

Fact Sheet on the Application for the
BA (Hons)/BSc (Hons) Scheme in Language Sciences, Translation, and Speech Therapy
(Academic Year 2023/24)

1. Programme introduction

Founded in 1937, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University is a government-funded public institution. As one of the departments under the Faculty of Humanities, the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies (CBS) offers a 4-year undergraduate scheme, namely **BA (Hons) / BSc (Hons) Scheme in Language Sciences, Translation and Speech Therapy**. The Scheme comprises one of the following awards: the **BA (Hons) in Linguistics and Translation**; the **BSc (Hons) in Language Sciences and Analytics**; and the **BSc (Hons) in Speech Therapy**.

Students admitted to the Scheme study a common curriculum in Year One and complete their chosen programme (one of the above three) over the following 3 years. Students are asked to rank their choices of Major programme in order of preference by the end of Semester 2 of Year One for the consideration of and approval by the CBS. The decision to admit a student to a Major programme is made by the CBS based on the student's choice and their GPA of all discipline-specific requirement subjects at the end of their first year studies. An intake quota may apply.

BA (Hons) in Linguistics and Translation (BALT)

Programme Aims

- To train language-related professionals in our knowledge-rich and highly connected world with special focus on biliterate and trilingual proficiency;
- To endow our graduates with highly sophisticated communication skills, especially in terms of cultural and linguistic sensitivity in intercultural and corporate communication; interpersonal skills and empathy in face-to-face interaction as well as digital communication and the technological savvy to address the complex needs and challenges of today's media landscape;
- To equip our graduates with a general knowledge of the underlying concepts and profession-specific literacy skills in linguistics, speech sciences, translation and interpreting, and corporate communication; and
- To equip our graduates with competence in data analytics involving linguistic and textual data, and the ability to identify, analyse and evaluate relevant trends and information using effective linguistic analytic methods.



Programme Characteristics

- Leveraging the combined strengths of linguistics and translation to create a synergy of theory, application and professional training.
- Capitalising on advanced information and communication technologies (ICT) to train language-related professionals across a wide range of professions (e.g. translation and interpreting, the IT industry, language policy making, language teaching, and publishing).
- Possible enrolment to a dual degree programme with The Shanghai Jiao Tong University (admission on a competitive basis)^.

^ Subject to University approval

Medium of Instruction

English and Chinese*

**Putonghua by default; Cantonese used only in elective subjects on the Cantonese language*

BSc (Hons) in Language Sciences and Analytics (BSCLSA)

Programme Aims

- To train language and knowledge professionals for our information-rich and highly connected world and the era of digital humanities.
- To endow our graduates with highly sophisticated communication skills, especially in terms of culture and domain sensitivity in intercultural and corporate communication; inter-personal skills and empathy in face-to-face communication as well as over digital media; and technological know-how to master current and future new media.
- To equip our graduates with general knowledge of the underlying concepts and profession-specific literacy and skills in linguistics and bilingual communication.
- To train our graduates in utilising analytic tools, performing and presenting quantitative analyses on language data, and extracting useful information from large-scale language datasets with complex scales.
- To empower our graduates with the ability to create, adapt and utilise language-related applications and tap into advances in artificial intelligence research.



Programme Characteristics

- The programme provides students with interdisciplinary training in areas including language sciences, quantitative data analytics, computer programming and computational linguistics.
- To nurture a deep understanding of how language works (in an individual and in a society) and foster familiarity with the concepts of digital humanities and the tools and methods of collecting and analysing language data in the digital era.
- To strengthen skills in analysing social sentiments, spotting trends in the making, generating predictions and providing insight for business and/or administrative decision making.

Medium of Instruction

English and Chinese*

*Putonghua by default; Cantonese used only in elective subjects on the Cantonese language

BSc (Hons) in Speech Therapy (BSBST)

Programme Aims

- To produce collaborative practice-ready speech therapists with the ability to practise speech therapy safely and effectively in the areas of speech, language, voice, fluency and swallowing with children and adults presenting with developmental and acquired communication disorders and swallowing disabilities.
- To equip students with the professional and academic knowledge base, clinical and research skills, and attitudes and ethics required to function effectively as entry-level speech therapists.
- To cultivate graduates who are able to practise as speech therapists in Hong Kong and serve as speech therapy advocates in mainland China and the Macau SAR.



