

Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, The University of Hong Kong

Notes of Course Selection

for Actuarial Science Freshmen (2023-24)

(From 17 August 2023, 10am - 24 August 2023, 4pm)

On behalf of the Department, we would like to welcome you to the University. For planning your first-year study in the BSc(ActuarSc) programme, please read the following carefully:

1. Of the 60 credits in your first-year study, there should be 7 core courses and 3 other required courses including two Common Core courses and CAES1000 (see point 4). Please find in the links below different documents for your references when it comes to select courses. Read the "Notes" inside each document carefully.

- **First-year timetable:** https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2023/AS/23-24_AC1_timetable_20230814.pdf
- **Curricular structure:** [https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2023/AS/Suggested_AC\(2020\)_20230801.pdf](https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2023/AS/Suggested_AC(2020)_20230801.pdf)
- **Structure of Courses:** [https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2023/AS/FlowChart-AC\(2020\)-20230801.pdf](https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2023/AS/FlowChart-AC(2020)-20230801.pdf)
(N.B. The information shown in this flow chart is just for your understanding of the interconnection of different courses. Students should follow the most up-to-date course information e.g. pre-requisite, offering semester, and syllabus given on the Faculty website and in class.)
- **Online Syllabuses & Regulations:** <https://webapp.science.hku.hk/sr4/servlet/enquiry>
(N.B. You can click "Check Course Details" and type "STAT" in the "Course Code" box in order to view the list of all STAT courses.)
- **Student Handbook:** <https://www.scifac.hku.hk/current/ug/useful-resources/handbooks>

2. You are allowed to choose other available subclasses to suit your personal timetable, provided that there are no time clashes. However, you are strongly advised NOT to come up with a timetable different from our proposed timetable semester-wise. For example, students should not take ECON1220 before having completed ECON1210. If taking ECON1210 is delayed to second semester, this means taking ECON1220 might consequently be delayed to year 2.

3. Please note that some course / subclass should have a quota, and in some cases, may have a drop-consent setting too. You are strongly advised to select your core courses/disciplinary electives before the suspension period (18 August 2023, (Fri) 12nn – 21 August 2023, (Mon) 2:29pm), because the number of available places in certain courses may drop significantly after the suspension period, during which class balloting will take place and most seats will be given out, especially if the course has a quota.

The reserved number of quota of seats for ACCT1101, ECON1210, ECON1220 subclasses will be released to Business School after 12:00 noon, 4 September, 2023 (Monday).

Actuarial Science freshmen please enroll into the required courses (ACCT1101, ECON1210, ECON1220) before 12:00 noon, 4 September, 2023 (Friday).

We will NOT be able to retrieve the seats once they are given to other students, whilst seats in other subclasses are NOT reserved/guaranteed.

4. Unless otherwise stated/exempted, students should complete:

- CAES1000 (English) in year 1
- CAES9821 (English) in year 2
- CSC19001 (Chinese) or equivalent in year 3

However, some students are exempted from some of these courses, e.g. Putonghua-speaking students, those who achieved a certain level in various English exams, etc. Please refer to the Student Handbook on the Science Faculty's website for details about exemption and course replacement, if applicable.

5. You should select courses for both semesters 1 & 2 now, despite the fact that there will be add/drop periods in both semesters. Please note that students in the first year are NOT allowed to take more than 72 credits of courses.

6. The course selection status and ballot result should be final on 29 August 2023, 10am. Students should check the final results in HKU Portal SIS online. Please also note that the course schedule and venue may be subject to changes. You are strongly advised to double check the course schedule and venue on SIS before going to the lectures.

7. Freshmen may be unable to select certain second-semester courses owing to unmet pre-requisite. If so, please wait until you have completed the first-semester study. But if you cannot select certain STAT# courses owing to non-HK exam results[^], you can fill in the Course Approval Form* and attach your (i) course selection report and (ii) individual timetable. Then, submit it to the Faculty of Science, Science Online Application Submission System (OASS) for course selection advisers' consideration. Again, students should submit the endorsed email / signed form via OASS for Science or Non-Science courses to Faculty of Science for further processing by 24 August 2023, 4pm.

For non-STAT courses, students have to seek approval from the course-offering departments/schools. Upon successful approval, students should submit the endorsed email / signed form to OASS for Faculty of Science's further processing by deadline.

[^] Table of Equivalence between HKDSE and Other Qualifications:

<https://www.scifac.hku.hk/current/ug/useful-resources/handbooks> (Appendix E of Student Handbook)

* Course Approval Form and other forms (Faculty of Science's OASS):

<https://webapp.science.hku.hk/intranet/OnlineFormUG.html>

Plan Your Study Ahead

8. In relation to point 1, you should read carefully the pre-requisite requirements of each course and should plan your study ahead. Not only do you need to make sure that the pre-requisite courses are completed before taking more advanced courses in **year 2/3/4**, but also that you do not take other courses including VEE courses and those transferred from exchange studies which are **mutually exclusive** to your required courses.

