FACULTY OF LAW

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN LAWS
MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY IN LAWS

2020 - 21
Join the Faculty of Law at The Chinese University of Hong Kong and you will be joining a faculty whose research is truly global in its reach and its recognition. In the most recent Research Assessment Exercise conducted by the Hong Kong University Grants Committee, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Faculty of Law was rated Hong Kong’s top research Law Faculty. In the QS World Rankings in 2018 we were ranked 40th in the world, and in the first Times Higher Education ranking of law schools globally in 2018 we were ranked 27th. Located in one of the world’s great metropolises and within one of Asia’s preeminent research universities, our Faculty is highly international in character, with professors from Europe, North America, Australia, Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and other parts of Asia. Their research interests cover the full spectrum of contemporary legal writing – from company, tax, trade, environmental and intellectual property law to criminal, human rights, international law, and comparative law, among others. The PhD and MPhil Programmes at The Chinese University of Hong Kong will provide you with the highest quality supervision, staff and library resources. We offer opportunities and challenges to talented people. And we will do everything possible to enrich your educational experience. Join us to pursue your research ambitions, get outstanding support, and take this exciting and rewarding journey in Asia’s World City. We look forward to welcoming you here!

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Gane
Simon F.S. Li Professor of Law and Dean, Faculty of Law
The CUHK Faculty of Law PhD and MPhil in Laws Programmes offer two of the great opportunities in legal education. You will, if accepted, spend two to four years researching and writing about a topic you are passionate about while getting all the support you will need for such a major intellectual endeavor.

With our funding scheme, you will be supported generously enough that you can live comfortably without having to work for additional remuneration while you earn your PhD or MPhil in Laws. At the same time, you will have committed, research-active professors as supervisors; many of whom have some of the most distinguished research records in their respective fields of interest.

You will have fellow students from around the world to inspire you in what is a close-knit community with their own dedicated space in the Faculty. Our student-friendly support framework provides you with the formal guidance and encouragement which you will need. This will include multiple opportunities each year to present your work to other professors and peers, classroom support (with seminars on research and thesis writing) and also a team of two supervisors who will check in with you regularly in order to sustain your research momentum.

Your experience with our programmes will unfold in different stages. Following admission, our students have opportunities to apply for scholarships for research and study outside of Hong Kong, as well as access to some of the best library resources in Asia. After graduation our degree will empower you and give you the confidence to seek out careers in academia, legal practice, in the commercial world as well as in public service and the non-profit sector.

At CUHK Law, the administrative staff members take excellent individual care of each student. Our programmes provide each of our students with opportunities throughout the year to get together and offer support to one another. You will join a group of researchers who work closely together and with their professors. So let me say how pleased we are that you are considering CUHK Law. We hope you will be able to join us on a journey where you can think deeply about your chosen subject and make exciting discoveries at one of the great international law faculties.

Sincerely yours,

Professor Chin Leng Lim
Choh-Ming Li Professor of Law and
Director, Research Postgraduate Programmes
The Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS)

The HKPFS was created by Hong Kong Research Grants Council in 2009 to give Hong Kong universities world class financing for our most promising full-time PhD students. It awards a monthly stipend of HK$25,800 and an annual conference travel allowance of HK$12,900 for up to three years. If a Fellowship winner has a normative study period of four years, CUHK will provide financing at the same level during the fourth year. The CUHK Vice-Chancellor HKPFS Scholarship* offers Fellowship winners a tuition fee waiver for their whole normative study period and provides an award of HK$20,000 for lodging in the first year of study. CUHK guarantees on-campus accommodation during the normative study period to Fellowship winners who submit timely applications. The on-campus hostel fee will be waived in the first year of study. Competition for the HKPFS is intense, but we have had good success with the law candidates we have nominated to the selection committee. If you would like to know more about the HKPFS, please visit the following URL for further details:

http://www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd

* In lieu of the CUHK Vice-Chancellor HKPFS Scholarship, a tuition waiver will be provided to local HKPFS awardees during their normative study period under the Hong Kong Government’s Tuition Waiver Scheme for Local Research Postgraduate Students.

CUHK Postgraduate Studentships

Even if not awarded a Hong Kong PhD Fellowship, all candidates admitted to the Law Faculty’s full-time PhD or MPhil Programme still receive a generous stipend during the normative research and writing period that, for the current academic year, amounts to HK$17,330 monthly. Funding for conferences and research-related travel is also available.