Programme Characteristics

- The curriculum offers a unique approach to education and training in Cantonese, Mandarin and English, addressing speech therapy in both Chinese and bilingual contexts. A hybrid teaching and learning approach is adopted: traditional lectures are conducted in the first year, and the problem-based learning (PBL) approach is adopted in the second year.

- The curriculum of this undergraduate programme builds on the success of our self-financed Master of Speech Therapy programme, with added emphases on interdisciplinary approaches to rehabilitation and evidence-based practice underpinned by the latest research conducted at CBS.
- The teaching team is composed of academic and teaching staff with considerable teaching experience, proven research track records and extensive clinical expertise.
- Accreditation for the programme will be sought from the Hong Kong Institute of Speech Therapists (HKIST), the local professional body responsible for regulating the speech therapy profession and conducting Institution-based Assessment for Speech Therapy Education Programmes in Hong Kong under the Accredited Registers Scheme for Healthcare Professions, Department of Health, Hong Kong.

Medium of Instruction

English[#]

[#]Supplemented by Cantonese and Mandarin for Cantonese-speaking and Mandarin-speaking clients in clinical placements

Recognition

Contingent on successful accreditation of the programme by the Hong Kong Institute of Speech Therapists (HKIST), BScST graduates will be qualified to practise as registered speech therapists in Hong Kong.

2. Career prospects

BA (Hons) in Linguistics and Translation (BALT)

With their strong language proficiency and competence in technology, BALT graduates can pursue careers in various professions, local and overseas, including but not limited to the following:

- Linguistic research
- Translation/interpreting
- Administration and management
- Education
- Corporate communication
- Language data analysis
- Digital/social media content creation and editing
- Social/cultural analysis
- Editing and publishing
- Civil service
- Marketing and sales



BSc (Hons) in Language Sciences and Analytics (BSCLSA)

The programme produces graduates who can make meaningful contributions to various sectors of society (e.g. business development, marketing, journalism and media, education, academic research, and public services) by analysing social sentiments, spotting trends in the making, generating predictions and providing insight for business and/or administrative decision making.



BSc (Hons) in Speech Therapy (BSST)

Graduates are equipped to practise as speech therapists in different service settings in Hong Kong, such as the Hospital Authority, non-government organisations, special and mainstream schools, private clinics, as well as other community service providers.



3. Admission and language requirements for non-local students

- a. Qualifications meeting the general minimum entrance requirements of PolyU will be considered.

GCE A-level / International A-level	GCE Advanced Level or International Advanced Level with passes in 3 AL, OR 2 AL and 2 AS subjects
International Baccalaureate (IB)	A minimum score of 24 with at least grade 4 in 2 Higher Level subjects
Other non-local qualifications	Please refer to the guidelines on non-local qualifications of PolyU

- b. Non-local applicants are also required to meet the following English language requirement:
- TOEFL score of 80 for the Internet-based test⁺ or 550 for the paper-based test; OR
 - An overall Band Score of 6 in IELTS
- ⁺*PolyU does not accept MyBest™ Score as meeting the English language requirement.*
- c. Applicants are invited to attend an interview, accompanied by a possible written test in English and Chinese, to evaluate their potential/suitability for admission to the programme, and to examine their communication skills and interest in the field of study.
- d. To be considered for the BSc (Hons) in Speech Therapy on a competitive basis by the end of their Year 1 studies, students should be able to communicate verbally in both Cantonese and English effectively; proficiency in Mandarin (Putonghua) is preferred.
- e. Applicants holding alternative qualifications with outstanding academic result and good interview performance may be given a conditional offer of guaranteed admission into a programme of their choice (from Year 2 to Year 4). This will be conducted on a case-by-case basis. Other than ‘guaranteed’ admission cases, priority of programme choice from Year 2 to Year 4 will be based on the students’ GPA of all discipline-specific requirement subjects at the end of their first year studies.
- f. The option of a Secondary Major in AI and Data Analysis is available to the students in the BA (Hons) in Linguistics and Translation and BSc (Hons) in Language Sciences and Analytics[^] programmes. Admission to a secondary major is on competitive basis and subject to different credit requirements for graduation.

