Hong Kong University (LLB)

This semester-long study abroad program gives University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School students access to the wide-ranging and dynamic curriculum of the HKU Faculty of Law, a regional center of excellence in China and the Asia-Pacific Region.

Program Description

Hong Kong University (HKU) is Hong Kong’s leading law school and is ranked among the best in the Asia-Pacific region. HKU has strong tradition of teaching, research in the common law, and prominent links with the professional community world. The Faculty has over 1250 undergraduates enrolled in the law-related bachelor degrees, 280 PCLL students, 80 JD students, and over 1000 full-time and part-time postgraduate students. Through this one-term program, Penn’s Law School students enroll in LLB coursework at HKU.

This semester exchange program is independent of our year-long dual degree program with HKU.

Curriculum

Except for some courses offered in the Chinese Law program, the teaching language for most courses offered by the law faculty is English. Please note that HKU typically requires that nominated exchange students hold a minimum GPA of 3.33 (B+).
Credits at HKU

Prior to their departure, students must ensure they are on track to complete the necessary upper-level semester hours to meet their JD degree requirements. Penn Carey Law School students will receive 12 credits for their semester at HKU.

Sample of Courses

- Human Rights in China
- Law and Social Justice at the Intersections: Gender, Race, Religion, and Sexuality
- Introduction to Chinese Law and Legal System
- Energy Law
- Current Issues in Chinese Law
- The Beginnings of English Law and Literature
- Human Rights in Practice
- Armed Conflicts, Humanitarian Law, and Human Rights
- Economic, Cultural and Social Rights
- Corporate Governance and Shareholder Remedies
- Alternative Dispute Resolution

Grading and Evaluation

Academic performance is assessed by various methods, including written exams, oral presentations, and papers. The HKU grading system is comparable to the letter scale used in the U.S. All classes at Hong Kong University must be taken for a grade (i.e., not pass/fail) but will not be factored into your Penn Carey Law GPA.

Academic Calendar

Although the program dates vary from year to year, the HKU fall term generally begins in early September with an exam timetable and winter break similar to Penn’s Law School. The HKU spring term typically starts in mid-January and runs until late-April, not including reading week and exams.

Recent Penn Carey Law Students

Joanna Kamhi (Fall 2019)  Kelsey Lee (Fall 2019)  Sarah Hill (Fall 2018)
Cost of Living

The CEDARS website offers a useful “Non-Local Student Welcome Guide” that includes estimates for living expenses in Hong Kong.

Visa Information

Students who are admitted to the program will need to apply for a visa. Information on the visa application process is available on the HKU website.

Health and Safety

Students should arrange accident and sickness insurance for the duration of their studies in Hong Kong. The coverage should include provisions for emergency evacuation/rescuer’s expenses and repatriation. If students plan to travel outside Hong Kong, they should make sure that their insurance policy covers those destinations as well.

The University provides health care to entitled students through a clinic on the main campus. Medical consultations are generally free of charge. Certain medications, preventive services and other items are charged at cost. Specialist care and hospitalization can be provided at public clinics and general wards of government hospitals. Non-local students without a Hong Kong Identity Card (HKID) are required to pay full fees for services and hospitalization in government hospitals.

You are eligible to apply for a Hong Kong Identity Card (HKID) card if you are going to spend more than 180 days in Hong Kong, which provides government subsidized rates at public clinics and government hospitals. However, since it can take up to month to obtain the HKID card, you are strongly advised to obtain private medical insurance to cover the whole period of stay in Hong Kong.

Please review the Health and Safety information available on the Penn Global Support Services website. Details on Travel Warnings, if relevant, are posted under International Travel Guidance.

Disability Access and Special Needs

HKU welcomes students with disabilities, and will work with individuals to achieve a rewarding university experience. For details on accessibility support for students with physical, sensory, or learning disabilities, please access the CEDARS website.

Contact Info for Foreign Institution

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