**SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF**
**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HUMANITIES AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES**

These syllabuses apply to candidates admitted to the BA(HDT) curriculum in the academic year 2025-2026.

**Overall curriculum structure**

Candidates are required to complete courses totaling not fewer than 240 credits, comprising:

| Curriculum Structure | Credits |
|---|---|
| **University Graduation Requirements** | **54** |
| Common Core Curriculum | 36 |
| Language Enhancement Courses | 12 |
| Artificial Intelligence Literacy Courses | 6 |
| Successful completion of any other non-credit bearing courses as required | / |
| **Major in Humanities and Digital Technologies (HDT)*** | **96** |
| HUDT1001. Foundations of humanities and digital technologies | 6 |
| HUDT1002. Essential methods in humanities and digital technologies | 6 |
| HUDT2100. Emerging trends and trajectories in digital practices | 6 |
| SDST1016. Data science 101<br>***or***<br>LING2071. Introductory statistics for the humanities | 6 |
| HUDT3001. Advanced topics in humanities and digital technologies<br>***or***<br>HUDT3002. Thinking machines, thinking with machines | 6 |
| HUDT3100. Internship in humanities and digital technologies | 6 |
| HUDT4001. Research project in humanities and digital technologies (capstone experience) | 6 |
| HDT advanced interdisciplinary electives | 12 |
| Humanities focus | 42 |
| **Electives** | **90** |
| **Total:** | **240** |

* This Major is not offered to students from other curricula.

Notes:

1) Candidates shall normally complete 60 credits in an academic year. The normal study load of Semester 1 and that of Semester 2 is 30 credits. Candidates may opt to take 36 credits in these semesters without seeking approval from the Faculty.

2) 12 credits in language enhancement courses, including a non-credit bearing Academic Communication in English course[1], 6 credits in an "English in the Discipline" course and 6 credits in the Chinese language enhancement course[2].

[1] Candidates who have achieved Level 5 or above in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, or equivalent, are exempted from this requirement, and CAES1001 is optional.

[2] Candidates who did not study Chinese language during their secondary education and have not reached the required proficiency level for CART9001 may take a course in either Chinese language or Chinese culture offered by the Chinese Language Centre of the School of Chinese in lieu.

3) To facilitate the research project required in Year 4, students are required to complete the Humanities electives from the same Programme (e.g. English Studies, History).

4) 90 credits in elective courses, which may include courses offered by any Arts and non-Arts teaching unit(s), except the Common Core Curriculum. It is optional for candidates to pursue a second major or up to two minors. These second major and minor(s) can be offered by the Faculty of Arts or other Faculties. Please note that candidates shall be required to take additional 6 credits for pursuing another major with requirements consisting of 96 credits.

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**Common Core Curriculum (36 credits)**

Candidates are required to complete 36 credits in the Common Core Curriculum within Year 1 to Year 3, comprising at least 6 credits and not more than 12 credits from each Area of Inquiry (AoI), with not more than 24 credits being selected within one academic year except where candidates are required to make up for failed credits.

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**Language Enhancement Courses (12 credits)**

- "CAES1001. Academic Communication in English" (non-credit bearing) in Year 1

- Take *one* of the following "English in the Discipline" courses (6 credits) in Year 2:
  - CAES9201. Academic English: Countries and Cultures
  - CAES9202. Academic English: Literary Studies
  - CAES9203. Academic English: Philosophy and the History of Ideas
  - CAES9204. Academic English: History
  - CAES9205. Academic English: Language Studies
  - CAES9206. Academic English: Creative and Visual Arts

- Take *one* of the following Chinese language enhancement courses (6 credits) in Year 3:
  - CART9001. Practical Chinese for Arts Students
  - CUND9001. Basic Spoken and Written Cantonese for Mandarin Speakers (Note: for Putonghua-speaking students)
  - CUND9002. Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society (Note: for Putonghua-speaking students)
  - CUND9003. Cantonese for non-Cantonese Speaking Students (Note: for Putonghua-speaking students)
  - CUND9004. Practical Applied Chinese Writing and Effective Presentation Skills for Non-local Mandarin Speaking Students (Note: for Putonghua-speaking students)

