess to develop and manage policies effectively.

- Foundations in Public Policy
- · Microeconomics and Public Policy
- · Quantitative Analysis and Empirical Methods
- · Public Policy Analysis
- · Evidence in Public Policy
- · Public Management and Leadership
- · Policy Analysis Project (I & II)

# **ELECTIVE COURSES (24 CREDITS)**

Students expand analytical skills attained through the core courses with 24 credits of elective courses focusing on today's most relevant policy areas and applied analytical methods. In addition to elective courses offered by the Division of Public Policy, MPP students are offered opportunities to broaden their perspectives through courses offered by HKUST School of Business and Management, School of Engineering, School of Humanities and Social Science, and the Division of Environment and Sustainability. The ability to offer access to a diverse range of electives across the university is a key strength of the HKUST MPP in comparison to programs elsewhere.





# AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

As part of their 48 credits, MPP students have the option to specialize in one of the two following specializations: science and technology policy concentration or environmental and sustainability policy concentration. A specialization consists of at least four 3-credit courses, of which at least two are offered by the Division of Public Policy. Students pursuing this option must choose their elective coursework based on the requirements for their specialization.

# **Science and Technology Policy Concentration**

The specialization provides students with the opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills that are essential to professional careers in areas where science and technology are guided by public policy or where science and technology play an integral role in the formulation and implementation of innovative solutions.

### **Environmental and Sustainability Policy Concentration**

This specialization provides students with the opportunity to acquire the tools, methodologies, interdisciplinary perspectives, and substantive topical knowledge necessary to be effective policy professionals in public, non-profit, and private organizations that cover a broad spectrum of issues relating to the environment and natural resources.



**Prof. Naubahar SHARIF**Program Co-Director, Master of Public Policy

"HKUST's MPP program is unique in many ways: Its duration of two years allows deep immersion into a student's field of study, the widespread use of cases as the key to our teaching pedagogy strengthens student learning, and close connections with practitioners are forged through the core requirement of a Policy Analysis Exercise (PAE)."



Justin NG (MPP class of 2021) Bachelor of Science in Media, Culture & Communications (2018) New York University

"This program provides me with both the theoretical and technical abilities required to process various policy issues. Through examining a wide-ranging set of interdisciplinary policy studies and frameworks as well as evaluating data patterns and information via quantitative analysis, this allows me to apply these skills practically into a potential career in governance, consultancy and policy making."

# CLIENT-BASED POLICY ANALYSIS PROJECT

The Policy Analysis Project is the capstone module of our MPP program. It aims to provide students with a valuable, engaging, educational and professional experience. It is a year-long project for which students work in teams of four to six people on challenges, issues and problems facing real-world organizations. Students will have opportunities to apply the knowledge and skills that they have learnt from the MPP program to analyze policy issues, develop solutions and produce professional reports for the client organizations.

Current client organizations include Arthur D. Little, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), Centennial Asia, Environmental Protection Department (HKSAR), EY, Hitachi, Mana Impact Investment, PMI, Policy Innovation and Co-ordination Office (HKSAR), Provenance.io, PwC and The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC).





Cindy XU
(MPP class of 2020)
Bachelor of Science in Management (2020),
London School of Economics and Political Science

"Combining various social science subjects, MPP comprises of astonishingly comprehensive and well-structured knowledge for analyzing real-world problems. Another impressive feature of MPP is that course materials are deeply embodied in world-wide current affairs!"

