The University of Hong Kong

Induction for Freshmen in Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science
August 2020
(Zoom Meeting)
Your Degree

• Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science
  – BSc(Actuarial Science)
  – BSc(ActuarSc)
  – BSc(AC)

• Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science

• Faculty of Science (6 Departments/School)

• The University of Hong Kong (10 Faculties)
First Year Experience

- [https://www.fye.hku.hk/](https://www.fye.hku.hk/)
SYLLABUSES (MAJORS, MINORS & COURSES)

This online undergraduate syllabuses and regulations system provides you with the most updated information on the full list of courses and their description, and details on the Science majors and minors. Departmental websites may also provide details on majors, minors and courses offered by the Schools/Departments.

Check Course Details

Check Science Major / Minor / Programme Structure

Check Capstone Requirements for Each Major / Programme

Past Syllabuses and Regulations (2019 - 2020 or before)

Admission Year → 2020
→ Programme
→ BSc in Actuarial Science
Remarks:

- Core: MUST take (compulsory)
- 1 course = 6 credits
- 240 credits = graduation
- Study 8 semesters
  - including exchange
  - excluding internship
- 1 semester = 30 credits = 5 courses
- 1 year = 60 credits = 10 courses
- > 36 or < 24 credits in one semester
  - need special approval, not allowed in the first year
- Total no. of credits cannot exceed 288
- Study period cannot exceed 6 years
Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science (BSc(ActuarSc))

Courses
- Syllabuses & Regulations #
  # Inside "Check Course Details" you can type STAT in the "Course Code" box in order to view the list of all STAT courses.
- UG Timetable for 2020-21, 1st semester*
- UG Timetable for 2020-21, 2nd semester*
  *For reference only. The course schedule and venue may be subject to changes.
  Students are strongly advised to double check the course schedule and venue on HKU Portal before going to the lectures.
- Actuarial Project / Directed Studies / Capstone Experience Courses (2020-21)
- STAT4767 Actuarial Science Internship

For Freshmen
Students admitted in 2020
- Induction Day presentation
- Notes on Course Selection for Actuarial Science Freshmen
- BSc(ActuarSc) first year timetable 2020-21 (Updated on August 13, 2020)
- Suggested BSc(ActuarSc) 4-year Curricular Structure (for students admitted in 2020 or thereafter) (Updated on July 31, 2020)
- Structure of Courses for BSc(Actuarial Science) (for students admitted in 2020 or thereafter) (Updated on July 31, 2020)
# Academic Dates Terminology

- **HKU: 1st Semester, 2nd Semester, Summer Semester**
- **Course selection period**
- **Suspension period**
- **Add/drop period**
- **Reading week**
- **Revision period**
- **Assessment period**


- **Lectures and Tutorials/Example Classes**
- **Important Academic Dates 2020-21**

- From Academic Advising Office (AAO): [https://aao.hku.hk/important-academic-dates/](https://aao.hku.hk/important-academic-dates/)
### 2020-2021 First Semester

#### Teaching Period
- **First Day of Teaching:** Sep 1, 2020
- **Reading/Field Trip Week:** Oct 12 - 17, 2020
- **Last Day of Teaching:** Nov 30, 2020
- **Revision Period:** Dec 1 - 7, 2020
- **Assessment Period:** Dec 8 - 23, 2020

#### Tutorial Classes
- Tutorial classes usually start from the 2nd week of teaching.
- Follow instructions of individual courses.

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Course Selection Reminder

• A step-by-step manual for course selection in SIS

The latest result of all your enrollments can be viewed in the Self Service > Enrollment > Enrollment Status page.
Special Approval

- Faculty website:
  Current Students → [Undergraduate Programmes] Useful Resources → Forms
Special Approval

- Prerequisite not met
- Time clash
  - Not approved unless under very special circumstances
  - Must first seek advice from the concerned course teachers
- Taking course load deviating from normal load
  (> 36 or < 24 credits in 1 semester, or > 72 credits in 1 year)
  - Not for first year students

Step 1:
- Seek advice from course teachers and/or course selection advisers (CSA)

Step 2:
- Sign the filled form and submit to Department (ug_enquiry@saas.hku.hk)

Step 3:
- Wait for approval and then submit the endorsed application to OASS
Course Selection Advisers (CSA)