[^] *Subject to University approval*

4. Entry Scholarship

Assessed on admission and interview scores, non-local applicants admitted to the BA (Hons)/BSc (Hons) Scheme in Language Sciences, Translation, and Speech Therapy may be granted scholarship ranging from a one-off to full scholarship amount.

- Full scholarship**[@]: HKD 152,500 - 205,000 per year (~USD 19,400-26,100; for 4 years)
- Half scholarship**[@]: HKD 72,500 per year (~USD 9,200; for 4 years)
- One-off scholarship**[@]: HKD 72,500 (~USD 9,200)

[@]*Subject to review*

5. Enquiry

- Phone: +852 2766 7463
- Email: cbs.enquiry@polyu.edu.hk
- Website: <https://polyu.hk/azpEa>



[Front]

BA (Hons) Scheme in English and Applied Linguistics (JS3240)

Programme overview

Mode of attendance: Full-time

Duration: 4 years

No. of credits required for graduation: A minimum of 126 academic credits (including 3 training credits)

The Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Scheme in English and Applied Linguistics (BAEAL) aims to nurture graduates with the abilities/attributes needed to become competent English language professionals and responsible global citizens in the 21st century. The programme aims to produce graduates with:

- a high level of competence in English;
- a sound understanding of the theoretical disciplines underlying applied English language studies and the integrated use of the language; and
- the strong ability to apply their knowledge and general linguistic skills in a variety of professional communication contexts.

The 4-Year Curriculum

General University Requirements (GUR) [30 credits]

The general education curriculum of PolyU consists of the below six components. These components are mandatory for all students.

Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics Requirement	
Language and Communication Requirements	Innovation and Entrepreneurship Requirement
Leadership Education and Development	Cluster Area Requirements
Service-Learning	Healthy Lifestyle (non-credit bearing)

Discipline-specific Requirements (DSR) [75 credits + 3 training credits]

The BAEAL strives to provide students with a solid foundation in the knowledge and skills necessary to communicate effectively in English for professional, academic, and business purposes in Hong Kong and around the world. The BAEAL discipline-specific curriculum includes the following components:

(1) BAEAL core subjects [60 credits]

Focal area	Example subjects
Language Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Introduction to the Study of Language▪ English Lexis and Semantics▪ Language in Social Contexts▪ Language Acquisition and Psycholinguistics
Global Communicative Competence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Introduction to English-Speaking Cultures▪ English for Academic Communication▪ English for Technical and Web-based Writing▪ English as a Global Lingua Franca
English for the Professions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Communication Skills at Work▪ English Discourse in the Professions▪ English for Management▪ Capstone Project for Language Studies ^

^ The Capstone Project for Language Studies (6 credits) is compulsory for all BAEAL students. It is conducted in the final year under the supervision of academic staff of the Department of English and Communication.

(2) BAEAL elective subjects [15 credits]

Students can freely choose BAEAL electives (15 DSR credits) across the three focal areas to customize their learning experience and develop their expertise.

(3) Work-Integrated Education (WIE) [3 training credits]

Secondary Major [36 credits]

The option of a Secondary Major in AI and Data Analytics (AIDA) is available to BAEAL students. Admission to the Secondary Major is on a competitive basis and is subject to different credit requirements for graduation. Students who pursue this pathway will complete 72 academic credits + 3 training credits for the Primary Major (BAEAL) and 36 credits for the Secondary Major. The major difference is in the capstone project: students will complete an integrated capstone project (involving both BAEAL and AIDA) instead of the BAEAL regular capstone. The minimum credit requirement of BAEAL + AIDA is at least 132 credits.