# PROGRAM STRUCTURE

### 1st TERM

- Foundation in Public Policy
- Microeconomics and Public Policy
- Quantitative Analysis and Empirical Methods
- Elective 1

(12 credits)



# 2<sup>nd</sup> TERM

- · Public Policy Analysis
- · Evidence in Public Policy
- Public Management and Leadership
- Elective 2

(12 credits)

# 3<sup>rd</sup> TERM

- Policy Analysis Project I
- Elective 3
- Elective 4
- Elective 5

(12 credits)

# 4th TERM

- · Policy Analysis Project II
- · Elective 6
- · Elective 7
- Elective 8

(12 credits)



### **PPOL Electives**

- · Risk and Regulation
- · Policy Analysis and Design for Sustainable Development
- · Aging, Demography, and Policy
- Environmental Policy and Natural Resource Management
- · Complex Systems for Policy
- · Technology, Innovation and Public Policy

- · Advanced Analytical Methods for Public Policy
- · Innovation and Sustainability
- Finance, Financial Crises and Economic Development
- Ethics for Public Policy
- Technology Disruptions and Public Policy
- · Special Topics in Public Policy

Please visit https://prog-crs.ust.hk/pgprog/2020-21/mpp for the details of course curriculum and descriptions.



Kejun CHEN (MPP class of 2020) Bachelor of Management (2018) Guangdong University of Foreign Studies

"As MPP students, we are encouraged to take internships to build up practical skills in the real world. I highly appreciate my public sector consulting internship in PwC Hong Kong this summer. I have been involved in a Greater Bay Area (GBA) project, which aims to find out Hong Kong's position as an international hub under the development of the GBA initiative. I have applied knowledge and skills learnt from MPP class to work, such as applying policy analytical skills to assess the opportunities and challenges Hong Kong might face under GBA initiative and applying sampling methods and interview skills in real situations. Overall, knowledge, skills and project experience learnt from MPP are very practical for working."



**Desh Deepak Dwivedi** (MPP class of 2021) B.A Honours in Public Policy and Management (2017) University of Delhi, India

"Pursing the degree is not merely for theoretical knowledge, but also the networking opportunities that help us build connections for our future career. Having a great community of fellow students and teachers makes a critical difference. The MPP program at HKUST not only teaches us to be good policy analysts, but also broadens our perspectives to see issues which would otherwise go unnoticed.



Xian ZHANG (MPP class of 2020)
Bachelor of Management in E-commerce (2012)
Shanghai University of Finance and Economics

"To make a career change, pursuing a Master's degree is an efficient way to equip me with necessary knowledge and skills. The knowledge and skills that I have gained in MPP so far, ranging from policy to economics and quantitative analysis, have cultivated my critical thinking, strategic and analytical capability!"

# INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Students with little or no prior working experience are strongly encouraged to strengthen their career preparedness and broaden their placement opportunities by taking up an optional internship during the summer between the first and second year of study. We aim at preparing students to market themselves to internship opportunities. Various training programs are available such as career development workshops for job-searching strategies and self-exploration based on every student's unique strengths and values. Our communication tutors are also here to equip students with powerful resume and cover letter writing skills, and develop business and networking skills through individual or group consultations and tutorials.

Besides, our students can pursue various internship opportunities that are regularly advertised by the Division, the university Career Center and career fairs.

The HKUST Career Center helps students to explore, plan and prepare for part-time or graduate employment. The Career Center provides students with resources, services, programs and assistance along the way. Please visit https://career.ust.hk/web/home.php for more details

Typically structured as ten weeks of full-time work in government agencies, non-profit organizations and private sector entities, such internships help students clarify their career direction, assist them to gain practical and professional experience, and enable them to establish a professional network. Organizations which had offered internships to our students in the past include but not limited to Agricultural Bank of China, EY, KPMG, Our Hong Kong Foundation, PwC, Tencent, The Young Entrepreneurs Development Council Ltd., Tianda Institute and Upper Fusion Co. Ltd., etc.





Hanz Charles PONCE ACOSTA (MPP class of 2021)

Bachelor and Licentiate Degree in Business Administration (2010)
National University of The Centre of Peru
Awardee of PRONABEC Scholarship by Peruvian Government

"I chose the MPP at HKUST because this program trains students through case analysis, essentially focuses to equip students with critical thinking abilities and propose solutions for real challenges in the society. Besides, my classmates are from different nationalities and backgrounds (engineers, administrators, accountants and more) which enhance class discussions and contribute to generate interdisciplinary solutions."