Why Hong Kong and The Chinese University of Hong Kong are Your Choice

Hong Kong is not only a leading international financial and trade centre, but also hosts some of Asia’s leading universities, including CUHK. Beyond Asia, international university ranking exercises have appraised universities in Hong Kong as among the best in the world. Hong Kong stands as a gateway between the best traditions of Western learning and a region which presents many of the most interesting and exciting objects of contemporary legal, economic, and cultural research.

You can write your PhD or MPhil in Laws with the CUHK Law Faculty in English, while enjoying unparalleled access to resources in Chinese and about Asia. You will receive one-on-one guidance from the CUHK Law Faculty, whose members represent all of the world’s major jurisdictions and are actively engaged in a broad array of research. Your own research will be financed either by the University in the form of a studentship or by the Hong Kong Government in the form of a fellowship.

Financial Support

The HKPFS was created by Hong Kong Research Grants Council in 2009 to give Hong Kong universities world class financing for our most promising full-time PhD students. It awards a monthly stipend of HK$25,800 and an annual conference travel allowance of HK$12,900 for up to three years. If a Fellowship winner has a normative study period of four years, CUHK will provide financing at the same level during the fourth year. The CUHK Vice-Chancellor HKPFS Scholarship* offers Fellowship winners a tuition fee waiver for their whole normative study period and provides an award of HK$20,000 for lodging in the first year of study. CUHK guarantees on-campus accommodation during the normative study period to Fellowship winners who submit timely applications. The on-campus hostel fee will be waived in the first year of study. Competition for the HKPFS is intense, but we have had good success with the law candidates we have nominated to the selection committee. If you would like to know more about the HKPFS, please visit the following URL for further details:

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The CUHK Law Faculty, consisting of over 50 academic staff members, actively pursues research on a broad range of topics. Our faculty members have studied in leading universities around the world, including in the UK, China, the US, Australia and Continental Europe. They bring their global visions to focus on legal problems affecting Hong Kong, China, various domestic jurisdictions and the international community of nations. You can learn more about the interests and activities of individual faculty members from the faculty website. Below we list the areas in which our Faculty can offer you experienced guidance in your research:

- Administrative Law
- Aviation Law
- Banking Law
- Business Law
- Chinese Law
- Common Law
- Company Law
- Comparative Law
- Competition Law
- Conflict of Laws
- Constitutional Law
- Construction Law
- Contract Law
- Criminal Law
- Cyberlaw
- Dispute Resolution
- Employment Law
- Environmental Law
- Ethics and the Law
- European Union Law
- Evidence
- Family Law
- Financial Law
- Gender and the Law
- Human Rights Law
- Immigration Law
- Information & Privacy Law
- Insurance Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- International Arbitration
- International Criminal Law
- International Investment Law
- International Trade Law
- Jurisprudence
- Land Law
- Law and Literature
- Law of Equity
- Legal History
- Legal Philosophy
- Private International Law
- Public International Law
- Remedies
- Shipping Law
- Tax Law
- Tort Law
- Wills and Trusts
- WTO Law
Professor Anatole Boute
Professor Boute specializes in energy, environment and investment law, with a focus on the legal aspects governing the clean energy transition. He is the author of "Energy Security along the New Silk Road" (Cambridge University Press, 2019) and "Russian Electricity and Energy Investment Law" (Brill Nijhoff, 2015). Based on his research, he advised the major multilateral development banks on renewable energy and energy market reforms.

Education & Qualifications
• PhD, University of Groningen
• LLM, University of Leuven
• M. Pol. Sc., University of Leuven
• LLB, University of Saint Louis (Brussels)
• B. Pol. Sc., University of Saint Louis (Brussels)
• Admitted to Practice in Brussels

Professor Samuli Seppänen
Professor Seppänen’s research focuses on legal and political thought in China and developmental aspects of international law. His publications include "Ideological Conflict and the Rule of Law in Contemporary China: Useful Paradoxes" (Cambridge University Press, 2016) and articles in international law journals.

