

Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science,
School of Computing and Data Science, The University of Hong Kong
Notes of Course Selection for BStat Freshmen (2025-2026)

(Course Selection Period: 19 August 2025, 10am – 25 August 2025, 4pm)

The Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science (SAAS) would like to welcome you to the University. For planning your first-year study in BStat (Professional Core in Decision Analytics / Risk Management / Statistics), please read the following carefully.

1. Please find in the links below different documents for your references when it comes to select courses. Read the "Notes" inside each document carefully.

- **Induction Day Presentation:** https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2025/ST_Induction_Day_2025_20250818.pdf
- **First-year Timetable:** https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2025/25-26_BStat_Yr1_timetable.pdf
- **Professional Core in Decision Analytics (DA)**
Suggested Study Plan: [https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2025/Suggested_BStat\(DA\)\(2025\).pdf](https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2025/Suggested_BStat(DA)(2025).pdf)
- **Professional Core in Risk Management (RM)**
Suggested Study Plan: [https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2025/Suggested_BStat\(RM\)\(2025\).pdf](https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2025/Suggested_BStat(RM)(2025).pdf)
- **Professional Core in Statistics (ST)**
Suggested Study Plan: [https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2025/Suggested_BStat\(ST\)\(2025\).pdf](https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2025/Suggested_BStat(ST)(2025).pdf)

2. More information about the programme for "CURRENT STUDENTS" can also be found on the Department's website: <https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/bstat.php>. For example:

SDST Course List: <https://saasweb.hku.hk/courses/202526/>

Student Handbook: <https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2025/SAAS-Handbook2025-26.pdf>

Calendar: https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2025/Dates_of_Semesters_2025-2026.pdf

SAAS Timetable: https://saasresearch.hku.hk/share/student/u2025/25-26_timetable_1st_Semester.pdf

Scholarships: <https://saasweb.hku.hk/programme/scholarship.php>

Internship Programme: <https://saasweb.hku.hk/teaching/internship-details.php>

Professional Development (PD)/Career Advising Programme (CAP): <https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/cap.php>

Academic Advising & Scholarships Office (AASO) 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 and Examination Arrangements during Bad Weather: http://www.exam.hku.hk/a2_badweather.php

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/>

3. a) **Application for Advanced Standing by 25 August 2025, 4pm.** Students should submit the completed application form along with all required documents to General Office (email: ugenq@hku.hk) before due. Late submission will NOT be accepted.

b) **Application for Exemption from Taking Chinese Language Enhancement Course by 25 August 2025, 4pm.** Students should submit the completed application form along with all required documents to General Office (email: ugenq@hku.hk) before due. Late submission will NOT be accepted.

c) **Exemption to take CAES1001 Academic Communication in English (ACE): No application is required**, students who are eligible for exemption from CAES1001 will be notified of the results by the Department via **by 1 September 2025**.

Application forms are available at: <https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/forms/>

The Department's decision to applications and exemptions shall prevail and conclusive.

4. Some courses/subclasses may 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 (20 August 2025, (Wed) 12nn – 21 August 2025, (Thu) 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 taken, especially if the course has a quota.

5. You should select courses for both Semester 1 and Semester 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.

6. **Check your SDST course enrolment status from time to time**, and have a second plan for immediate action (before the system closes) in case of an unsuccessful balloting result, e.g. disapproved enrolment. Although there will be a final class balloting act after the course selection system closes, you will not be able to adjust your course selection until the add/drop period begins.

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

CAES1001 (English) in year 1

CAES9821 (English) in year 2

- CSCI9001 (Chinese) (course code to be confirmed) or equivalent in year 3

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

8. The course selection status and ballot result should be confirmed on **29 August 2025, 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.

9. **Freshmen may be unable to select certain second-semester courses due to not meeting pre-requisites.** For example, MATH2014 can only be enrolled after you pass its pre-requisite course MATH1013, so you do not need to seek any approval in Semester 1 now for taking MATH2014. Please wait until you have completed the pre-requisite course. But if you cannot select certain SDST[#] 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 to course teacher for approval. If it is approved, then, submit it to SAAS General Office (ugenq@hku.hk) for further process.

Again, students should submit the endorsed and signed form (email confirmation by teacher is also accepted) including any non-SDST courses to SAAS General Office (ugenq@hku.hk) for further processing by **25 August 2025, 4pm**.

[#] **For non-SDST courses**, students have to seek approval from the course-offering departments/schools. Upon successful approval, students should submit the endorsed form (with teachers' approval) to SAAS General Office (ugenq@hku.hk) for further processing by deadline.

* **Course Approval Form and other forms:** <https://saasweb.hku.hk/current/forms/>

Plan Your Study Ahead

The Department reserved a number of seats of **COMP1117 Computer Programming** for BStat students. **Students should enroll in the course in the earliest opportunity, but no later than 22 August 2025, 5pm**. Otherwise, the seats will be released to other students in the waiting list, given the very high demand for the course and very limited quota of seats. We will **NOT** be able to retrieve the reserved seats once they are released to other students, whilst seats in other subclasses are **NOT** reserved/guaranteed.

10. You are allowed to choose available subclasses different from our suggested ones to suit your personal timetable, provided that there is no time clash. However, **plan your study carefully with reference to the course-offering semesters, course pre-requisites, foreseeable internship and exchange opportunities**. For example,

- a. Students cannot take MATH2014 before having completed MATH1013. If taking MATH1013 is delayed to second semester, this means taking MATH2014 would consequently be delayed to year 2.
- b. 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 and after the exchange/internship in order to graduate on time. Normally 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.
- c. Not only do you need to make sure that the pre-requisite courses are completed before taking the more advanced courses in later years, but also that you do **NOT** take other courses including those transferred from exchange studies which are **mutually exclusive** to your required courses (e.g. SDST3609 vs FINA2320).

11. 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 both SDST and non-SDST 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 courses being mutually exclusive to one another suggests equivalency **NOR** 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 with that major.

12. UGRE1001 Requirement

Students are required to complete and pass the non-credit bearing course UGRE1001 Introduction to the Constitution, the Basic Law and the National Security 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: UGRE1001@hku.hk.

For Enquiries

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

- BStat Course Approver: **Prof. C. Wang** (stacw@hku.hk) Room 122, 1/F, Run Run Shaw Building
- BStat Programme Director: **Prof. Stephen Lee** (smslee@hku.hk) Room 227, 2/F, Run Run Shaw Building
- SAAS Associate Head: **Dr. K.P. Wat** (watkp@hku.hk) Room 235, 2/F, Run Run Shaw Building

14. For enquiries on course selection procedures: ugenq@hku.hk

15. 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.

The information provided herein is for general purposes only and is subject to change without prior notice. Students are encouraged to independently verify all details on respective official websites.

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