HKUST MBA Exchange Program

Factsheet 2026-27

HKUSTMBA
LEARN. INNOVATE. LEAD.

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About HKUST

HKUST MBA – Learn. Innovate. Lead.

Our rigorous MBA curriculum and world-class faculty provide a unique opportunity to gain fresh perspectives on Asia's dynamic business landscape. As a globally focused research university addressing topics from environmental change to artificial intelligence, HKUST fosters an innovative mindset and entrepreneurial spirit, with a strong emphasis on the future of work.

During your exchange, you will be encouraged to think creatively, embrace new perspectives, and engage with a diverse community of future business leaders.

Visit MBA Website
mba.hkust.edu.hk

#1
MBA in Hong Kong

Financial Times Global MBA Rankings 2025

Bloomberg Businessweek Best B-Schools Rankings 2025-26

QS Global MBA Rankings 2026

LinkedIn Top MBA Programs Rankings 2025

8 or 16 Weeks
Flexible Exchange Term Options
Full-term or Half-Term

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)

Founded in 1991, HKUST has risen to international prominence in a remarkably short time,earning widespread global recognition and prestigious academic rankings. Its strategic location in Hong Kong—the heart of Asia and the gateway to China—connects students to a dynamic business and innovation ecosystem, bringing together the brightest minds to foster interdisciplinary collaboration in Asia.

Visit HKUST Website
hkust.edu.hk

1st
Asian Business School
accredited by both
AACSB & EQUIS

#1
EMBA in the World
for 12 times by Financial Times
(Kellogg-HKUST EMBA)

In Asia by The UTD Top 100
Business School Research
Rankings (2005-2024)

#3
In the World
Young University Rankings 2024
Times Higher Education

100,000+
Alumni across the world

Visit HKUST Youtube Channel www.youtube.com/@hkust

Experience Hong Kong: Asia's World City

As a premier international financial center in the heart of Asia, Hong Kong presents students with a unique blend of cultural diversity, vibrant city life, and stunning natural reserves, enriched by an East-meets-West ambience.

The city is home to numerous multinational corporations, startups, and industry events, offering countless networking opportunities. Its status as a central travel hub in Asia also makes it easy to explore neighboring regions, ensuring an unforgettable experience during your exchange.

Why Hong Kong

1. Recognized as one of the safest cities globally
2. An ideal base to explore Asia with daily flights to all key destinations in the region
3. A rich cultural tapestry blending Eastern and Western influences as a former British colony
4. Home to prestigious universities known for academic rigor and innovation
5. An efficient public transport system that makes getting around the city easy and convenient
6. A vibrant city life filled with modern amenities, offering countless shopping, dining, and entertainment options
7. An abundance of natural beauty, with easy access to scenic hiking trails, beaches, and islands for outdoor exploration
8. Multilingual culture where English is widely used alongside Cantonese and Mandarin

Connor Williams

Cornell University

“My exchange at HKUST was the highlight of my MBA experience – **Hong Kong is the most incredible city with its urban density, efficient public transit systems, incredible hiking, delicious food, and easy access to the rest of Asia and beyond.** When I wasn't in class, I had an amazing time exploring many of Hong Kong's bustling neighborhoods and completing all 10 sections of the Maclehose Trail.”

Madeline Deysine

University of California, Berkeley

“**Hong Kong is a vibrant city for discovery, and home to a mix of cultures, histories, and experiences.** The HKUST campus offers a beautiful respite from the dense hustle and bustle of Hong Kong Island. I enjoyed spending full days on campus—swimming laps in the outdoor pool, enjoying scenic walks along the bay shore, or studying with friends at the business school building. It offered everything I needed to feel at home in a new place.”

The HKUST Campus

The Lee Shau Kee Business Building

Our campuses embody the dual nature of Hong Kong's natural landscapes and metropolitan vibes, with one located in Clearwater Bay (CWB) and the other in the central business district.

Daytime classes are generally held at our Business School building overlooking the CWB campus, which spans over 60 hectares, with shuttle bus services available from nearby metro stations. You will enjoy a range of facilities, including outdoor and indoor swimming pools, a soccer field by the sea, a 5-storey library commanding a stunning coastal view, gyms, tennis courts, a supermarket, and various dining options.

Evening classes take place at our downtown campus, allowing students to experience the hustle and bustle of the world-famous financial hub, along with the vibrancy of city life.