Free Electives/Minor [18 credits]

Free elective subjects from any PolyU academic departments, including the Department of English and Communication, OR a Minor from a PolyU academic department.

A Double Major in English and Applied Linguistics and Linguistics and Translation is also possible (168 credits plus 3 training credits).

[Back]

Student exchange programmes

Students can apply for credit-earning student exchange programmes and study for a semester overseas at one of our partner universities in mainland China, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden, or an English-speaking country.

Recognition by the Education Bureau of Hong Kong

The programme is recognised by the Education Bureau and its Standing Committee on Language Education and Research as an English Language Major Degree Programme which meets the **Hong Kong Government's Language Proficiency Requirement**. Registered students are eligible to apply for the **Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers** offered by the Education Bureau. The Scholarship for non-local students is HK\$80,000 per year.

Your study options

- Single discipline major: 4 years (123 credits + 3 WIE training credits)
- Major/minor option with English as the Major and a Minor from another discipline: 4 years (123 credits + 3 WIE training credits)
- Secondary major: BAEAL and Secondary Major in AI and Data Analytics: 4 years (132 credits + 3 WIE training credits)
- Double majors: BAEAL and BA (Hons) in Linguistics and Translation: 4 years (168 credits + 3 WIE training credits)

Career prospects

Graduates of the Department of English and Communication are successful in their careers and excel in various industries and professions in Hong Kong. Fresh graduates find employment in media and journalism, retail, human resources, public relations, marketing and advertising, publishing, education, and the civil service, and anywhere else where a high level of competence in English and professional communication is needed.

According to PolyU's 2021 Graduate Employment Survey, 93% of our graduates were employed full-time within their year of graduation or pursued further studies. The average starting salary of our graduates is the highest among all degree programmes offered by the Faculty of Humanities.

Further studies

Some of our graduates pursue further studies in Hong Kong or abroad in the fields of linguistics, applied linguistics, translation and interpreting, speech therapy, social work, communication, or public and environmental policy studies.

Entrance requirements (non-local qualifications)

(1) International Qualifications (non-country specific)

- GCE A-level/International A-level: With passes in 3 AL, OR 2 AL and 2 AS, subjects
- International Baccalaureate (IB): A minimum score of 24 with at least grade 4 in 2 Higher Level subjects
- A list of other regional qualifications (e.g., GSAT, UEC, etc.) accepted by PolyU can be found at: <http://www51.polyu.edu.hk/eprospectus/ug/international/guidelines-on-non-local-qualifications>

(2) English Language Requirements

- A Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 80 for the Internet-based test or 550 for the paper-based test; OR
- An overall Band Score of 6 in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS); OR
- Grade C/Grade 4 or above in GCE O-Level/GCSE/IGCSE English/English Language/English Literature; OR
- Grade 4 in English or English Literature at International Baccalaureate (IB).

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an individual interview to evaluate their potential for and interest in the programme and to test their language and communication skills.

Enquiries

General Office, Department of English and Communication
Tel: 852-3400-3497
Email: zoe.mak@polyu.edu.hk
Website: <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/engl/BAEAL>

Student/Alumni Sharing

“The supportive community in the Department fosters the growth of all its students, helping us to develop essential skills, such as academic writing skills and intercultural communicative competence, and provides us with a strong foundation in linguistics to ensure we are ready for a diverse array of career opportunities.”

Ashima SHUKLA (India)
Current BA student (2019 – 2020 Cohort)

“The Department is an inclusive community where the professors are approachable and extremely friendly. My studies centred around English linguistics and communication which helped me to realise my interests in languages for my further study in Linguistics.”

Amy Chenzi XU (Mainland China)
PhD (General Linguistics) student at University of Oxford (BA Graduate of 2015)

QR codes (images only)

Entrance requirements

BAEAL @PolyU

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Scheme in Chinese History and Culture

中國歷史及文化(榮譽)文學士組合課

The degree programme, designed to blend the traditional and the modern, the conceptual and the application-oriented, equips students with knowledge in Chinese history and culture which they can apply in their career and other personal skills that they can use to make effective contribution to the government, economy and society of Hong Kong, China and the rest of the world.