Education & Qualifications
• SJD, Harvard University
• LLM, Harvard University (degree waived)
• LLB and BA (Accounting), Tel Aviv University
• Admitted to practice law in the State of New York
• Admitted to practice law in Israel

Professor Noam Noked
Professor Noked’s research focuses on tax law and policy, exploring ways to improve international tax standards and domestic tax laws. He is also the Honorary Secretary of the Joint Liaison Committee on Taxation. He has worked as a tax lawyer in the Hong Kong office of Baker McKenzie, advising on U.S. and international tax matters.

Education & Qualifications
• SJD, Harvard University
• LLM, Harvard University (waived)
• LLB and BA (Accounting), Tel Aviv University
• Admitted to practice in the State of New York
• Admitted to practice law in Israel

A Sampling of Our International Faculty

Professor James Zeng
Professor Zeng graduated from Yale Law School with an LLM and a JSD degree. Prior to that, Professor Zeng graduated from Peking University (LLB, BA in Economics, MPhil in Law). He passed the National Judicial Examination of China and is admitted to the New York State Bar. His research interests include corporate law and finance, comparative law, and law and economics.

Education & Qualifications
• JSD, Yale University
• LLM, Yale University
• LLM, Peking University
• LLB, Peking University
• BA in Economics, Peking University

The University and the Law Faculty provide plenty of scholarship and exchange opportunities for students admitted to the PhD and MPhil Programmes. Here are some examples from previous years for reference:
• CUHK Research Postgraduate Student Grants for Overseas Academic Activities
• Endeavour Research Fellowship
• Fulbright-RGC Hong Kong Research Scholar Award Program
• Global Scholarship Programme for Research Excellence
• PhD Student Exchange Programme

In addition, the CUHK Law Library supports the Faculty’s objective to remain a prominent centre for legal scholarship and training in the 21st century. Its collection of electronic resources, which can be accessed remotely, is particularly strong. A collection of over 129,700 volumes of books, bound periodicals and other materials on law and law-related subjects, 107 leading databases, a constantly expanding number of electronically available texts, monographs and reference works, as well as over 6,000 e-journal titles, accompanied of course by the interdisciplinary collections housed in the rest of the CUHK libraries. A separate Legal Resources Centre also includes our Faculty’s Mediation Institute Collection, which was assembled in 2009.
As one of the recipients of the Fulbright-RGC Hong Kong Research Scholar Award (2018-2019), I am deeply indebted to the CUHK Law Faculty for the academic training. Having previously studied in China and the UK, I believed Hong Kong was the ideal place to unlock my full potential when I decided to pursue my doctorate. Enjoying the intellectual vibrancy offered by Asia’s World City, I find myself thriving in an environment of high-level academic discussion and symposia. As one of the world’s leading financial centres, Hong Kong is a perfect place to cultivate first-rate scholars and inspire cutting-edge research. This law faculty is also a great venue for interdisciplinary legal research. When I located my research interests in the field of law and finance, the Faculty offered essential support for me to earn a complementary MSc in Finance degree with concurrent registration at CUHK Business School. My supervisors, Professors Chao Xi and Dicky Tsang, are always offering insightful comments and generous support with full enthusiasm. With the support from the faculty and my supervisors, I have visited the Oxford Law School as a visiting scholar in 2017. The continued support I have from the Faculty was also indispensable in my success of applying for the Fulbright Scholarship, which generously sponsored my 10-month research sojourn with the Cornell Law School in 2019. At Cornell, I had the privilege to sharpen my research skills and fine tune my thesis for better at the final phase of my PhD. Indeed, the worldwide academic links CUHK Law Faculty has provides its research students with decent academic training to conduct research and to engage with the international academia. To sum it up, the learning and researching experience here at CUHK has been amazing and rewarding.

- Sirui Han, CUHK Law PhD Student

Our Fulbright Scholar Says

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- Sirui Han, CUHK Law PhD Student

