

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
Earth System Science Programme
FAQ of Undergraduate Admission
for JUPAS Applicants

How many students will be admitted into the Earth System Science (Atmospheric Science / Geophysics) (ESSC-ASG)?

The projected enrolment is 20.

What's the difference between broad-based Earth System Science (ESSC) and Earth System Science (Atmospheric Science / Geophysics) (ESSC-ASG)?

From 2016, JUPAS applicants can become an ESSC student at CUHK through either JS 4633 - Earth System Science Programme (Atmospheric Science/Geophysics) or JS 4601 - Science – Broad-based Admission Scheme under the Faculty of Science. For a student who enters ESSC through JS 4633, it is compulsory for him / her to declare one of the streams. Declaration however is not a must for student who is admitted through JS4601, but they can apply in their final year of attendance to specialize in either the stream of Atmospheric Science or Geophysics and select relevant courses as prescribed in the Study Schemes. Please visit our website and refer to the course list: http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/sci/essc/ug_prg.html to learn more about the teaching contexts by comparing the courses required among ESSC, Atmospheric Science stream and Geophysics stream.

What's the advantage to be admitted through ESSC-ASG (JS4633)?

If you were to apply for direct entry through JS4633, you can have an early start in taking ESSC introductory courses. This allows you to take full advantage in choosing from a rich collection of intermediate and advanced courses at ESSC. At graduation, you will have a very comprehensive training and will be well prepared for pursuing a career in related fields or postgraduate studies.

Can a broad-based ESSC major student declare Atmospheric Science / Geophysics stream?

Yes, a broad-based ESSC major student can declare for the stream if he or she meets the requirement as pre-described in the Study Scheme.

Can I opt for both streams in Atmospheric Science and Geophysics?

In principle a student can opt for both streams simultaneously, but there are some technical difficulties. For example, he or she must take two capstone courses (final year project, or FYP) at the same time in Year 4, and it will likely pose a significant challenge in terms of time scheduling and successfully completing two FYPs.

I have studied Geography at the DSE level, am I qualified to become a student of ESSC-ASG?

Geography is one of the elective subjects being counted for admission. Student should also take at least one of the following subjects in order to fulfil the minimum entrance requirement: Physics, Mathematics (Module 1 or 2), Chemistry, Combined Science, Integrated Science, Biology.

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What were the admission score of the most recent years?

In Year 2020, the admission figures are as follows:

Subject	CHI	ENG	MATH	LS	M1/M2	Best Elective	2 nd Best Elective	3 rd Best Elective
Median	3	5	4	5*	-	5*	5	5
Lower Quartile	5	5	5*	4	-	5	5	-

In Year 2019, the admission figures are as follows:

Subject	CHI	ENG	MATH	LS	M1/M2	Best Elective	2 nd Best Elective	3 rd Best Elective
Median	5*	5	5	4	-	5*	5	5
Lower Quartile	3	4	5*	4	5	5	5	-

Will the ESSC programme conduct any interviews for JUPAS applicants of ESSC-ASG (JS4633)?

Interviews are scheduled in May. Only applicants who place ESSC-ASG (JS4633) in their BAND A choice will be considered for interviews.

What is the format of the interview? Any tips for me to prepare the interview?

The interview consists of 3 parts. Interviewees are asked in introducing themselves. This will be followed by a group discussion of a topic related to Earth System Science. In the last part, interviewees can ask questions such as those about the ESSC programme, CUHK, etc.

What is the weighting of interview score? Will I still be admitted to your programme if I failed to attend the interview?

Bonus points will be added to those who perform well in the interviews, which might affect their overall ranking among applicants each year. No penalty will be given if one fails to attend an interview.

(Oct 2020)