Programme Curriculum

- ◇ **General University Requirement (GUR) - 30 credits**
- ◇ **Capstone Project - 3 credits**
- ◇ **Work-Integrated Education (WIE) - 3 credits**
- ◇ **Discipline Specific Language - 4 subjects/12 credits**
- ◇ **Core Subjects - 7 subjects / 21 credits**
- ◇ **Area Specific Subjects - 18 subjects/54 credits :**
 - Specific Area 1: History and Institutions
 - Specific Area 2: Thought and Religion
 - Specific Area 3: Literature and Arts
 - Specific Area 4: Environment and Society
 - Specific Area 5: Science, Technology and Culture
 - Specific Area 6: Cultural and Heritage Management

Scheme Overview

Mode of Study:

Full-time

Normal Duration:

4 Years

Medium of Instruction:

Chinese (Putonghua) & English

Tuition Fees:

HK\$145,000 per academic year

Entry Scholarships:

Scholarships are available for outstanding international admittees based on academic or non-academic achievements with an amount up to HK\$195,000 per academic year.

Career Prospects

Our graduates can be well suited for a wide range of professions in the private and public sectors, for example:

- ◆ Art and Cultural Administration & Management
- ◆ Teaching/Education
- ◆ Media and Publication
- ◆ Social Service and Cultural Organization
- ◆ Cultural Department in Government or Private Institution
- ◆ Advertising & Marketing
- ◆ Literary & Creative Work

Admission Requirement

On the basis of A-Level qualifications :

- ◆ E in 3 A-Level subjects OR E in 2 A-Level and 2 AS-Level subjects; AND
- ◆ Satisfy the English Language Requirement* and the Chinese Language Requirement@

On the basis of International Baccalaureate (IB):

- ◆ A minimum score of 24 with at least grade 4 in 2 Higher Level (HL) subjects; AND
- ◆ Satisfy the English Language Requirement* and the Chinese Language Requirement@

On the basis of other qualifications:

Please refer to [Guidelines on Non-local Qualifications](#) of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

*** English Language Requirement:**

- ◇ meeting the requirements of the University

@ Chinese Language Requirement :

- ◇ Grade E or above in GCE A-level; or
- ◇ Level 5 or above in Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK); or
- ◇ Grade 4 or above in IB Chinese Language subject; or
- ◇ the equivalent.

Interview:

Applicants may be invited to f2f or online interview for the selection process.

Student Exchange Programmes

Undergraduate students have the opportunity to attend one of our partner institutions (e.g. Peking University, Fudan University, Taiwan University, Simon Fraser University, National University of Singapore, University of Liverpool, etc). The credits earned from the partner institutions may fulfill the academic requirements for BACHC.



Work- integrated Education (WIE)

Students will be required to participate in Work-Integrated Education (WIE) to satisfy the requirement of before graduation. These WIE activities aim to provide the framework for students to integrate what they learn in the classroom with what they learn in the real world.

A wide range of opportunities, both local or offshore, part-time or full-time as well as in different areas will be provided. Including but not limited to Journalism, Art and Museum Work, Public Relations and Marketing, Publishing, Creative Work, non-governmental organization (NGO).

Possible Pathways

The programme offers the following two academic pathways:

The Single Discipline Major Pathway:

BACHC as the single degree programme .

The Major and Minor Pathway:

BACHC as the Major programme and a Minor programme offered by another department/faculty/school at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University .



Enquiries

For academic matters, please contact :

Programme Leader

Dr. PAN Lu

lu.pan@polyu.edu.hk

For general information, please contact :

Department of Chinese Culture

Telephone: (852) 3400 8949

Email: cc.general.usage@polyu.edu.hk

Website: <https://www.polyu.edu.hk/cc/>