HKUST Clearwater Bay Campus

Our MBA Community

As an exchange student, you will join the HKUST MBA community of over 450 students, including full-time participants from around the globe, as well as part-time and digital MBA students who are accomplished working professionals in Asia.

Class Size
450+

Average Age
32

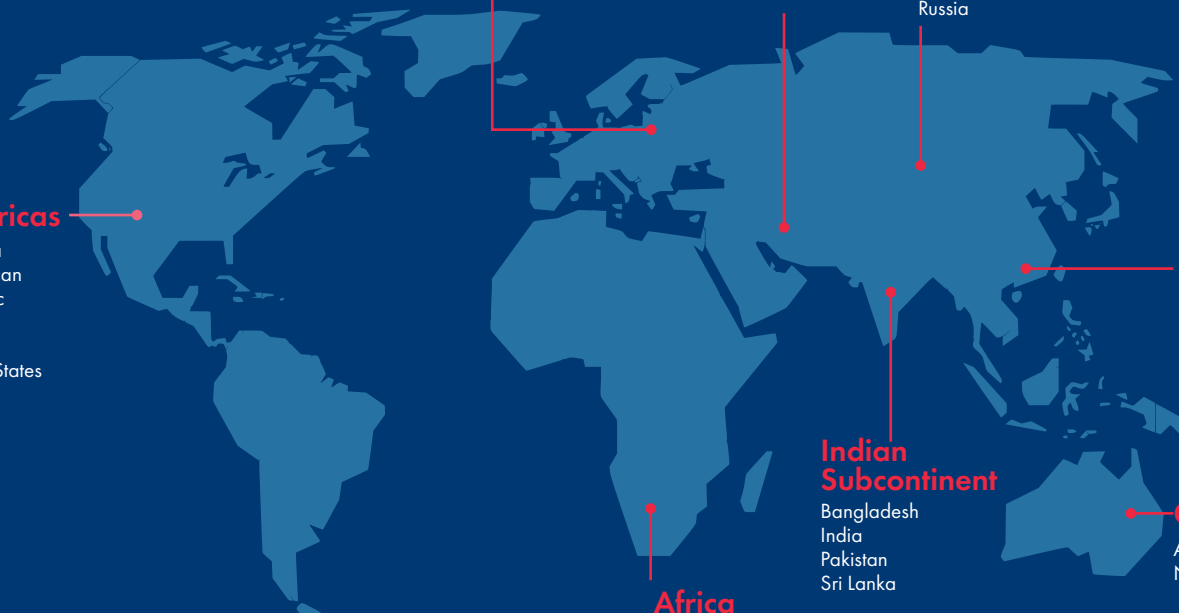
Avg. Years of Working Exp.
8

Female Students
50%

Non-Local Students
65%

Global MBA Alumni Network

The HKUST MBA program is dedicated to fostering an active, diverse, and close-knit community. During your exchange, you can participate in a variety of MBA community events, such as executive talks, alumni mixers, student club activities, and social gatherings. Upon completing your exchange, you will be part of our HKUST MBA alumni community and receive exclusive invitations to our MBA alumni events.Here are the locations where our alumni are based:



Europe
France
Germany
Hungary
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Slovakia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
United Kingdom

Middle East
Israel
Jordan
Kuwait
Lebanon
Saudi Arabia

Central Asia & Russia
Kazakhstan
Russia

North, East & Southeast Asia
Hong Kong
Indonesia
Japan
Korea
Macau
Chinese Mainland
Malaysia
Nepal
Philippines
Singapore
Taiwan
Thailand

Americas
Canada
Dominican Republic
Mexico
Peru
United States

Indian Subcontinent
Bangladesh
India
Pakistan
Sri Lanka

Oceania
Australia
New Zealand

Africa
Cameroon
Madagascar
South Africa

HKUST MBA Alumni
6,500+

HKUST Alumni
100,000+

Pre-Arrival & Welcome

Before you arrive in Hong Kong, we will host an Exchange Pre-arrival Webinar to share essential information for your preparations and course planning. You will be invited to the Welcome Day at the start of the exchange term, where you can meet fellow exchange participants and our MBA students.

A World Class Education

A diverse array of electives is available for students, integrating both academic knowledge and practical experience with our world class faculty. Exchange-in students can select diverse courses across different disciplines for a personalized learning experience at HKUST.

It takes the best teachers to bring out the best students. Our faculty includes renowned scholars from prestigious global institutions, as well as business leaders with experience at leading companies to share their valuable insights and real-life business experience.