Our Fulbright Scholar Says
Choosing a Ph.D. program is one of the most important decisions I have ever made. I joined The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) in September 2018. Before joining the Ph.D. program, I completed an LL.M degree at the London School of Economics and Political Science. I am a qualified lawyer in Turkey and a member of the Istanbul Bar Association. I have enjoyed my time in Hong Kong interacting with the distinguished faculty members from CUHK and extraordinary speakers from all around the world. I have had great support from both of my supervisors, Professors Julien Chaisse and Bryan Druzin. With their encouragement and support, I attended various conferences as a speaker this year, including the China International Business and Economic Law (CIBEL) Global Network Conference and the Young Scholars Workshop at the University of New South Wales, the 8th Conference of the Postgraduate and Early Professionals/Academics Network of the Society of International Economic Law (PEPA/SIEL) 2019 at King’s College London, and the Asian Law Institute Annual Conference at the National University of Singapore. I was also a finalist of the CIBEL Global Network PhD Scholar Prize in Sydney. Apart from relishing the vibrant academic life at CUHK, I have also enjoyed the opportunity to improve my language abilities. I started learning Putonghua and already completed four modules in my first year. CUHK boasts a multicultural environment in which students share their culture and learn from one another. In the coming academic year, I will attend Stanford University as a Visiting Student Researcher. For those who are thinking of studying at CUHK, you would not regret it.

**PhD thesis on state succession in the case of a unified Korea: the legal effects on treaties and the rights of third states**

Entering into the fourth year of my Ph.D. studies at CUHK Law, I believe I have gradually developed the necessary skills to help me become a better researcher and scholar in my field of expertise. This is mostly possible through the invaluable support and advice from my supervisors, CUHK Law also provides Ph.D. candidates with vast opportunities. Not only are candidates provided with opportunities within the campus with its diverse and engaging seminars held by the Faculty along with its numerous conferences, but they are also provided with opportunities globally. During my third year, I was thankful for the great opportunity to visit the United States as a visiting scholar. Without the CUHK Law’s support, I will not have been able to gain the insights I have gained during my stay in Washington, DC. Last but not least, the campus itself is a beautiful and quiet place to study as well as to enjoy the lovely greenery. Truly a wonderful place to enjoy the campus life. Studying at CUHK Law is definitely a place of opportunities and a place to grow as an academic scholar.

**PhD thesis on investment dispute resolution along China’s belt and road towards a new paradigm**

I completed the LLM in International Economic Law in 2012-2013 and had the opportunity to observe first-hand the outstanding faculty and resources available at CUHK. Furthermore, I was particularly attracted to work with my supervisor during my Ph.D. I really like the city of Hong Kong and find it is a great hub from which to pursue my studies and also to improve my level of Mandarin. CUHK has a fantastic campus in Shatin and I am able to pursue many extra-curricular activities including taking Mandarin classes. I even had the opportunity to attend an intensive two-week Mandarin course in Mainland China with the full support of CUHK. Amongst the other research postgraduate students in the law faculty you will find a vibrant mix of intelligent and friendly people from different parts of the globe. The faculty staff is also welcoming and supportive. I remain fluid and open-minded as regards my career aspirations. Nevertheless, I wish to increase my expertise in Asian Investment Law & Dispute Resolution and my Ph.D. at CUHK and becoming fluent in Mandarin will greatly assist in this.

**PhD thesis on trends, dynamics and reform of international investment law in Africa**

I am completing a PhD in international economic law at CUHK Law. My thesis focuses on examining trends and dynamics of foreign investor protection in Africa. Studying at CUHK has been very rewarding as I receive excellent supervision and support from my advisors, Professors Julien Chaisse and Bryan Mercuro. Overall, CUHK has provided unmatched opportunities for legal research, global exchange and scholarship. CUHK is a great place for studying international economic law. It is at the heart of a vibrant arbitration community, maintains close links with Hong Kong’s legal community and is home to edge cutting legal research. In summer 2019, I interned for three months as an international arbitration trainee at the Hong Kong office of a Top 10 Global Law Firm and one of the largest law firms in the world. CUHK law staff provided administrative support during the internship application process.

**PhD thesis on the whole is greater than the sum of its parts: cumulative disadvantages of defendants with mental disorders in Magistrates’ Courts in Hong Kong**

Researching about the criminal justice system in Hong Kong has been my aspiration, for which I am deeply grateful to CUHK Law for the academic training all along. I joined CUHK Law as a LLB student in 2011, when I began to be curious about issues of criminal justice system in Hong Kong. During my study in the MA (psychology) programme at CUHK, I was interested about the experience of individuals living with mental health issues in the criminal justice system that has later become my thesis topic. I receive excellent guidance and support from my supervisors, Professors Kevin Cheng and Christopher Gane. They are approachable and often provide constructive feedback to my study with full enthusiasm. CUHK Law also prepares us for our future academic career and supports us to extend our full potentials. The worldwide links it has enabled us to engage with international academia. I had the opportunity to attend a training on qualitative methods in Utrecht University in 2017. Not only was I able to acquire new knowledge on research methodology, I had the chance to exchange with other research students who share similar interests in criminal justice system. As one of the recipients of the Fulbright RGC Hong Kong Research Scholar Award (2019-2020), I will be visiting Arizona State University as a visiting research scholar in the coming academic year and I look forward to sharing my learning and research experience at CUHK with scholars and researchers there.
Student Careers

The Faculty runs a careers advice programme that can support its research postgraduate students in many ways.