• Dr. K.C. Cheung
  – RRS219
  – kccg@hku.hk
  – Chief CSA

• Dr. D. Lee
  – RRS120
  – leedav@hku.hk

• Dr. K.P. Wat
  – RRS235
  – watkp@hku.hk
Other Actuarial Teachers

- Dr. A.G. Benchimol
  - RRS120
  - benchi@hku.hk

- Dr. J.T.Y. Wong
  - RRS221
  - jefftywong@hku.hk

- Prof. H. Yang
  - RRS232
  - hlyang@hku.hk

- Prof. K.C. Yuen
  - RRS231
  - kcyuen@hku.hk
  - Programme Director
Faculty Academic Advisers (FAA)
Student Peer Advisers (SPA)

• Sign up your Faculty Academic Adviser and Student Peer Adviser

• [https://aaq.hku.hk/faa-signup/](https://aaq.hku.hk/faa-signup/)

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Sign up for Your Faculty Academic Adviser/ Student Peer Adviser

Welcome on Board!

Every HKU undergraduate student will be supported by a Faculty Academic Adviser (FAA) throughout your study journey at HKU. The FAA is an academic staff from your Faculty and will provide advice and guidance on your academic-related issues.

For students from the Faculties of Architecture, Arts, Business and Economics, Engineering, Law, Science, Social Sciences, and Bachelor of Nursing of Faculty of Medicine:

You are requested to sign up for your FAA from 10:00 am, August 18, 2020 (Tuesday) to 4:00 pm, August 24, 2020 (Monday) at https://ugaa.hku.hk/signup-faa.php, on a first-come-first-served basis. If you do not sign up by August 24, 2020, the System will randomly assign one to you.

For students from the Faculty of Science:

Besides sign-up for FAA, please note that you will also need to sign up for a Student Peer Adviser when signing up for your FAA. The Student Peer Adviser is a dedicated senior student who will support your smooth transition to the University, by sharing his/her experience on various academic matters.
COVID-19 Info Hub

• Faculty website:
  Current Students → [Undergraduate Programmes] Useful Resources → Forms
Professional Exams

• Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA) (https://www.actuaries.org.uk/)
  – To be an Associate of IFoA:
    • Core Principles (CS1-2, CM1-2, CB1-3)
    • Core Practices (CP1-3)
    • Personal and Professional Development (PPD)

• Society of Actuaries (SOA) (https://www.soa.org)
  – To be an Associate of SOA (ASA):
    • 7 Exams: P, FM, IFM, LTAM, STAM, SRM, PA
    • 3 VEE Topics: (https://www.soa.org/education/exam-req/edu-vee.aspx)
      ✓ Economics
      ✓ Accounting and Finance
      ✓ Mathematical Statistics
    • FAP e-Learning Course
    • Associateship Professionalism Course (APC)
IFoA Accreditation

• In 2019, A new accreditation agreement was signed and approved by IFoA. Under the new accreditation agreement, The University of Hong Kong now joins the ranks of selected institutions worldwide that offer the maximum exemptions (CS1, CS2, CM1, CM2, CB1, and CB2).

• [https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/as/ac-exemptions.php](https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/as/ac-exemptions.php)

• With the new accreditation, students who graduate with a BSc(ActuarSc) degree from The University of Hong Kong with the required marks in specified subjects will be exempted from taking various IFoA subjects in the new curriculum, as they begin their journey towards qualifying as an actuary.
SOA Curriculum since 2018

Qualification: Associate

**VEE ECONOMICS**
*ECON1210, *ECON1220

**VEE ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE**
*ACCT1101, *STAT3904

**EXAM FINANCIAL MATHEMATICS**
STAT2902, STAT3905

**EXAM PROBABILITY**
STAT2901, STAT3902

**EXAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL MARKETS**
STAT3903, STAT3904, STAT3905, STAT3910

**EXAM MATHEMATICAL STATISTICS**
*STAT3902

**EXAM LONG-TERM ACTUARIAL MATHEMATICS**
STAT3901, STAT3903, STAT3906, STAT3909, STAT3956

**EXAM SHORT-TERM ACTUARIAL MATHEMATICS**
STAT3906, STAT3908, STAT4903

**EXAM STATISTICS FOR RISK MODELING**
STAT3907, STAT4904

**e-LEARNING FUNDAMENTALS OF ACTUARIAL PRACTICE**
STAT3953

**PROJECT PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS**
STAT4904

**SEMINAR ASSOCIATESHIP PROFESSIONALISM COURSE**

*You must complete 2 exams before applying to validate your educational experience (educational experiences may have occurred prior to completing exams).*

