DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN LAWS
MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY IN LAWS
2019 - 20

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This brochure contains information as at August 2018. The University has the right to change its rules, regulations and procedures at any time.
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 one of the great opportunities in legal education – spend two to four years researching and writing about a topic you are passionate about while getting all the support you need for this major intellectual endeavor!

With our incredible 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 world-class professors as supervisors and fellow students from around the world to assist and inspire you. And our student-friendly “Support Framework” provides you with all the formal guidance and encouragement you will need: multiple opportunities each year to present your work to other professors and peers, classroom support (with seminars on research and thesis writing) and a team of two supervisors, who will check in with you regularly and be there for you when you need them.

Your experience with our programmes will unfold in different stages. Post-admission, our students have opportunities for scholarships for research and study outside of Hong Kong and access to some of the best library resources in Asia while in Hong Kong. Post-graduation, in a competitive job market, the degree will open doors to careers in academia, law practice, or public service.

At CUHK Law, the administrative staff members take excellent individual care of each student and the programmes provide them with opportunities throughout the year to get together and offer support to one another. We are a tight-knit group of researchers who are, in effect, a scholarly family. Please consider joining us on a journey of deep thinking, exciting discoveries and inspiring prose at one of the great international law faculties.

Sincerely yours,

Professor Julien Chaisse
Director, Research Postgraduate Programmes

Why Earn a Law PhD or MPhil Degree?

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Laws is the most advanced research degree in law. The PhD is a research degree that can prepare a student for a career in fields as varied as teaching, research, consulting and law practice. Students are required to conduct thorough research on a novel topic and write a thesis of publishable quality that makes an original contribution to legal scholarship.

The Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Laws is a degree for students who want to pursue advanced research, so as to become expert in an area of law or on a complex topic that can help open doors to similar career opportunities. Study in the MPhil Programme can also lead to admission to the PhD Programme, subject to the Faculty’s evaluation of the student’s academic performance during his or her MPhil study period.

Dissertations for both PhD and MPhil in Laws are written under the guidance of a member of the Faculty as supervisor, and in most cases another faculty member as co-supervisor, and assessed by an independent examination committee.

The CUHK Law Faculty has a limited number of places available for each of these Programmes each year. Placement is very competitive.
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 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$25,100 and an annual conference travel allowance of HK$12,600 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 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$16,660 monthly. Funding for conferences and research-related travel is also available.

Conduct Your Research with Our Leading Scholars

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
- Internationa 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 David Donald
Professor Donald has studied and worked in four jurisdictions. He completed his first PhD on comparative literature and post-structural philosophy in New York State, and his Juris Doctor degree in the District of Columbia, where he later practised international trade law. From 1992-1997, Professor Donald practised international commercial law in Italy, where he also studied law at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore. From 1997-2002, Professor Donald practised international securities and banking law in Germany, where he also took his LLM and second PhD from Goethe Universität. He worked at that University from 2003 to 2008 until joining the CUHK Law Faculty as a professor.

Education & Qualifications
- Dr jur, Goethe Universität
- LLM, Goethe Universität
- JD, Georgetown University
- PhD, SUNY Buffalo
- Admitted to practice law in the State of New York

Professor Jyh-An Lee
Professor Lee’s research interests focus on intellectual property (copyrights, trademarks, patents, and trade secrets) and internet law. He has published leading journal articles in Asia, Europe, and North America. Before starting his academic career, he was a practicing lawyer in Taiwan specializing in technology and business transactions.

Education & Qualifications
- JSD, Stanford University
- LLM, Harvard University
- MBA, National Taiwan University
- LLB, National Taiwan University
- Admitted to Practice in Taiwan

Professor Yan Xu
Professor Xu focuses on tax law research including comparative tax law and policy, international taxation, tax history and environment taxation. She was awarded The Fulbright-Research Grants Council Senior Research Scholar Award 2014-15 and was invited as a panelist at the International Fiscal Association Annual Congress 2017.