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**Artificial Intelligence Literacy Courses (6 credits)**

- "AILT1001. Artificial Intelligence Literacy I" (3 credits) in Year 1
- "AILT9009. AI Literacy 2: Humanities" (3 credits) in Year 2

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**Major in Humanities and Digital Technologies (HDT) (96 credits)**

- **Compulsory courses**: Take *all* the following courses (totaling 42 credits)

  Year 1:
  - HUDT1001. Foundations of humanities and digital technologies (6 credits); and

HUDT1002. Essential methods in humanities and digital technologies (6 credits)

Year 2:
HUDT2100. Emerging trends and trajectories in digital practices (6 credits); and
{either
SDST1016. Data science 101 (6 credits); or
LING2071. Introductory statistics for the humanities (6 credits)}

Year 3:
HUDT3001. Advanced topics in humanities and digital technologies (6 credits) or;
HUDT3002. Thinking machines, thinking with machines (6 credits)

Year 4:
HUDT4001. Research project in humanities and digital technologies (Capstone Experience) (6 credits)

Year 3 or 4:
HUDT3100. Internship in humanities and digital technologies (6 credits)

- **HDT advanced interdisciplinary electives**: Take *two* of the following from Year 2 to Year 4 (totaling 12 credits)

*Faculty of Arts*
HUDT2205. eXtended Reality (XR) in the humanities (6 credits)
HUDT2206. Humanities at play: Games and interactive design (6 credits)
HUDT2207. Databases, digital archives, and AI for cultural preservation (6 credits)
HUDT2208. Cultural evolution in the digital age (6 credits)
HUDT2210. Experiential learning in humanities and digital technologies (6 credits)
ARTH2110. Archaeology and digital humanities in the field (6 credits)
ARTH2111. Artifacts, technology, and archaeology (6 credits)
CAES2002. Online Digital Storytelling in English (6 credits)
CHIN2189. Media and modern Chinese literature (6 credits)
CHIN2296. Artificial intelligence and Chinese history research and teaching (6 credits)
CHIN2348. Bilingual studies in media and popular culture (6 credits)
CHIN2378. Harnessing AI in case law translation (6 credits)
CLIT2026. Digital culture (6 credits)
CLIT2100. Fugitive science: Science and technology studies (STS) approaches to facts and fakes (6 credits)
ENGL2050. English corpus linguistics (6 credits)
ENGL2103. Language and social media (6 credits)
ENGL2166. English phonetics (6 credits)
ENGL2195. Staging Asia (6 credits)
ENGL2198. Interactive narratives: Literature through new media (6 credits)
GCIN2029. Understanding video games: How to design popular culture (6 credits)
GCIN2035. Digital economy, media and entertainment (6 credits)
GCIN2038. Entertainment markets and digital audiences in Asia (6 credits)
GCIN2115. Video game music (6 credits)
GCIN2117. History of the internet (6 credits)
GCIN2118. Introduction to video games studies (6 credits)
GCIN2119. Interactive media and narrative adaptation (6 credits)
GCIN2122. Streaming television: Developments, practices and processes (6 credits)
GCIN2123. Digital roleplaying games (6 credits)
GEND2010. Feminist science and technology studies (6 credits)
GLAS2101. Art, time, and new media (6 credits)
GLAS3101. Interculturality in a virtual world (6 credits)

HIST2136. The Graeco-Roman world: From Homer to Augustus (6 credits)
HIST2204. Technology and society: A modern history (6 credits)
HIST2205. Digital history: From concordances to big data (6 credits)
HIST2207. Printer, typesetter, reader, scribe: A global history of books (6 credits)
HIST2218. Medieval and early modern Korea (6 credits)
HIST3080. Historical gaming (6 credits)
HIST4037. Automating the Past: Artificial Intelligence and the Historian's Craft (6 credits)
JAPN2103. Artificial intelligence, androids, and automation in Japanese literature and popular culture (6 credits)
LING2027. Phonology: An introduction to the study of sound systems (6 credits)
LING2066. Variation Analysis (6 credits)
LING2067. Natural language processing (6 credits)
LING2068. Modelling language and languages (6 credits)
MUSI2088. Music, AI, and the Future of Creativity (6 credits)
MUSI3042. Music production: from ideation to realization (6 credits)
PHIL2225. The philosophy of artificial intelligence (6 credits)
PHIL2230. Philosophy and cognitive science (6 credits)
PHIL2656. Philosophy of virtual reality (6 credits)