For example, it has come to our attention that **some students have taken courses which are impermissible to their required courses listed in the syllabus**, e.g. STAT3904 vs FINA1310. This disallows them from enrolling into the required courses, especially the actuarial core ones yet to be completed for fulfilling the programme requirement.

9. We would like to stress that **the ultimate responsibility of ensuring all the graduation requirements fulfilled rests with students**, including carefully looking into the pre-requisites of the courses, including both STAT and non-STAT courses, and ensuring that there are no any possible conflicts with the required courses. In the case of having taken mutually exclusive courses, students should NOT assume the possibility of course replacement or other special arrangements. In other words, students will put themselves at grave risk from not being able to graduate.

10. If you plan to go on exchange or take a semester-long internship in future, you should plan your study carefully, e.g. understand clearly what courses you need to take before/after exchange/internship in order to graduate on time. **Students should be in full-time student status for eight academic semesters (NOT including any 6-month or longer full-time internships) in order to fulfill the degree requirements.** Again, as some courses are offered in only one semester, students may need to defer graduation should they leave out of any required courses. In this regard, students should NOT assume that they will be granted approval for course replacement.

11. Do NOT assume that courses being mutually exclusive to one another suggests equivalency and that students can replace the required courses with other courses outside the syllabus.

12. UG5E1001 Requirement

With effect from the academic year 2022-23, undergraduate students who will graduate in 2022-23 and thereafter will be required to complete and pass the non-credit bearing course “UG5E1001 Introduction to the Constitution, the Basic Law and the National Security Law” (prepared by the Faculty of Law). Students do not need to enroll this course during course selection period or add/drop period. You can locate the link of this course in HKU Portal -> “My eLearning” tab. Details:

Course-related enquiries, please email: UG5E1001@hku.hk

Student Guide: https://intraweb.hku.hk/reserved_1/sis_student/sis/reference-materials/Students_Guide_to_UG5E1001.pdf

Academic Advising & Scholarships Office: <https://aas.hku.hk/ug-cur/>

Other Information

13. More information about the programme for “CURRENT STUDENTS” can also be found on the Department’s website: <https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/as.php>. For example:

- Accreditation with the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries: <https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/as/ac-exemptions.php>
- Validation by Educational Experience of the Society of Actuaries: <https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/as/vee.php>
- Scholarships: <https://saasweb.hku.hk/programme/scholarship.php>
- Internship Programme: <https://saasweb.hku.hk/teaching/internship-details.php>
- Career Advising Programme: <https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/cap.php>
- Academic Advising & Scholarships Office of the Registry: <https://aas.hku.hk/>
- University Bus Service, Estates Office homepage: <https://www.estates.hku.hk/shuttle>
- Announcement from Vice-President (T&L): <https://tl.hku.hk/email-announcement-from-vice-president-teaching-and-learning/>
- Examination Schedules, Examinations Office: <http://www.exam.hku.hk/>
- Class Timetable, SIS: https://intraweb.hku.hk/reserved_1/sis_student/sis/SIS-class-timetable.html
(for reference only and subject to changes)
- HKU Virtual Private Network (HKUVPN): <https://its.hku.hk/services/network-connectivity/hkuvpn/>
- ITS Orientations for New Students (Aug & Sept): <https://its.hku.hk/events/>

For Enquiries

14. For advice on course selection matters, please consult the following Course Selection Advisers (CSA). But after the course selection period (in August), **consultation with CSA should be arranged by appointments via email in advance.**

- Prof K.C. Cheung (Chief CSA) in Room 219, 2/F, Run Run Shaw Building (kccg@hku.hk)
- Dr David Lee in Room 120, 1/F, Run Run Shaw Building (leedav@hku.hk)
- Dr W. Li in Room 232, 2/F, Run Run Shaw Building (wylsaas@hku.hk)

15. For enquiries on course selection procedures: Mr K.L. Ng (ug_enquiry@saas.hku.hk)

16. For enquiries on technical issues, please contact the ITS Service Desk at 3917-0123 during office hours (9:00am to 5:45pm, Monday through Friday; 9:00am to 12:30pm, Saturday; excluding University and public holidays). You can also send your questions by email to ithelp@hku.hk.

Students should double check the abovementioned dates/details on the Faculty's website. In the event of discrepancies, the ones stated by the Faculty shall prevail.

We wish you all the best in your 4-year university life ahead.