# **DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM**

We offer the option of dual degree program under which qualified MPP students will have the opportunity to spend a year studying at the Evans School of Public Policy and Governance, the University of Washington, and earn both the Master of Public Policy (MPP) from HKUST and the Global Master of Public Administration (GMPA) from the University of Washington at the end of the two years. Students in the dual degree program must be admitted to both programs at the start of their study, and they will pay the tuition fees to HKUST or University of Washington separately for the year that they study there. For details with regard to admission requirements for GMPA

program the University of Washington, the study pattern of the dual degree program, and tuition fees at the University of Washington, please visit

https://evans.uw.edu/content/global-master-public-administration. For details of Graduate School English Language Proficiency Requirements in the University of Washington, please visit

https://grad.uw.edu/policies-procedures/graduate-school-memoranda/memo-8-graduate-school-english-language-proficiency-requirements/.

Interested students are invited to email the GMPA Admissions Team at globalmpa@uw.edu





Ivy CHENG (MPP class of 2021) Bachelor of Science in Management Science, minor in Accounting (2017) University of California, San Diego

"Problem-based learning using real life cases allows me to understand world-wide social issues in various public policy approaches and in all perspectives, which sharpens my critical thinking and problem solving skills. Through analyzing the policy cases happening around the city, it keeps fostering my knowledge and further developing my interest in public policy, pushing me to become a well-rounded policy leader in today's complex world."

# THE ONLY TWO-YEAR FULL-TIME MPP PROGRAM IN HONG KONG

Our MPP is the only two-year full-time program in Hong Kong which aims to provide comprehensive professional training experience for the development of skills and competencies essential for career success. Students will also have more time to look for internship and career opportunities, and/or prepare themselves to apply for MPhil or PhD study relevant to the field of public policy in both local and overseas universities if they are interested in pursuing a research and academic career.



Wai Haang LEE (MPP class of 2021) Bachelor of Arts in International Relations (2019),

"I have gained a much wider perspective in policymaking through case studies and statistical analysis. My ability to critically think and evaluate policies has improved and at the same time developed skills that would help in my future career. Also with a wide range of students from different places, it has allowed me to view events from a broader perspective!"

# WHY STUDY PUBLIC POLICY AT HKUST?

GREATER BAY AREA (GBA) DEVELOPMENT



ENGLISH AS THE ONLY LANGUAGE FOR INSTRUCTION



GUARANTEED 12-MONTH VISA TO WORK IN HONG KONG AFTER GRADUATION



A WORLD-CLASS FACULTY





Phoebe CHAN (MPP class of 2020) BBA in Marketing (2018), The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

"MPP is a practical professional degree designed to equips us with technical skills to handle data and the ability to make well-informed judgements using quantitative and qualitative analyses. We are given opportunities to put new knowledge into practice with case scenarios, to prepare us for our future career in governance, consultancy."

Hong Kong is not only an international financial center and a gateway to Mainland China, but also a part of the Greater Bay Area (GBA) which has a GDP of US\$1.34 trillion and a population of 69 million. The development of GBA offers exciting business and career opportunities.

100% of courses in HKUST are taught in English, enabling full access to world-class teaching and research across the university.

Enabling students from outside Hong Kong to explore a myriad of training and career opportunities.

Trained in some of the best universities in the world, our faculty members have established themselves as leading scholars in their fields, and many of them have had extensive experience advising national government bodies, international organizations and major corporations.



# **FACULTY PROFILE**

# **Head, Division of Public Policy**



Prof. Xun WU
PhD in Public Policy Analysis,
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Research interests

- · Water resource management
- · Health policy
- Innovation and technology policy
- · Policy design and innovations

### **MPP Program Co-Directors**



Prof. Naubahar SHARIF
PhD in Science and Technology Studies,
Cornell University
Research interests

- Innovation and technology policy in Hong Kong and China
- · Belt and road initiative



Prof. Pengyu ZHU
PhD in Policy, Planning and Development,
University of Southern California