Our Distinguished Faculty **Over 150+ Faculty from 25 Countries in HKUST**

Caroline Wang
Former Chief Marketing Officer & Chief Information Officer, IBM; MSc, Harvard University

Research and teaching focus:
Managerial Communication, Decision and Leadership

Chris Doran
Former Director of Strategic Planning And Development A.S. Watson; ex-McKinsey consultant

Research and teaching focus:
Applied Mergers and Acquisitions, Consulting

Dean He
PhD in Economics of Education, Columbia University

Research and teaching focus:
Economics of Prestige, Economics of Education, Economics of Entrepreneurship, Economics of Happiness

T. Bradford Bitterly
PhD, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, Operations, Information and Decisions

Research and teaching focus:
Negotiation, Power and Status, Trust, Communication

Stephen Lee Shih
MBA, University of California Associate Dean (MBA Programs) Former Partner, Bain & Company

Research and teaching focus:
Career Development, Leadership Development, Non-profit Management, Consulting, Business-to-business Marketing

Paul Kitney
EX-Chief Equity Strategist, Daiwa Capital Markets HK EX-investment strategist, Morgan Stanley & Blackrock

Research and teaching focus:
Global Macroeconomics, Monetary Economics and International Finance in Practice

Zachariah Brown
Ph.D. Columbia University, Organizational Behavior

Research and teaching focus:
Impression Management, Status Signaling, Linguistics, Human Peacocking

Jsideep Sengupta
PhD, University of California at Los Angeles, Management

Research and teaching focus:
Consumer Information Processing, Persuasion and Attitude Strength, Effects of Marketing Communications, Self-regulation and Self-control

Joon Nak CHOI
Ph.D. Stanford University, Sociology; Founder of Zectr and Learnovate in Hong Kong

Research and teaching focus:
Organizations and AI, Corporate Strategy and Organizational Theory, Social Network Theory, Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Stan Ho
Chief Representative of Syntao Green Finance International Ltd.

Research and teaching focus:
Fixed Income, Credit Rating, Green Finance, ESG Rating, China Capital Markets

Examples of MBA Electives

Strategy and Consulting

- Strategic AI: Transforming Business and Redefining Leadership
- Agile Leadership in the Digital Age
- Economic Development in Asia: A Practitioner's Perspective

.....and more

Business Technology and Analytics

- Transforming Business with Artificial Intelligence
- Cryptocurrency, Blockchain and Their Business Applications
- AI, Innovation, and Product Management

.....and more

Finance

- Financial Advisory and Transaction Execution for M&A
- AI and the Future of Finance
- Sustainable Finance and Reporting Strategies in Hong Kong

.....and more

Marketing

- Marketing Analytics: Driving Business Decisions
- Mastering The Customer Experience: Mapping the End-to-End Customer Journey
- Managing Creativity and Innovation

.....and more

Entrepreneurship

- Innovating via Entrepreneurship & Intrapreneurship
- Doing Tech in Asia and China
- Winning Strategies in the Digital World: Platforms, Ecosystems, and Beyond

.....and more

* The above course list is subject to change and the course offering varies for different exchange terms.

Vincent Mahloko,
HEC Paris

"Most of my courses at HKUST MBA were exceptional! The professors are top-tier and have a great sense of humor. We enjoyed a lot of giggles in the classes with them. Their wealth of industry experience adds immense value to what they teach, as they have hands-on experience in addition to their academic expertise."

Dan Santos,
University of California Berkeley

"The faculty's expertise and their ability to draw from real-world cases across the region provided invaluable insights that I couldn't have gained elsewhere. I was particularly impressed by how the program leveraged Hong Kong's unique position as a global financial hub to enrich our learning experience through guest speakers from various multinational corporations and regional powerhouses."

Vi Jun Law,
Singapore Management University

"The curriculum was well-structured and relevant, providing me with valuable insights and practical skills. The opportunity to participate in the MBA exchange program enriched my learning significantly, exposing me to diverse perspectives and cultures. I appreciated the supportive learning environment and the dedication of the faculty, which greatly enhanced my academic journey."

Apply to our Exchange Program

A diverse array of electives is available for students, integrating both academic knowledge and practical experience with our world class faculty. Exchange-in students can select courses across different disciplines for a personalized learning experience at HKUST.

