HKUST Postgraduate Admission – Guangzhou (GZ) Pilot Scheme

Details at pg.ust.hk/gz

1. Intake target for Fall 2020
   1.1. We target admitting 150 highly qualified students into our PhD and MPhil programs under the GZ Pilot Scheme. The admission requirements and standard are the same as other programs currently being offered in the Clear Water Bay campus.
   1.2. Upon satisfactory completion of the program, a student will be conferred the HKUST degree.

2. Application for admission in Fall 2020
   2.1. Application deadline: 15 March 2020
   2.2. Online application: details at pg.ust.hk/gz
   2.3. Application fee: HK$180 per program
   2.4. Program choice
      • New programs to be offered by the Thrust Areas are pending Senate’s approval. In the meantime, applicants apply for admission to programs currently being offered in the Clear Water Bay campus in Hong Kong. Students admitted may switch into the respective new program once it is approved.
      • MPhil applicants will have to choose MPhil in Individualized Interdisciplinary Program (IIP).
      • You are required to indicate the Thrust Area that you would like to join.
      • The provision of names of proposed supervisors is optional. The Thrust will discuss with shortlisted candidates and help them identify suitable supervisors.
      • For application for PhD in Humanities and PhD in Social Science, please write to your respective Hubs to help enable your application to be submitted beyond the published deadline.
   2.5. Declaration of interest in joining the GZ Pilot Scheme
      • Please check the box in the “Program Choice” section in the online application to confirm your wish to be considered for GZ Pilot Scheme admission.
      • If you have already submitted an application without checking the box, please write to the respective thrusts. Please clearly state that you authorize the University to check the box and indicate a Thrust Area that is of interest to you.
   2.6. Multiple applications (allowable but in general not encouraged)
      • We do hope that you have already had a clear idea of your research interest and the program choice. However, if you wish to submit more than one application, it is allowable. For example, if you have submitted an application for MPhil (Chemistry) and would now also like to be considered under MPhil (Individualized Interdisciplinary Program) for GZ Pilot Scheme admission, you may submit another application. In that
case, you have to pay another application fee and the applications will be considered independently.

2.7. **Research Proposal**

- To be considered for admission under the GZ Pilot Scheme, you are required to provide an interdisciplinary research proposal.
- Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an interview, in person or online, by the admission committee.

2.8. **Degree requirement for PhD admission**

- It is possible for an applicant holding a bachelor's degree to be admitted to a PhD program provided that the applicant can demonstrate excellent academic ability and research potential. The normative period of a PhD study will be 4 years.
- For students with a relevant research master’s degree (normally MPhil), the normative period of a PhD study will be 3 years.

2.9. **English Admission Requirements**

- If your IELTS/TOEFL score is not yet available by 15 March 2020, you can provide the scheduled test date in the online admission system, then update the score and upload the document when it becomes available.
- The Admission Committee will consider issuing a conditional offer to suitable candidates requiring a certain IELTS/TOEFL score to be attained.
- Applicants who have obtained a degree from a university where the medium of instruction was English are considered having met the English Admission Requirements.

2.10. **Program completion and dates of degree conferment**

- If you are considered as a suitable candidate who is about to complete your bachelor’s degree, the Admission Committee will consider issuing a conditional offer.
- For applicants who will complete their program in May or June 2020, we understand that some universities may officially confer the degree only in October or November 2020. If there is an official document from the university confirming that the applicant has completed the degree program achieving the required attainments, we will confirm the offer and allow the new student to proceed to register.

2.11. **Supporting documents**

- Please upload a scanned copy to the online admission system. There is no need to send in original, printed copies at this stage.

3. **Tuition fee**

3.1. Currently, all research postgraduates pay an annual tuition fee of HK$42,100. The tuition in the GZ campus will be comparable, pending final approval from the University.

4. **Studentship**

4.1. All students selected for admission under the GZ Pilot Scheme will be granted studentships. You do not need to submit another application for studentship. The studentship will be at the same level as other students on the Clear Water Bay campus.
4.2. The postgraduate studentship (PGS) is HK$18,030 per month for 2020/21.

4.3. PGS for students moving over to the HKUST(GZ) will be comparable, pending final approval from the University.

5. University housing

5.1. In the initial year(s) when Pilot Scheme students are housed on the Clear Water Bay campus, we will follow the existing policy to provide university housing in the first two years of the research postgraduate studies. Students who take up a place in the university housing will pay the prevailing rental fees.

5.2. We plan to provide on campus accommodation to all HKUST(GZ) research postgraduate students when the new campus is open in September 2022.

Hub inquiries

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Additional information may be added to this information sheet as needed at a later stage.