*VEE approved courses*
SOA Preliminary Exams

- Exam P
  - STAT2901, STAT3902
- Exam FM
  - STAT2902, STAT3905
- Exam IFM
  - STAT3903, STAT3904, STAT3905, STAT3910
- Exam LTAM
  - STAT3901, STAT3903, STAT3906, STAT3909, STAT3956
- Exam STAM
  - STAT3906, STAT3908, STAT4903
- Exam SRM
  - STAT3907, STAT4904
- Exam PA
  - STAT4904
SOA Validation by Educational Experience (VEE)

- **VEE Economics**
  - ECON1210, ECON1220
- **VEE Accounting and Finance**
  - ACCT1101, STAT3904
- **VEE Mathematical Statistics**
  - STAT3902

**Remarks:**
There are other courses approved by SOA, but they are *not core courses* of the BSc(AC) programme. Some of them are *mutually exclusive* with our core courses.

[https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/as/vee.php](https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/as/vee.php)
Other Graduation Requirements

• Other than taking Disciplinary Core and Elective courses

• 3 Language Courses
  – CAES1000 (Year 1)
  – CAES9821 (Year 2) [no exemption with whatsoever qualifications]
  – CSCI9001 (Year 3)

• 6 Common Core (CC) Courses

• 1 Capstone Course
  – STAT4711 [Group Project]
  – STAT4767 [Internship]
  – STAT4798 [Individual Project]
Exchange Credit Transfer

- Faculty of Science: Course Equivalence Database
  - https://webapp.science.hku.hk/student/servlet/course_equiv

For credit transfer reference:
Students on exchange may take courses regarded as equivalent to some HKU courses to fulfill the degree requirement.
**Internship**

- Usually in Year 3 or Year 4
- 6 months (e.g. January-June or July-December)
- Need to apply for leave of absence, and defer the study

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- If you wish to use your internship to fulfill the **Capstone Requirement: STAT4767 Actuarial science internship**,  
  - the earliest time you can start your internship is the summer after your Year 2 study;  
  - you must have passed 4 advanced disciplinary courses including **STAT3901 Life contingencies I** prior to the start of the internship;  
  - submit your registration prior to the start of the internship.

- Check the details on the Department website: [https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/stat4767.php](https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/stat4767.php)
Career Support and Activities

- Centre of Development and Resources for Students (CEDARS) (www.cedars.hku.hk)
- Prelude to Actuarial Internships and Workplace Etiquette Workshop
- Actuarial Internship Presentation by senior AS students
- Departmental Internship/Job Online-application System
- Career Advising Programme (CAP)
  - Professional Preparation Programme (PPP)
  - Individual consultation on cover letter, CV and interview skills
  - Corporate Mentorship Programme (CMP)
  - Market information workshop
  - Firm visits and alumni sharing
  - SAAS Career Fair
University Resources

- HKU Library (HKUL)
  - [lib.hku.hk](lib.hku.hk)

- Examinations Office
  - [www.exam.hku.hk](www.exam.hku.hk)

- Centre of Development and Resources for Students (CEDARS)
  - [www.cedars.hku.hk](www.cedars.hku.hk)

- Academic Advising Office (AAO)
  - [aao.hku.hk](aao.hku.hk)

- University Health Service (UHS)
  - [www.uhs.hku.hk](www.uhs.hku.hk)

- Centre for Sports and Exercise
  - [cse.hku.hk](cse.hku.hk)
Important Reminders

• Check HKU Portal emails everyday
• Note the deadline of any events and applications
• Course Selection
  – Note the pre-requisites and restrictions
  – Never take a course which is mutually exclusive to the core courses in BSc(ActuarSc) curriculum
• Be active in career preparation
• Plan ahead for your four years
• Seek proper help from the right place
• Manage your time wisely
• Assess your own ability and schedule