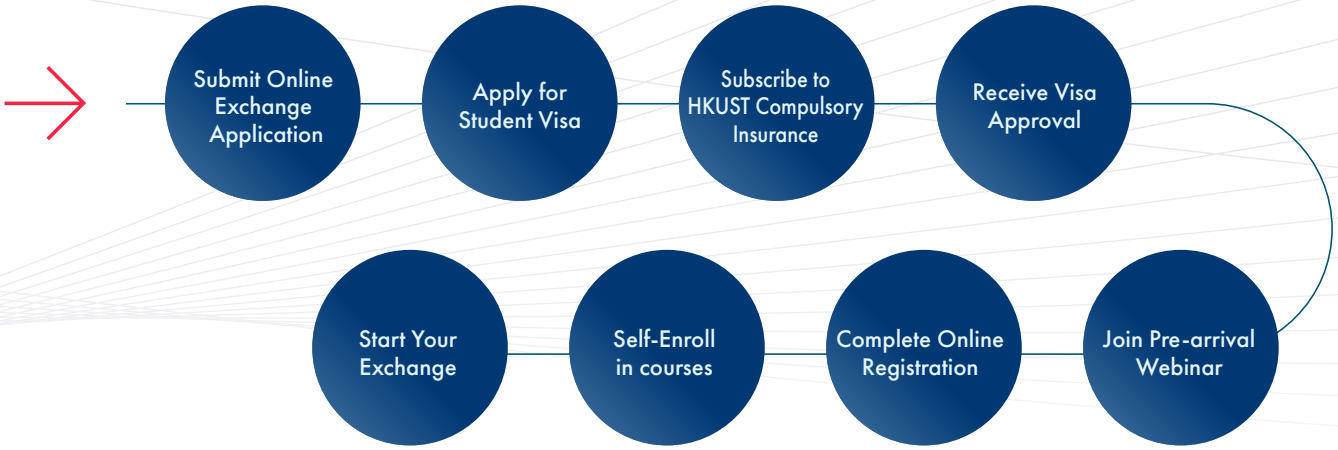
Exchange Terms & Schedules

Our Fall and Spring terms are divided into two half-terms (1st & 2nd), providing exchange students with the flexibility to choose between an 8-week Half-Term or a 16-week Full-Term exchange.

Once registered successfully in the program, students are required to arrive in Hong Kong before the term begins and complete self-enrolment of courses on the University's online system. All course quotas are on a first-come-first-served basis.

Term		Term Begins	Term Ends	Course Examinations (if any)	Self-Course Enrolment
Fall 2026	1st	Aug 24, 2026	Oct 17, 2026	Oct 10-17, 2026	From Aug 21, 2026
	2nd	Oct 26, 2026	Dec 20, 2026	Dec 12-20, 2026	
Spring 2027	1st	Jan 23, 2027	Mar 25, 2027	Mar 20-25, 2027	From Jan 19, 2027
	2nd	Mar 30, 2027	May 31, 2027	May 25-31, 2027	

Exchange Preparation Overview



Online Application

Students need to create an account and complete the exchange application via the Online Admission System by their respective deadlines. More details will be provided in the application email.

Student Visa

Most non-local students (i.e., those who are not citizens / not eligible for permanent residency in Hong Kong) are required to obtain a student visa to participate in the full-time, in-person exchange program at HKUST MBA. Please let us know in advance if your circumstances are different.

You need to send us the visa application materials as early as possible since it may take **up to 2 months** for visa approval by the Hong Kong Immigration Department. Upon approval, students will receive the E-visa label via email from the Immigration Department.

Chinese Mainland students holding PRC passports will need an additional 2-4 weeks to apply for an EEP (往來港澳通行證) and relevant exit endorsement (赴港簽注) from the relevant Mainland authorities in China on their own after the visa label is approved.

Generally, non-local exchange students holding a study visa for a specific exchange term at HKUST are not eligible to work in Hong Kong. For more information, please consult the guidelines provided by the Hong Kong Immigration Department (see Q23 on the IMMD FAQs).

Nomination Information for Exchange School Coordinators

Please provide the following details for each nominated student: Full English Name, Email Address, Gender, Nationality, and the Exchange Term.