Law Student Careers Office
The Faculty’s Law Student Careers Office provides students with guidance on career choices, career preparation and professional development. The Faculty’s Director of Career Planning and Professionalism, Mr. Paul Mitchard QC, has designed and runs a programme which includes seminars on career and professionalism topics and presentations by representatives of law firms, barristers’ chambers and other prospective employers. The Office additionally maintains an alumni e-mentoring programme for the benefit of all the students of the Faculty.

Virtual Careers Resource Centre
The Law Student Careers Office also maintains a Virtual Careers Resource Centre (VCRC). This is a powerful online resource that serves as a contact point for employers, teaching faculty members and students. The VCRC has a Legal Careers Directory that contains up-to-date information on law firms and chambers and on internships and other employment opportunities. The VCRC website also notifies careers seminars and other events as well as providing students with information on matters such as job applications and CV preparation and with a wide range of other career-related resources.

Admission Requirements
All applicants must fulfill the CUHK General Admissions Requirements and English Language Proficiency Requirements. Details can be found at https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/.

In addition, MPhil applicants must possess:
(a) a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degree with first class honours or upper second class honours awarded by a recognized university; or
(b) a Juris Doctor (JD) degree or a Master of Laws (LLM) degree awarded by a recognized university with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above; or
(c) an equivalent degree (including non-law related) awarded by a recognized tertiary educational institution.

PhD applicants must possess either (b) or (c) as mentioned above. Of course, these are only minimum requirements, and actual admission on a competitive basis could demand much more. Applicants must satisfy the English Language Proficiency Requirement by:
(a) possessing a Bachelor's degree awarded by a recognized university in Hong Kong or an English-speaking country, or taught primarily in the English Language; or
(b) achieving a result of Band 7.0 or better in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). IELTS test results must be obtained not more than two years prior to the date of applying for admission to the PhD/MPhil Programme; or
(c) achieving at least a score of 587 (Paper Based Test) or 95 (Internet Based Test) in the Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL). TOEFL test results must be obtained not more than two years prior to the date of applying for admission to the PhD/MPhil Programme; or
(d) providing alternative evidence of English Proficiency equivalent to one of the preceding measures.

The Faculty considers applications on a rolling basis. We encourage you to send us your application and supporting materials as early as possible. A decision on your application will be made by the Faculty and CUHK and, if admitted, an appropriate supervisor and/or co-supervisor will be assigned. Please do not contact faculty members directly with requests for admission and supervision.

How to Apply

The following schematically presents our PhD and MPhil Programmes:

### PhD Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Normative Study Period</th>
<th>Maximum Study Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>With Research Master’s Degree</td>
<td>Without Research Master’s Degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>36 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>48 months</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MPhil Programme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normative Study Period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tuition Fee (subject to annual review)
HK$42,100 per year for both full-time and part-time PhD and MPhil students.

Application Period and Procedures

(a) For applicants to the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme
Application deadline (Hong Kong Time)
- 2 December 2019 at 12 noon
Submit an initial application to RGC at http://www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd
- 2 December 2019 at 5 pm
Submit full application to CUHK at https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/admissions/

(b) For non-Fellowship applicants
Application deadline
- 31 January 2020
Submit application to CUHK at https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/admissions/

Mr. Paul Mitchard QC
Director of Career Planning and Professionalism

The demands of legal recruiters are becoming increasingly sophisticated: it is therefore important for students, right from the start of their university career, to keep abreast of what is going to be required of them in addition to academic achievement and to take steps to enable them to meet those demands.

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Contact Us

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Website:    http://www.law.cuhk.edu.hk
Facebook:   CUHK Law
LinkedIn:   CUHK Faculty of Law

This brochure contains information as at August 2019. The University has the right to change its rules, regulations and procedures at any time.