

**Dual PhD Degree Programme
between
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU)
and
Loughborough University (LU)**



The Dual PhD Degree Programme between PolyU and LU applies to **all fields of study common to both universities**. Please refer to the websites below for the research postgraduate programmes offered by [PolyU](#) and [LU](#).

A. Programme Features

Under this Programme, students must complete a minimum of 18 months of study at LU and allocate at least half of the normal study period at PolyU. Students will be guided by supervisors from both universities and be examined to the standards of both. Upon successful completion of the programme, students will receive two PhD degrees (one from PolyU and one from LU).

B. Eligibility

The Programme will be open to eligible applicants at PolyU and LU, or students within the first 12 months of their enrolment at PolyU.

C. Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfil the admission requirements set by both [PolyU](#) and [LU \(see research area\)](#).

D. Application Procedure and Timeline

Applications must be made to **both** PolyU and LU. The admission decision will be made jointly by both universities.

1. Application to PolyU: [RPgAdmission System](#)

Application Process

Please select Dual PhD Degree Programmes in the Programme Section and indicate either PolyU or LU as the Home University.

Details of the application process are available here: [Apply for Research Studies](#).

Study Plan

Applicants are required to submit the study plan using [GSB/J4A](#) in the system. (Applicants are expected to study at the Home University and fulfil the residence requirement before studying at the Host University. For PolyU 4-year PhD students, they will be expected to register initially at PolyU for the first 12-month period before commencing their formal registration at LU. For other students, they will be expected to register concurrently at both universities.)

Scholarships

PolyU will conduct a University Selection Panel in April every year to select candidates for the university's centrally funded scholarships. **Candidates interested in the university's centrally funded scholarship should apply to PolyU by 31 January and communicate with their potential supervisor for nomination.** The result will be announced normally by the end of June.

For the supervisor-funded scholarships or self-funded scholarships, candidates can refer to the application period [here](#) for the **September Entry**. Please click [here](#) to view the application deadline for individual programmes.

Application Procedures for Current PolyU Students:

Current PolyU full-time Year 1 PhD students are eligible to apply for the Programme. Please submit an [application form](#) to PolyU and apply to LU via the application system.

2. Application to LU:

Please [apply online](#) using the Loughborough application portal.

Please refer to the LU-PolyU Dual PhD in the ‘Proposed Research Topic’ section of the form and provide the name of any potential supervisor you have made contact with.

Study Plan

Due to the taught component requirement at PolyU, LU expects all students to complete the required study period at PolyU before the LU component. A minimum of 18 months residence must be completed at LU.

Scholarships

Candidates interested in an LU scholarships should apply to LU by the end of January and communicate with their potential supervisor and academic school for nomination to the Doctoral College.

E. Fees and Scholarships

Dual PhD candidates of this programme are required to pay miscellaneous student fees (such as examination fee and continuation fee) to PolyU (details are available [here](#)) and LU (details available [here](#)).

1. For Students with PolyU as Home University

Tuition Fees: The student shall pay the tuition fees to PolyU, including during the study period at LU. Tuition fees to LU will only be due when resident at LU.

Scholarships: Scholarships will be provided to Dual PhD students in accordance with PolyU regulations during their studies at PolyU. PolyU scholarships will be suspended when the student is studying at LU. The award of the scholarships will be made known to students with the admission offers.

Dual PhD students will generally be awarded PolyU Research Postgraduate Scholarship (PRPgS). Please refer to the details of the respective scholarship packages [here](#). Candidates who have outstanding academic performance or proven research records may apply for the [Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme](#). LU will determine the funding package available to the student during the study period at LU.

2. For Students with LU as Home University

Tuition fees: The students shall be liable to pay tuition fees to LU when resident at LU.

Scholarships: The financial assistance received by a student will be made known to students with the admissions offers. Students who are successful in securing a studentship from LU will receive a stipend and a tuition fee discount whilst at LU. PolyU will determine the funding package available to the student during the study period at PolyU.

F. Thesis and Examination

Students are required to submit a single thesis written in English for assessment with the approval of the supervisors of both Universities. The thesis will be submitted for review separately according to the requirements of the two Universities. Students are required to submit their thesis to both universities by the end of the maximum study period, whichever date comes first. As a general rule, the Student is expected to defend their thesis at the Home University. The examination can be conducted through video

or teleconferencing subject to the agreement of all parties. Chief Supervisors from both universities must attend the oral examination.

G. Award of Degree

Upon successful completion of the programme, students will receive two PhD degrees (one from PolyU and one from LU). Each parchment will acknowledge the dual nature of the award and the name of both Universities.

H. Enquiry

PolyU: gs.jep@polyu.edu.hk

LU: p.g.research@lboro.ac.uk