*Faculty of Education*
BSIM3021. Web development, users and management (6 credits)
BSIM3025. Multimedia and human-computer interaction (6 credits)
BSIM4019. Electronic commerce (6 credits)
BSIM4024. Fundamentals of object-oriented programming (6 credits)
BSIM4027. Selected topics in information management (6 credits)
BSIM4028. Principles and practice of data visualization (6 credits)

*School of Computing & Data Science*
COMP3270. Introduction to artificial intelligence (6 credits)
COMP3278. Introduction to database management systems (6 credits)
COMP3314. Introduction to machine learning (6 credits)
COMP3329. Computer game design and programming (6 credits)
COMP3330. Interactive mobile application design and programming (6 credits)

- **Humanities focus**: Choose one of the following Arts disciplines as Humanities focus. Take *6-12 credits* of introductory course(s) in Year 1 and *30-36 credits* of advanced courses from Year 2 to Year 4, all from the **same Arts discipline**, except for language-learning courses (e.g. "KORE1001. Korean I.1"). (totaling 42 credits)

Art History
Buddhist Studies
Chinese History and Culture
Chinese Language and Literature
Comparative Literature
English Studies
Gender Studies
General Linguistics
Global and Area Studies
History
Hong Kong Studies
Japanese Studies
Korean Studies
Music
Philosophy
Translation

Notes:

1) A course cannot be counted towards more than one requirement relating to a major and/or a minor, or an Arts discipline. Courses listed under both "HDT advanced interdisciplinary elective" and "Humanities focus" will be counted towards the "HDT advanced interdisciplinary elective" requirement first. It will only be counted towards the "Humanities focus" once the "HDT advanced interdisciplinary elective" requirement has been fulfilled.

2) Candidates may be required to take additional course(s) to fulfil the pre-requisite(s) or co-requisite(s) of a HDT elective, a course counting towards the Humanities focus or a free elective. Please refer to the relevant Programme's syllabuses for course descriptions and enrollment conditions.

3) Chinese language proficiency is required for candidates choosing Chinese History and Culture, Chinese Language and Literature or Translation as the Humanities focus.

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## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Not all courses are offered every semester or annually. Please check with the teaching units for their course offering around August.

### Major in Humanities and Digital Technologies – Compulsory Courses

**HUDT1001. Foundations of humanities and digital technologies (6 credits)**

This course provides an immersive exploration of how digital technologies enhance traditional humanities disciplines while also offering a humanistic lens for understanding today's information society. The modules are designed to showcase how scholars from diverse disciplines have integrated their core research questions with digital media and computational methods, achieving varying degrees of success. Topics to be covered include distant reading, the digital dark age, data materiality, and cultural analytics. Students will cultivate a nuanced understanding of the scholarly disagreements and debates in various digital humanities subfields.
Co-requisite: HUDT1002.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**HUDT1002. Essential methods in humanities and digital technologies (6 credits)**

This hands-on course delves into the creation, authentication, visualisation, analysis, interpretation, curation, and archiving of digitised and born-digital materials in the humanities. Students will gain an introductory understanding of how digital devices and ICT infrastructure function, along with essential skills in Python programming and relevant software. Key methods to be covered include database design, text mining, topic modelling, spatial visualisation, network analysis, and machine learning. This methodological training will culminate in a final team project, where students are expected to integrate theoretical insights with technical proficiency in the humanities and digital technologies.
Co-requisite: HUDT1001.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**HUDT2100. Emerging trends and trajectories in digital practices (6 credits)**