Research interests

- · Transportation policy
- · Economic development policy
- Housing policy
- Land use policy
- · Applications of Big Data in policymaking

# **Faculty**



Prof. Stuart GIETEL-BASTEN
PhD in Historical Demography,
University of Cambridge
Research interests

· Population and policy in Asia



Prof. Sunny Yangguang HUANG
PhD in Economics,
University of Washington
Research interests

- Industrial organization
- O L'ILL'
- Quantitative marketing
- Applied microeconomics
- Applied econometrics

### **Faculty**



Prof. Edwin LAI PhD in Economics, Stanford University Research interests

- · International economics
- · Economic growth and development
- · China economy
- · Innovation and technology policy



Prof. Gerald Roe PATCHELL
PhD in Geography,
Simon Fraser University

- Research interests
- · Sustainable development
- · Environmental economic geography



Prof. Joseph Hun-wei LEE
PhD in Civil Engineering,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Research interests

- Hydraulics / fluid mechanics
- Water resources system analysis and management
- Flooding
- · Environmental management
- · Science and technology policy



Prof. Ye QI PhD in Environmental Science, State University of New York and Syracuse University

- Research interests
- Energy
- Environment
- Climate change policy
- · Governance for sustainability



Prof. Donald How Tian LOW (Professor in Practice) Master in International Public Policy, Johns Hopkins University Research interests

- Economics and behavioral economics
- · Decision-making and risk analysis
- · Inequality and social policy
- · Complexity in public policy
- · Organizational behavior



Prof. James Ka Lei WONG
PhD in Government,
London School of Economics
Research interests

- · Environmental politics and policy
- · Theories of institutional design
- Deliberative democracy and governance



Prof. Xiaogang WU
PhD in Sociology, University of California,
Los Angeles
Research interests

- Research interests
- · Social inequality
- Social stratification
- Demography
- Gender
- Family



Prof. Kira MATUS
PhD in Public Policy,
Harvard University

Research interests

- Innovation for sustainable development
- Sustainable production and consumption /sustainable manufacturing
- · Green chemistry and engineering
- · Science advice in public policy
- · Regulation of emerging technologies
- Sustainability science



Prof. Masaru YARIME

PhD in Economics and Policy Studies of Innovation and Technological Change, Maastricht University

Research interests

- Science, technology, and innovation policy
- Public policy and institutional design for energy, environment, and sustainability
- · Innovation systems of smart cities
- Sustainability science



**Prof. Albert Francis PARK**PhD in Applied Economics,

Stanford University

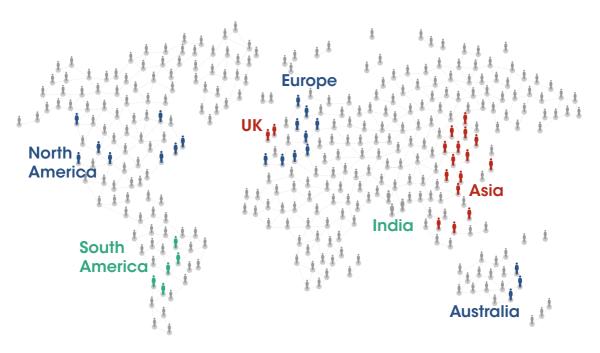
Research interests

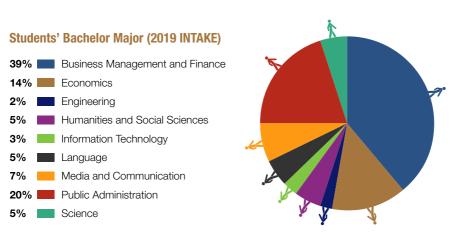
- · Applied economics
- · Development economics
- · Labor economics
- · Chinese economy

# STUDENT PROFILE

All MPP students admitted are with excellent academic background and some of them with impressive work experience. Many of our students graduated from prestigious Mainland universities, such as Peking University, Zhejiang University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Fudan University, Wuhan University, Sun Yat-Sen University. We also have students who graduated from well-known overseas universities, such as Purdue University, New York University, University of California San Diego, Arizona State University, University of British Columbia, University of Melbourne, Lancaster University, the London School of Economics and Political Science, University of Delhi and National University of the Centre of Peru. Students from major universities in Hong Kong are also represented in our MPP program.