Term	Nomination Deadline	Application Deadline
Fall 2026	Mar 30, 2026	May 20, 2026
Spring 2027	Sep 28, 2026	Oct 20, 2026

Practical Information for Your Exchange

Academic Guidelines

Language of Instruction	English
Course Structure	Each MBA course is in either 2 credits (8 sessions) or 1 credit (4 sessions). • One HKUST MBA credit = 14 class hours • Each session = 3.5 class hours Most courses have a Letter grade, except some 1-credit courses with a Pass/Fail grade only.
Class Modes & Locations	Mostly in Face-to-Face Mode at the Clear Water Bay Campus or Downtown Venues: • Weekday daytime and weekend classes—Between 9:00-18:00 normally at Lee Shau Kee Business Building on the HKUST Clear Water Bay Campus. • Weekday evening classes—Between 19:00-22:30 normally at downtown venues in Central/Admiralty on the Hong Kong Island. Some courses shared by the Digital MBA program are offered in an online format. All students enrolled in an online course are required to actively participate in the online class and turn on the camera at all times. Please check if taking an online course may affect your credit transfer. All class arrangements and delivery modes are subject to actual circumstances.
Class Formats	Lectures, computer simulations, case discussions, individual and group projects, and presentations, supplemented by industry speaker-sharing sessions in certain courses.
Attendance Policy	Class attendance is mandatory. Select your courses carefully and enroll only if you can commit. • Missing 25% of the classes will result in a one-third grade deduction. • Missing more than 25% of a course will result in a "Fail" grade or withdrawal. • Some courses may require 100% attendance.
Assessments	Exams (usually in the last week of the course, if any), projects and presentations, assignments, class work and participation, etc.
Study Loads & Options	Students need to take a minimum of 1 course at HKUST, and most students take 4 - 5 courses during their exchange. If you need more credits, please feel free to discuss with our global program team.
Enquiry & Support	Email us at mbaex@ust.hk for inquiries.

Course Grading & Transcript

In general, it takes four weeks for grades to be released after the course end date or the submission date of the final assignment, whichever is later. An official e-transcript will be sent to your home school's coordinator via email after all the grades have been received.

For courses graded with "Pass/Fail", please note that no Letter Grade will be shown on your HKUST transcript. You are strongly recommended to check with your home school if it will affect your exchange credit transfer before course enrollment.

Letter Grade	Definitions
A+, A, A-	Excellent Performance
B+, B	Good Performance
B-, C+, C	Marginal Performance
F	Failure
Others*	
I	Incomplete
P	Pass, Ungraded

Compulsory HKUST Travel Insurance

The University policy stipulates that all postgraduate studies, including exchange-in students, are required to subscribe to the HKUST Compulsory Travel Insurance Plan, on a mandatory basis, at least one month before the commencement date of the exchange period.

Please check the Application Form and Coverage of the HKUST Compulsory Travel Insurance Plan. Your insurance coverage must include the whole study period.

Off-campus Accommodation

Students have to self-arrange their accommodation during the exchange period; no on-campus hall is available. You are strongly recommended to visit the off-campus accommodation before signing a lease. A Housing Guide can be found at Off-Campus Housing.

Elective classes will take place either on the Clearwater Bay campus (normally on weekends or weekday daytime) or in downtown areas such as Central or Admiralty (on weekday evenings). Here are some recommended locations to consider for your accommodation.

Area	Near Clearwater Bay Campus	Near Downtown Areas
Locations	E.g. Hang Hau, Tseung Kwan O, Po Lam, Sai Kung, Kwun Tong, etc.	E.g. Central, Wan Chai, Quarry Bay, North Point, other stations along the Island line, etc.
Features	Just 15-20 minutes from the Clearwater Bay campus by public transportation	For proximity to downtown and business districts, and weekday evening classes at our downtown class venues on the Hong Kong Island
Monthly Rent Range	HK$15,000-22,000 for a 2-bedroom apartment in Hang Hau (400-600 sq. ft.)	HK$20,000-27,000 for a studio flat/suite

Estimated Living Expenses (per full term/4 months)

	Estimated HKD
Off-campus accommodation (shared living)	40,000
Living expenses	28,000
HKUST Compulsory Travel Insurance	1,000 (Estimated)
Books & Supplies	3,500 (Estimated)
Total	**72,500 (~US$9,300)**

Contact Us:

mba.hkust.edu.hk

(852) 2358 5980

mbaex@ust.hk

RM2011, Lee Shau Kee Business Building, HKUST, Clear Water Bay, Hong Kong

Disclaimer :

Information herein on the HKUST MBA Exchange factsheet is subject to change without prior notice. Where the circumstances require, the school reserves the right to make changes to its arrangements and offerings for the MBA exchange program.