This course offers advanced exploration of digital practices, providing students with a deeper understanding of the tools involved. By engaging in themed and topical projects within specific disciplines, students can refine their interests for capstone projects and internship opportunities. These disciplines include but are not limited to archival and data retrieval, heritage and cultural preservation,

virtual reality, media creation, artificial intelligence, creative industries, digital twins for industries, design, and game culture.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**SDST1016. Data science 101 (6 credits)**

The course introduces basic concepts and methodology of data science to junior undergraduate students. The teaching is designed at a level appropriate for all undergraduate students with various backgrounds and without pre-requisites. Students will engage in a full data work-flow including collaborative data science projects. They will study a full spectrum of data science topics, from initial investigation and data acquisition to the communication of final results. Specifically, the course provides exposure to different data types and sources, and the process of data curation for the purpose of transforming them to a format suitable for analysis. It introduces elementary notions in estimation, prediction and inference. Case studies involving less-manicured data are discussed to enhance the computational and analytical abilities of the students.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**LING2071. Introductory statistics for the humanities (6 credits)**

Quantitative studies are growing more and more common in the humanities, and a knowledge of statistics is quickly becoming a valuable asset to follow and conduct research in fields such as linguistics, history or literature. This course aims to equip students with a solid understanding of fundamental concepts and tools in statistics, so they can better approach statistical analyses in research studies and conduct their own research with common basic statistical tools. Flipped classroom will be used for most of the lectures to allow more learning activities and hands-on practice in class. The free software Jamovi will be introduced and used to conduct statistical analyses.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**HUDT3001. Advanced topics in humanities and digital technologies (6 credits)**

This course invites students to engage with the transformative impact of big data, artificial intelligence, blockchain, the metaverse, and smart sensors from a humanities perspective. Recognising that the digital transformation of society is still in its early stages, it encourages students to look ahead to the coming decades with a global and critical understanding of the ongoing societal disruptions caused by these emerging technologies. Topics to be covered include archives of the future, gamification, the energetics of big data, the philosophy of real time, and decentralised ledgers. Students will collaborate in teams to develop final research projects based on these themes and reflect on the current and future directions of the digital humanities.
Pre-requisites: HUDT1001 and HUDT1002.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**HUDT3002. Thinking machines, thinking with machines (6 credits)**

As an advanced HDT course in the BA(HDT) programme, this course ambitions to develop higher-level thinking about the use and impact of digital technologies, in the Arts and beyond. To this end, it adopts multiple perspectives (from history, cognitive science, theory of activity) and practical engagement with the most recent developments of AI (agentic AI, LLM-based automation). A flipped-classroom pedagogical approach is adopted to leave ample time for supervised activities in the classroom, and assessment - with projects and essay-like contributions - includes a strong reflective component.
Pre-requisites: HUDT1001 and HUDT1002.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**HUDT3100. Internship in humanities and digital technologies (6 credits)**

This internship course provides students with an opportunity to broaden their undergraduate education through experiential learning. Students will acquire invaluable work experience, hone transferrable skills for a wide range of careers, and develop sharper awareness of the intersections between humanities and digital technologies in the workplace. Students enrolled into the course might work on research, fact checking, interviewing people, grant-writing and fund-raising, event management, writing documents, reports or copy for publication, translation and communication, interpersonal speaking and writing, networking and outreach, data management, text encoding and/or database construction, website creation, social media management, or project development.
At the end of the internship, students will submit a written report (approximately 2,000 words) on work/project(s) conducted during the internship and a critical reflection on the internship experience, signed by the organisation contact. The report should reflect on how their interdisciplinary training integrates with the workplace experience, and how the experience enhances their personal development and growth, including whether the experience has helped them identify their strengths and areas in need of improvement.
During the semester, students will meet with the course supervisor at least twice to discuss the internship progress and the written report. The assessment of their performance is not based on specific assignments but their ongoing workplace experience, the evaluation provided by the host organisation, as well as the written report.
Pre-requisites: HUDT1001 and HUDT1002.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**HUDT4001. Research project in humanities and digital technologies (capstone experience) (6 credits)**

