Enquiries
Applications for the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme
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Other Enquiries for the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme
PolyU Research Office
Telephone: (852) 3400 3635
Email: ro.student.matters@polyu.edu.hk
Website: www.polyu.edu.hk/ro/hkphd-fellowship

Department of Applied Social Sciences (APSS), PolyU
Email: fanny.cheng@polyu.edu.hk

Further information
Research Grants Council, Hong Kong www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd
Research Office, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University www.polyu.edu.hk/ro
Department of Applied Social Sciences www.polyu.edu.hk/apss
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
PolyU is a government-funded university in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China. We have the largest number of students among the eight government-funded institutions in Hong Kong, and have a long and proud history of providing internationally competitive professionally oriented education. We conduct world-class research in a large number of areas and our research emphasises high application value.

With a strategic emphasis on research and innovation, the University firmly believes that research is an integral part of academic life. It informs teaching and advances the frontiers of knowledge and technology, thus enhancing the competitiveness of business and industry and facilitating Hong Kong’s move towards being a knowledge-based economy. At PolyU, we are delighted that our ideas have made the world we live in a better place.

Department of Applied Social Sciences (APSS)
APSS had its beginning in 1973 as one of Hong Kong’s first institutes for training front-line social workers. In 1977 it became the School of Social Work before it was further transformed into a multidisciplinary Department of Social Studies in 1986. Four years later it was renamed as Department of Applied Social Sciences when it was expanded to incorporate the disciplines of social work, social policy and administration, sociology, psychology and philosophy. As present, it offers a Research Postgraduate Programme attracting growing numbers of international students from countries including Italy, France, Czech Republic, Australia, Germany, Spain, Ghana, the Philippines and the US.

APSS is committed to serving the community through the dynamic integration of education, research and service through its applied social science research. APSS’s position as a large social sciences department with diverse areas of interest and expertise under one roof, and its location within a health and social science faculty, offers an advantageous position in inter-disciplinary research networks and initiatives. APSS research is characterised by

• A strong emphasis on social needs and policy relevant research;
• A commitment to enhancing social betterment and improving the well-being of individuals, children, families and disadvantaged groups in our community;
• A preference for collaborative work with partnering institutions in Hong Kong, China and the region; and
• A commitment to developing theories of indigenous knowledge and practices.

PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS)
Background of HKPFS
Established by the Research Grants Council (*RGC) of Hong Kong in 2009, the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS) aims at attracting the best and brightest students in the world to pursue their PhD studies in Hong Kong.

*RGC is a non-statutory advisory body, established under the aegis of the University Grants Committee (UGC), responsible for advising the Government on the needs of Hong Kong’s higher education institutions in academic research matters and for the distribution of funding for academic research projects.

Eligibility
Candidates who are seeking admission as new full time PhD students in Hong Kong, irrespective of their country of origin and ethnic background.

The Fellowship
• The Fellowship offers the awardee an annual stipend of HK$301,200 (~ US$38,600) and a conference and research-related travel allowance of HK$12,600 (~ USD1,600) per year up to three years.
• In addition, PolyU will provide each PhD Fellow with tuition scholarship for the entire normal study period.

Selection Criteria
Selection Panel
• Applications, subject to the areas of studies, will be reviewed by two Selection Panels with experts in the broad areas, one for science, medicine, engineering and technology and one for humanities, social sciences and business studies.

Selection Criteria
• While academic excellence is the primary consideration, the Selection Panels will take into account, but not limited to, the following areas in the selection of candidates:
  • Academic excellence;
  • Research ability and potential;
  • Communication and interpersonal skills; and
  • Leadership abilities.

Key Dates
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Sept 2018 (at 12 noon, HK time) to 1 Dec 2018 (at 12 noon, HK time)</td>
<td>Applications should first submit initial applications via RGC system to obtain a HKPFS reference number</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Dec 2018 (at 11:59 pm HK time)</td>
<td>Deadline for submission of full applications to PolyU via eAdmission (<a href="https://www.polyu.edu.hk/admission">https://www.polyu.edu.hk/admission</a>)</td>
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<td>Dec 2018</td>
<td>Short-listed applicants will be contacted for interviews</td>
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<td>End March/early April 2019</td>
<td>Notification of results by RGC</td>
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