Master of Science in Biostatistics

Advancing your career in the data-intensive era through Biostatistics!

- Third intake in 2024
- Emphasizes on One Health approach training
- Comprehensive training in the principles and applications of statistics in biological science and public health
- Covers areas in probability and statistical theory with a research focus
- UGC Fellowship opportunities for local students up to HK$120,000 each

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The Department of Biostatistics was established on 1 July 2021. As the first of its kind in Hong Kong, it is uniquely positioned under the College of Science, City University of Hong Kong to achieve a vision of advancing health data science, enhancing collaborations with existing experts in data science, public health and veterinary epidemiology, as well as synergising interdisciplinary education and research across the University.

The Master of Science in Biostatistics, in its third year of offering, aims to train the next generation of biostatisticians through an innovative curriculum and equip them with the necessary analytical, leadership and communication skills to meet the challenges of a data-intense era. It will help foster the development of novel statistical theory and the application of state-of-the-art data analytical solutions for problems in public health, veterinary epidemiology and the biomedical sciences.

Comprehensive training in the principles and applications of statistics in biological science and public health will be provided. Students are trained in Biostatistics using One Health approach to enhance their knowledge, abilities and professional capabilities to solve the interdisciplinary health problems posed by emerging medical and public health issues.

Graduates of the programme, whom are envisaged to be in high demand following the increasing global concerns over public health and the rapid expansion of the pharmaceutical industry in China, will be qualified to pursue careers involving biomedical and public health in government, biotech companies, and national / international research institutions. There is a severe-shortage of trained biostatisticians in the market. And it is expected that there will be an increase in employment opportunities in public health for biostatisticians due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Programme Structure

Students are required to complete 30 credit units for graduation

Core Courses

- Introduction to Biostatistics in One Health
- Principles of Epidemiology and One Health
- Probability
- Statistical Computing
- Advanced Methods in Biostatistics
- Statistical Inference
- Communication and Project Study

Elective Courses

- Time Series Analysis
- Spatial Data Analysis
- Statistical Methods for Categorical Data Analysis
- Introduction to Statistical Learning
- Infectious Disease Epidemiology
- Intermediate Level Statistics for One Health

The offering of elective courses is subject to change without prior notice

Career Prospect

Graduates can pursue careers, for example, in biomedical and public health studies in government, biotechnology companies and national/international research institutions. The programme also provides the necessary academic preparation for those who wish to pursue PhD-level training in biostatistics at a later date.
Fellowships Scheme

Fellowship awards are available for local students admitted to this programme under the Fellowships Scheme supported by the HKSAR Government. This programme in the priority area of “Research” is one of the targeted programmes listed under the Fellowships Scheme with 3 fellowship awards. Local students admitted to the programme in full-time, part-time or combined study mode may be invited to submit applications for the fellowships.

Admission Requirements

To be eligible for admission, applicants must possess a recognized undergraduate degree that includes courses in the mathematical or biomedical sciences. Applicants who might not have solid training in mathematics and statistics during their undergraduate studies would also be considered. Prior coursework in linear algebra, calculus and statistics is highly desirable.

Applicants satisfying the admission requirements who have relevant working experience will be considered favourably.

Applicants whose entrance qualification is obtained from an institution where the medium of instruction is NOT English should also fulfill the following minimum English proficiency requirement:

- a score of 79 (Internet-based test) in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL); or
- an overall band score of 6.5 in International English Language Testing System (IELTS); or
- a score of 450 in the Chinese mainland’s College English Test (CET-6); or
- other equivalent qualifications.

For details of admission requirements, please visit https://www.cityu.edu.hk/pg/programme/p97

Application

Please apply online via https://www.cityu.edu.hk/pg/taught-postgraduate-programmes/