This final-year project enables students to pursue their individual interests in any aspect of the intersection between humanities and digital technologies under the supervision of a faculty member. While students may choose the research route of producing an extended essay of approximately 5,000 words (supported by research with a strong digital component), this capstone experience explicitly encourages creativity and innovation, and (subject to the approval of the course coordinator and supervisor), students may be approved to undertake a creative or digital development project. If the latter option is chosen, students will also submit a written report (approx. 2,000 words) on their project, describing and reflecting on the process of their work. Students are expected to meet with their supervisors regularly and to present their work-in-progress to their supervisors in the course of the semester.
Pre-requisite: HUDT1001 and HUDT1002.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**<u>Major in Humanities and Digital Technologies – Advanced Interdisciplinary Electives</u>**

**HUDT2205. eXtended Reality (XR) in the humanities (6 credits)**

eXtended Reality (XR), encompasses the range of three-dimensional (3D) digital-visual technologies that include Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR), and Mixed Reality (MR). XR provides users with immersive visual experiences by placing computer graphics into their view. XR has become vital in transforming many fields, including entertainment, learning, training, and industrial production pipelines. Within the humanities, XR's immersive experiences have the potential to reshape human cultural landscapes and our interaction with the arts. In this course, students will gain insights into the emerging landscape of the experience economy and further investigate the new ecology of this economy,

its components, and their implications for humanity's future. Students will gain some experience with creating 3D models and building immersive experiences for the humanities while experimenting with the latest hardware. We will explore how XR technologies can change the way we research and teach about the humanities, such as exploring reconstructed ancient sites in archaeology or experiencing virtual music in 360 degrees, or yet how history may be archived or investigated. Students are encouraged to critically examine the socio-cultural changes brought about by these technological paradigms.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**HUDT2206. Humanities at play: Games and interactive design (6 credits)**

The humanities ask crucial questions about humans, culture, and history—but the answers are never final. Instead, they emerge through continual reinterpretation from new perspectives. In today's digital world, these interpretive encounters are increasingly shaped by interactive forms: visualizations we explore, maps we navigate, conversations we engage in, and games we play.
This course bridges humanities inquiry and digital innovation by treating interaction as a mode of interpretation. Students learn how cultural materials can be transformed into interactive experiences across a spectrum of digital forms, including interactive visualizations, web-based mapping, dialogic systems, and playable game prototypes. Among these, digital games serve as a central—though not exclusive—medium, offering a particularly engaging way to explore how rules, systems, and player choice structure meaning.
The course also incorporates AI as part of contemporary interactive workflows. Students experiment with AI-assisted tools for content transformation, generation, and prototyping, while critically reflecting on how AI reshapes interaction, interpretation, and authorship in humanities projects. Emphasizing hands-on experimentation and project-based learning, the course equips students to design interactive works that engage humanities questions in rigorous, playful, and technically informed ways.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**HUDT2207. Databases, digital archives, and AI for cultural preservation (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the principles and practices of data management, database construction, and digital archiving for cultural preservation. Students will learn the fundamentals of relational database design, SQL, Python, and SQLite through hands-on work with cultural and archival datasets. Topics include querying databases, creating and modifying tables, cleaning metadata, and building a small archive-style database. The course also examines how AI is transforming digital preservation, archival discovery, and access through OCR, handwritten text recognition, automated metadata generation, image restoration, and automatic speech transcription. Case studies may include charred papyri, damaged manuscripts, fragile sound recordings, faded paintings, and hidden archaeological sites. Through technical training, case study analysis, and ethical reflection, students will consider how digital technologies shape what societies preserve, discover, access, and remember.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**HUDT2208. Cultural evolution in the digital age (6 credits)**

This course explores how stories, languages, manuscripts, material culture, and cultural traditions change as they are copied, shared, adapted, and passed down. Students will build practical skills in R and learn how computational methods can be used to trace patterns of inheritance, borrowing, innovation, and contact across humanities data. Drawing on examples from manuscript studies, language change, and cultural evolution, the course introduces key approaches such as tree thinking and computational methods adapted from the biological sciences, including parsimony methods and Bayesian methods. Students will learn to evaluate how data, assumptions, and models help shape our understanding of the past. Through substantial hands-on practice, culminating in the replication of an

existing study, students will develop skills in coding, data analysis, interpretation, and critical evaluation.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**HUDT2210. Experiential learning in humanities and digital technologies (6 credits)**

This course provides structured experiential learning in humanities and digital technologies through lectures, and/or field trips to businesses, cultural sites, and events. It will be offered periodically with a specific theme selected by experts in the field, including scholars and industry practitioners. Students will gain first-hand insight into professional practice and examine the technological, cultural, organisational, and social issues associated with the selected theme.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

Please refer to the BA syllabuses, which are available at https://arts.hku.hk/current-students/undergraduate/regulations/, for the course descriptions and enrollment conditions of the other eligible Arts courses.

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**Electives**

**HUDT1205. Introduction to gaming and gameplay (6 credits)**

Video games have emerged as a dominant cultural medium in the modern world, serving as a powerful economic engine and a critical instrument of national soft power. Studying games—along with their socio-cultural impacts—is essential to understanding the ongoing evolution of play in human civilization. Leveraging artificial intelligence, students can now gain unprecedented perspectives on the historical and cultural development of gaming. This course challenges students to interrogate the role of gameplay in education, entertainment, and the preservation of collective memory, while framing digital play as a legitimate contemporary art form. Through the critical assessment of game mechanics and player experiences, students will research and reflect on their own interactive histories, envisioning new paradigms of play while translating these insights into actionable, real-world skill sets.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

Please refer to the BA syllabuses, which are available at https://arts.hku.hk/current-students/undergraduate/regulations/, for the course descriptions and enrollment conditions of the other eligible courses.

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**Artificial Intelligence Literacy Courses**

**AILT1001. Artificial Intelligence Literacy I (3 credits)**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) literacy is essential for navigating our modern society effectively and responsibly. This course provides students with the skills and knowledge needed to understand AI concepts, interact with AI systems, and critically evaluate their impact. Through lectures, online learning activities and a practical project, students will explore the ethical, social, and technological dimensions of AI, preparing them to make informed decisions in a world that is increasingly AI-driven.
Assessment: 100% coursework (graded on a distinction/pass/fail basis).

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**AILT9009. AI Literacy 2: Humanities (3 credits)**

This course invites Arts students to engage with artificial intelligence (AI) through a humanities lens. Students will explore how AI is reshaping traditional humanities disciplines—such as literature, history,

philosophy, and the arts—both as a tool and as a subject of inquiry. At the same time, the course considers how the critical and reflective approaches of the humanities can help us better understand AI itself: its underlying concepts, cultural significance, and its profound influence on contemporary life, identity, and society. Through case studies, discussions, and creative exploration, students will be encouraged to critically examine AI's promises and pitfalls, and to reflect on its role in shaping our understanding of what it means to be human.
Assessment: 100% coursework (graded on a distinction/pass/fail basis).

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**English Language Enhancement Courses**

**CAES1001. Academic Communication in English (non-credit bearing)**

The course is designed to equip first-year undergraduate students with a solid foundation in academic English literacy to succeed in their university studies. The course is dedicated to nurturing students' competencies in an English-medium university environment and fostering their confidence in effective oral, written, and visual communication. This is achieved by cultivating students' critical reading skills, information literacy skills, and digital literacy skills for academic English learning. The course also provides students with a comprehensive understanding of academic rhetoric across different mediums, including written, spoken, and visual tasks. By familiarizing students with the key genres and communication conventions in university education, the course empowers students to apply the acquired knowledge and skills to Common Core Courses.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**CAES9201. Academic English: Countries and Cultures (6 credits)**

This course aims to help students develop the English language skills they need to succeed in their major. The course is open to all BA, BA(GCIN), BA(HDT) and BA&BEng(AI&DataSc) students, but is most relevant to the needs of students majoring in, or intending to major in, American Studies, Art History, China Studies, Chinese History and Culture, Chinese Language and Literature, Comparative Literature, European Studies, Gender Studies, Global and Area Studies, Global Creative Industries, Hong Kong Studies, Japanese Studies, Korean Studies, a modern language, and Music. The primary aim of CAES9201 is to enable students to read texts on cultures, history and politics, and to use a range of rhetorical features to produce persuasive disciplinary essays. The course has a substantial secondary focus on the development of disciplinary speaking and listening skills.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**CAES9202. Academic English: Literary Studies (6 credits)**

This course aims to help students develop the English language skills they need to succeed in their major. The course is open to all BA, BA(GCIN), BA(HDT) and BA&BEng(AI&DataSc) students, but is most relevant to the needs of students majoring in, or intending to major in, Art History, Comparative Literature, English Studies, and Translation. The primary aim of CAES9202 is to enable students to read English fiction and literary criticism, and to use a range of rhetorical features to produce persuasive disciplinary essays. The course has a substantial secondary focus on the development of disciplinary speaking and listening skills.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**CAES9203. Academic English: Philosophy and the History of Ideas (6 credits)**

This course aims to help students develop the English language skills they need to succeed in their major. The course is open to all BA, BA(GCIN), BA(HDT) and BA&BEng(AI&DataSc) students, but

is most relevant to the needs of students majoring in, or intending to major in, Philosophy; students of other majors such as Art History, Chinese History and Culture, Comparative Literature and Gender Studies will find the history of ideas element of the course useful. The primary aim of CAES9203 is to enable students to read texts on philosophy and the development of influential, critical ideas (e.g. Marxism, liberalism, critical theory), and to use a range of analytical and rhetorical techniques to produce persuasive disciplinary essays. The course has a substantial secondary focus on the development of disciplinary speaking and listening skills.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**CAES9204. Academic English: History (6 credits)**

This course aims to help students develop the English language skills they need to succeed in their major. The course is open to all BA, BA(GCIN), BA(HDT) and BA&BEng(AI&DataSc) students, but is most relevant to the needs of students majoring in, or intending to major in, American Studies, Art History, China Studies, Chinese History and Culture, European Studies, Gender Studies, History, Hong Kong Studies, Japanese Studies, Korean Studies, or Music. The primary aim of CAES9204 is to enable students to read history texts, and to use a range of rhetorical features to produce persuasive disciplinary essays. The course has a substantial secondary focus on the development of disciplinary speaking and listening skills.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**CAES9205. Academic English: Language Studies (6 credits)**

This course aims to help students develop the English language skills they need to succeed in their major. The course is open to all BA, BA(GCIN), BA(HDT) and BA&BEng(AI&DataSc) students, but is most relevant to the needs of students majoring in, or intending to major in, Chinese Language and Literature, English Studies, General Linguistics, Language and Communication, a modern language, and Translation. The primary aim of CAES9205 is to enable students to read linguistics and translation texts, and to use a range of rhetorical features to produce persuasive disciplinary essays. The course has a substantial secondary focus on the development of disciplinary speaking and listening skills.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**CAES9206. Academic English: Creative and Visual Arts (6 credits)**

This course aims to help students develop the English language skills they need to succeed in their major. The course is open to all BA, BA(GCIN), BA(HDT) and BA&BEng(AI&DataSc) students, but is most relevant to the needs of students majoring in, or intending to major in, Art History, Comparative Literature, Gender Studies, Global Creative Industries, and Music. The primary aim of CAES9206 is to enable students to read texts on creative and visual arts, and to use a range of rhetorical features to produce persuasive disciplinary essays. The course has a substantial secondary focus on the development of disciplinary speaking and listening skills.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**Chinese Language Enhancement Courses**

Students are required to successfully complete the 6-credit Faculty-specific Chinese language enhancement course (CART9001) for graduation, except for

