



# JUNIOR RESEARCHER MENTORING PROGRAMME 2022

<b>Code:</b>	JRMP2022_05
<b>School / Department:</b>	School of Accounting and Finance
<b>Name of Research Leader:</b>	Dr George Wong, Associate Professor and Associate Head
<b>Research Topic:</b>	ESG Disclosure and Firm Performances
<b>Short Description of the Research Project:</b>	<p>In December 2011, HKEX issued the Consultation Paper on Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting Guide (ESG Guide hereafter), which made the first ESG reporting policy on listed companies, encouraging them to report ESG related information in the annual report (starting from the 2012 annual report).<sup>1</sup> The Guide did not restrict reporting standards.<sup>2</sup> Companies were allowed to report ESG related information in any international standards, such as GRI, CDP, ISO and DJSI. In December 2015, HKEX issued the further Guide, which made ESG report a mandatory requirement and set the reporting standard. HKEX also reported the disclosure data in the 2015 Guide. The statistics showed that 46.4% of companies had disclosed ESG information since the release of the 2011 Guide. HKEX further enhanced the standard of ESG reporting in the 2019 Guide.</p> <p>ESG disclosure plays a significant part in the relation between ESG score and firm performance.<sup>3</sup> Increasing ESG disclosure improves the accuracy of ESG scores as the</p>

	<p>scores highly rely on public information. High ESG disclosure hence increases investors' trust in ESG scores.</p> <p>As a result, ESG disclosure may influence the impact of ESG scores on firm performance.</p> <p>This project aims to explore the relationship between ESG scores and firm performance under different ESD disclosure regimes in Hong Kong.</p> <p>Prepared by:</p> <p><sup>1</sup> <a href="https://www.hkex.com.hk/-/media/HKEX-Market/News/Market-Consultations/2011-to-2015/December-2011-Consultation-Paper/Conclusions/cp201112cc_c.pdf">https://www.hkex.com.hk/-/media/HKEX-Market/News/Market-Consultations/2011-to-2015/December-2011-Consultation-Paper/Conclusions/cp201112cc_c.pdf</a></p> <p><sup>2</sup> <a href="https://www.hkex.com.hk/-/media/HKEX-Market/News/Market-Consultations/2011-to-2015/July-2015-Consultation-Paper/Consultation-paper/cp201507_c.pdf">https://www.hkex.com.hk/-/media/HKEX-Market/News/Market-Consultations/2011-to-2015/July-2015-Consultation-Paper/Consultation-paper/cp201507_c.pdf</a></p> <p><sup>3</sup> See for example, Fatemi, A., M. Glaum, and S.Kaiser. 2018. ESG performance and firm value: The moderating role of disclosure. Global Finance Journal 38: 45-64.</p>
<b>No. of Places Offered:</b>	3
<b>Frequency of Meetings:</b>	Bi-weekly
<b>Special Requirement(s):</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preferred subjects taken: Accounting, Business, Economic and Finance related subjects</li> <li>- With basic knowledge in programming (preferred but not required)</li> </ul>

*\* The information presented above is subject to change.*