Education & Qualifications
- PhD, The University of Hong Kong
- MPhil, Wuhan University
- LLB, Wuhan 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 126,730 volumes on law and law-related subjects is accompanied by 82 current print journal titles, over 400 multimedia items, 180 leading databases, a constantly expanding number of electronically available texts, monographs and reference works, as well as 3,718 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.
The CUHK–Kyoto University Joint Research Postgraduate Workshop provides an opportunity for CUHK Law research postgraduate students and their counterparts from Kyoto University to give scholarly presentations with the aim to develop their research skills and knowledge in their chosen area of research. CUHK and Kyoto University rotate annually to host the Workshop, providing students with cross-cultural/academic perspectives.

I benefited a lot from the questions and comments given by my peer researchers and they brought fresh perspectives to my research.

- Siyi Lin, CUHK Law PhD Student

The event represents a platform for challenging but friendly discussions on different areas of International Law.

- Dini Sejko, CUHK Law PhD Student

In-House Roundtable Presentations
On an annual basis, students must present their works-in-progress in an in-house roundtable setting before faculty and other students. This gives them an opportunity to get comfortable presenting their research and honing it as well as providing them a forum for feedback.

Classroom Supervision
In the first part of their studies, students take a three-course sequence to help them with orienting to research postgraduate studies, conducting research and drafting a thesis. “Orientation to Research Postgraduate Studies” in the first term provides an overview of salient issues students will deal with during the period of their research, such as topic refinement, the student-supervisor relationship, and time management. “Research Methodologies” in the second term introduces students to different modes of conducting and organizing research and understanding research methodologies. And “Legal Academic Composition for Research Postgraduate Students” in the third term helps students prepare to write their thesis, including drafting an effective abstract, mastering paragraph structure and adopting the academic writing style. Each course provides students with feedback, via classroom exercises, external class assignments and an end-of-semester evaluation regarding the course materials.

Review Panels
Each year students meet with a review panel and their supervisors to assess their progress in the research and thesis writing processes.

Hong Kong Law Research Postgraduate Symposium
The Hong Kong Law Research Postgraduate Symposium annually brings together law or law-focused PhD, SJD and MPhil students from all universities in Hong Kong, providing them with the opportunity to present and engage in dialogues regarding their research. It provides a forum for such students to make and renew acquaintances as well as contribute toward a more collegial and intellectually vibrant law research environment in Hong Kong. The Symposium is bookended by Keynote Presentations delivered by distinguished Hong Kong law professors.

The Hong Kong Law Research Postgraduate Symposium is organized and sponsored by CUHK Law Faculty and takes place on an annual basis. Each CUHK Law research postgraduate student presents at the Symposium.

CUHK – Kyoto University Joint Research Postgraduate Workshop
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natural beauty on campus also helps us to work in inspiring surroundings. To sum it up, the learning and decent academic training to conduct research and to engage with the international academia. The stunning University of Oxford. The worldwide academic links CUHK Law Faculty has provides its research students with enthusiasm. This has helped me overcome many obstacles in my studies. Applications for funded research trips Professors Chao Xi and Dicky Tsang, are always offering insightful comments and generous support with full complementary MSc in Finance degree with concurrent registration at CUHK Business School. My supervisors, inspire cutting-edge research. This law faculty is also a great venue for interdisciplinary legal research. When I history and cultural dimensions, I have found Hong Kong to be the perfect place to cultivate first-rate scholars and high-level academic discussion and symposia. As one of the world's leading financial centres, with a unique environment is very dynamic: the Faculty of Law and the University institutional background to develop a good thesis. The research support of the librarians and the administrative staff, provide an ideal advice of my supervisors, Professors Julien Chaisse and Bryan Mercurio, and get to attend conferences and events organised by the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC) and Asian Academy of international arbitration venues, we have access to the world's top practitioners in that area and can attend activities organised by the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC) and Asian Academy of International Law (AAIL), among others.

PhD thesis on quantitative corporate mergers and acquisitions
As one of the recipients of the Fulbright-RGC Hong Kong Research Scholar Award (2018-19), 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 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, with a unique history and cultural dimensions, I have found Hong Kong to be the 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 Chan Wai and Dickly Tsang, are always offering insightful comments and generous support with full enthusiasm. This has helped me overcome many obstacles in my studies. Applications for funded research trips and for workshops and conferences are open year-round. With the support from the faculty and my supervisors, I have recently had a chance to be one of the junior academic visitors at the Commercial Law Centre of the University of Oxford. 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. The stunning natural beauty on campus also helps us to work in inspiring surroundings. To sum it up, the learning and researching experience here at CUHK has been amazing and rewarding.