# Students' Bachelor Degrees by Region (2018/2019 INTAKE)







Will LI (MPP class of 2020) BEng in Biomedical Engineering (2018), Shanghai Jiao Tong University

"The diversity of classes provided me with new perspectives to understand economic development and cultural diversity, enhanced my analytical skills through case studies. I believe this program is a great choice for engineering students who would like to broaden their career options by expanding their academic background and improving their problem-solving skills."



Lili NIU
(MPP class of 2021)
Bachelor of Science in Hospitality and Tourism Management (2018),
Purdue University

"This program provides the concepts and tools used in evaluating policy options and outcomes, and prepares me to face real-life cases. I can meet my professional needs by choosing one of the concentrations as well as deepening my professional and practical skills."



Jonathan CHEN (MPP class of 2021) Bachelor of Commerce in Economics and Finance (2017), University of Melbourne

"One of the most unique features of this program is its regional focus which allows me to understand the underlying political and economic rationale for most policies formulated in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area. It is really a precious experience to engage in the environment where active exchange of highly-calibrated analysis, well-organized information, and thoughtful inductions are emphasized."



# **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

# GENERAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY

- A bachelor's degree from a recognized institution, or an approved equivalent qualification
- English Language admission requirements set out by the University

Applicants must fulfill English Language requirements with one of the following proficiency attainments:

Proficiency Test	Minimum Scores
TOEFL-iBT	80*
TOEFL-pBT	550
TOEFL-Revised	60 (total scores for Reading,
paper-delivered test	Listening and Writing Sections)
IELTS	Overall score: 6.5 and
(Academic Module)	All sub-scors: 5.5

<sup>\*</sup>Refer to the total score in one single attempt

Applicants are not required to present TOEFL or IELTS score if

- their first language is English, or
- they obtained the bachelor's degree (or equivalent) from an institution where the medium of instruction was English.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- While not required, applicants are encouraged to submit their GMAT/ GRE scores.
- Interests and motivation: Applicants should make a strong case for their interest in pursuing a professional degree in public policy by submitting their statement of purpose about their interests and motivation.
- Favorable consideration will be given to applicants with relevant working experience and (or) internships.
- Selected applicants will be invited to face-to-face interviews or video conferencing/ phone interviews by the admission committee.

### TUITION FEE AND SCHOLARSHIPS

### **Tuition Fee**

HK\$260,000: This includes two years of full-time enrollment (for 48 credits total).

### **Scholarships**

Subject to funding availability, scholarships may be given to selected awardees based on academic and professional excellence. Scholarships are granted to selected students in the form of tuition reduction.

In addition, HKUST is one of the few Asian universities chosen by the Bai Xian Asia Institute (BXAI) as a partner university to offer the Asian Future Leaders Scholarship Program (AFLSP). Applicants who are non-local students from East, Southeast, and South Asia and admitted to MPP program may be considered for the scholarship program. For more details on AFLSP, please visit https://pg.ust.hk/prospective-students/scholarship-fees/asian-future-leaders-scholarship-program.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

All applicants should submit their application documents through http://pg.ust.hk/applynow to the Office of Postgraduate Studies (PGSO) of HKUST before 31st May 2020 (for both local and non-local applicants).

Early applications are strongly recommended as admissions offers will be made on a rolling basis. Late applications may be considered on a first-come-first-serve basis.

### Application Deadlines for 2020-2021 Admissions:

For applicants from Hong Kong/outside Hong Kong

31st May 2020



# **ADMISSION ENQUIRIES**

Online Enquiry Form: https://pg.ust.hk/cgi-bin/pg/eng/contact.php

# Office of Postgraduate Studies

Web: https://pg.ust.hk/Program

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong

# **Division of Public Policy**

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The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong

