

## THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

### **Graduate Attributes for Research Postgraduate Programmes**

(extracted from the Graduate School website:

<http://www2.cuhk.edu.hk/gss/attributes.php>)

The University has clear expectations of the attributes of its graduates. The research programmes aim to educate researchers to embark on careers that would allow them to become world leaders in their fields, working as university professors, principal investigators in research institutes, senior managers in enterprises, or experts in other professions related to the pursuit and application of knowledge.

Doctoral degree graduates are expected to have acquired in-depth knowledge in a number of major areas of an academic discipline while maintaining a broad understanding of other related fields. They should have accumulated enough educational experience and background learning to be capable of performing independent research to advance scholarship, with global standards. In particular, they should have the ability to identify research trends and opportunities, venture into new research areas when appropriate, define long-term research objectives, formulate original research problems, and originate and develop solution methodologies. They should be capable of producing research output at a level that can either lead to publications in high-ranking scholastic venues, or to novel applications in relevant industrial, commercial, or other public sectors, or to other forms of useful knowledge transfer to society. They should have gained proficiency in techniques of knowledge dissemination through presentation and writing and some teaching experiences through student tutoring.

Master's degree graduates are expected to have acquired advanced knowledge in major areas of an academic discipline while maintaining a broad understanding of other related fields. They should have gained enough background knowledge to enable them to perform research with minimal supervision. In particular, they should have the ability to formulate individual research tasks and to develop solution methodologies under minimal supervision. They should also be capable of producing original, innovative research output, some of which may lead to publication in well-respected scholastic venues. They should have gained proficiency in techniques of knowledge dissemination through presentation and writing.

For graduates at both doctoral and master's level, communication and language skills

at a level appropriate to university graduates are expected already at the time of admission. In particular, fluent communication skills are expected in the language(s) essential to their research areas. In general, a high level of proficiency in English is expected as it is commonly regarded as the default international research language. Ability in a second language is encouraged. They are also expected to attain appropriate life-long self-learning skills.

While whole-person development is not part of the formal education objective for most postgraduate programmes, graduates are expected to have already possessed attributes of first-degree holders from CUHK or other leading universities, e.g., in domains such as honesty and integrity, in particular academic honesty, critical and independent thinking, cultivation of global perspective, desire to serve society, communication and language skills, and others.