(a) Non-local Putonghua/Mandarin-speaking candidates who should take "CUND9001 Basic Spoken and Written Cantonese for Mandarin Speakers", "CUND9002 Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society", "CUND9003 Cantonese for Non-Cantonese Speaking Students" or "CUND9004

Practical Applied Chinese Writing and Effective Presentation Skills for Non-local Mandarin Speaking Students"; and

(b) Students who did not study Chinese language during their secondary education and have not reached the required proficiency level for CART9001 should seek approval from the Board of the Faculty for exemption from the Chinese language enhancement requirement, and take a course in either Chinese language or Chinese culture (CHIN95xx) offered by the Chinese Language Centre of the School of Chinese in lieu.

**CART9001. Practical Chinese for Arts Students (6 credits)**

This course is designed to promote the students' professional use of Chinese language in the workplace. The course will familiarize students with modern Chinese grammar, the correction of mistakenly written Chinese characters and various types of practical Chinese writings in professional contexts. Students are required to complete a series of communication- rich oral and written assignments and an examination. Special emphasis is given to the style and rhetoric of reader-based writings to heighten students' linguistic sensitivity.
This course will be offered in the second semester of the third year.
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**CUND9001. Basic Spoken and Written Cantonese for Mandarin Speakers (6 credits)**

This intensive Cantonese language course is designed for Mandarin (Putonghua) speakers who have no prior knowledge of Cantonese. The course aims to assist students in mastering Jyutping, the Cantonese romanization system, while simultaneously cultivating students' ability to communicate effectively in Cantonese, both orally and in written form, across a variety of situational conversations. Throughout the course, students will be exposed to practical sentence structures and a wide range of useful vocabulary related to various aspects of daily life. Furthermore, the curriculum allows students to gain insight into Hong Kong culture.
Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

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**CUND9002. Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society (6 credits)**

This course is specifically designed for the students from the Mainland. With Putonghua as the medium of instruction, it aims to underscore the characteristic styles and formats of practical Chinese writings in the workplace context in Hong Kong. Topics addressing the rhetorical strategies for reader-oriented professional writings are included to strengthen the students' command of the language. The evolution of Cantonese and the lexical and phonetic systems of this dialect will be explored. The local history and culture of Hong Kong will also be considered. On-site visits are organized to deepen the students' understanding of local traditions and, more importantly, to enhance their ability to appreciate and accept cultural and regional differences. Students will be able to apply the concepts and skills to accomplish different tasks effectively and persuasively in diverse and complex issues in oral and written forms as well as to produce good-quality practical writing.
Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

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**CUND9003. Cantonese for non-Cantonese Speaking Students (6 credits)**

This course is designed specifically for Putonghua speaking students that are proficient in the use of the Chinese language. It aimed at enabling students to learn the characteristics of Hong Kong written and spoken Chinese language, to discover the differences in vocabulary and expression between the Cantonese dialect and Putonghua. Through a comparative analysis of Putonghua and Cantonese, this course will familiarize students with traditional and simplified Chinese characters, strengthening their communication skills in everyday life, and to have a proper understanding of the culture, traditions and

people in Hong Kong. This course is essential to students who must adapt to lifestyle in Hong Kong within a short period of time.
Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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**CUND9004. Practical Applied Chinese Writing and Effective Presentation Skills for Non-local Mandarin Speaking Students (6 credits)**

The course aims to cultivate non-local Mandarin-speaking students' logical thinking and critical thinking skills. Through the exploration of various interdisciplinary knowledge topics, students are encouraged to analyze and evaluate information, such as a variety of the essays mainly focusing on the important social and economic issues, as well as the movies released between 1995 and the present. The students will also be provided with opportunities to engage in writing, group discussions and presentation, allowing them to practice their critical thinking skills and develop their ability to express their thoughts effectively using Mandarin. CUND9004 will construct a coherent, sustainable, and in-depth content to help students build strong arguments, enhance their lexical and syntactic knowledge, as well as enhance their ability to analyze information, construct well-reasoned arguments, and make informed decisions.
Assessment: 70% coursework, 30% examination.

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Amended October 2026