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PhD thesis on environmental public interest litigation under China's environmental protection law
As a Shenzhen local, I grew up in an environment that was strongly affected by Hong Kong culture. Studying in Asia’s world city had been a dream for me. Therefore, after Guangzhou and Beijing, I chose Hong Kong without thinking as my next stop for PhD. The Faculty of Law of CUHK attracted me for its international horizon and emphasis on Chinese law. It is a great honour for me to get a position of PhD programme in this high-rank law school. During my first two years, I benefited a lot from our colorful scholar family. The Faculty offers many seminars and conferences to broaden our perspectives. For example, a workshop on Emissions Trading System in November 2017 involved scholars on environmental law and environmental science. It is enlightening to walk out and interact with experts from other areas. Moreover, the Faculty is just like a bridge between Chinese legal scholarship and the world. There are professors, postdoctoral fellows, research students and even exchange students from top universities in Mainland China. In CUHK, we communicate with other members from various jurisdictions and start to explore a broader academic field. For my research, in-house symposium and annual review held by the Faculty provide me opportunities to study my work with teachers and colleagues. Their advice and encouragement are helpful to polish my exploration. My supervisors, Professors Yuhong Zhao and Michael Ramden, have supported me a lot to improve the arguments and to arrange the structure of my thesis. Also, I had a chance to publish an article on my topic with Professor Benoit Mayer. Under the considerate atmosphere of our Faculty, I am confident to make further progress in the final year.

PhD thesis on state succession in the case of a unified Korea: The legal effects on treaties and the rights of third states
Having completed two years of my PhD studies at CUHK Law, I have developed some of the necessary skills for my research through the academic guidance from my supervisors, Professors Stephen Hall and Stuart Har gevies, and the courses provided by the Faculty. The courses available for the PhD candidates at CUHK Law help the candidates acquire the essential skills, such as finding the right methodology for their research, developing their presentation skills, and sharpening their writing skills. Furthermore, PhD candidates at CUHK Law are provided with vast opportunities. Not only are they provided with opportunities within the campus with its diverse and engaging seminars held by the Faculty along with its numerous conferences, but also provided with opportunities globally. For example, I was given the opportunity to conduct research on my thesis in the United States as a visiting scholar at the George Washington University, both at its Institute for Korean Studies and the law school. As a visiting scholar, not only was I able to give a presentation on my thesis and receive invaluable feedback from North Korean experts but I was also able to interact with other scholars in the similar field of interest as me which broadened my spectrum of knowledge on North Korea. In particular, coming to the United States during the first 6 months of 2018 hasn’t been timelier. With the third inter-Korean summit held in April and Kim-Trump summit held in June, the Washington D.C. area has been the central location for North Korean experts to gather together and hold numerous conferences and discussions. Attending these conferences and discussions has been a key asset to my research. Without the CUHK Law’s support for me to visit the United States as a visiting scholar, I will not have been able to gain the insights I have gained during my stay in Washington D.C. Studying at CUHK Law is definitely a place of opportunities and a place to grow as an academic scholar.

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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.

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.

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.

Admission Requirements
All applicants must fulfill the CUHK General Admissions Requirements and English Language Proficiency Requirements. Details can be found at http://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.

Applicants for the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme, please visit the website of the Scheme for additional admission requirements.

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)
- 1 December 2018 at 12 noon
Submit an initial application to RGC at http://www.rgc.edu.hk/hkphd
- 3 December 2018 at 12 noon
Submit full application to CUHK at http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/

(b) For non-Fellowship applicants
Application deadline
- 31 January 2019
Submit application to CUHK at http://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/

Mr. Paul Mitchard QC
Director of Career Planning and Professionalism

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How to Apply

The following schematically presents our PhD and MPhil Programmes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Normative Study Period</th>
<th>Maximum Study Period</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PhD Programme</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>36 months</td>
<td>84 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>48 months</td>
<td>96 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MPhil Programme</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>5 years</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Study Mode and Period
Normative Study Period
With Research Master’s Degree
48 months
Without Research Master’s Degree
64 months
Maximum Study Period
84 months
96 months

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In addition, MPhil applicants must possess:
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