香港科技大学（广州）
THE HONG KONG
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY (GUANGZHOU)

社会枢纽
SOCIETY HUB

城市治理與設計學域
Urban Governance and Design Thrust

UGOD

PH.D.

IN URBAN GOVERNANCE AND DESIGN

AT HKUST(GZ)

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Overview of HKUST(GZ)

Formally established in June 2022, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Guangzhou) (hereinafter as HKUST(GZ)) is a cooperative-run higher education institution between the Chinese mainland and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, endeavoring to nurture future-oriented, high-level and innovative talents. Under the Unified HKUST-Complementary Campuses umbrella, HKUST(GZ) adopts the unique Hub-Thrust structure which facilitates Cross-disciplinary Education, Research and Knowledge Transfer.

Mission of the UGOD Thrust

The study of cities has become an increasingly cross-disciplinary enterprise. Urban Governance and Design Thrust aims to train the next generation of leaders in conducting cutting-edging innovative research on cities through cross-disciplinary approaches to solve complex urban problems.

Cross-Disciplinary Focus Areas

⭐ Education, Employment and Labor Markets

⭐ Population, Health, and Ageing

⭐ GIS and Spatial Analysis

⭐ Smart City

⭐ Migration, Inequality, and Social Inclusion

⭐ Regional and Urban Economic Development

⭐ Sustainable City

⭐ Transportation and Communication Infrastructure

Head's Message

Prof. Ge Lin KAN
Thrust Head
Urban Governance
and Design Thrust,
HKUST(GZ)

As the head of Urban Governance and Design Thrust, I welcome you to the UGOD. Our Thrust fosters research, education, and community service leading to improvements in urban living, urban environments, and sustained urban developments. Blending socioeconomic, spatial, and design perspectives, our diverse faculty conduct research in their areas of urban governance and design. Graduate students are typically clustered around their faculty advisers by taking courses and working on projects. Both faculty and graduate students use cross-disciplinary approaches to tackle wicked urban development and renewal problems. Together, we provide leadership to improve city lives in GBA and beyond. We encourage brilliant students to apply for our Ph.D. program and we welcome inquiries from citizens and applications from prospective students.

World Class Faculty

Our faculty members, who graduated from world-class universities, have outstanding scientific research achievements and extensive teaching experience. We aim to integrate excellent scientific research capabilities, keen cross-disciplinary insights and innovative pedagogy to cultivate future talents. We also maintain a strong connection with the industry through exchanges and collaboration with industry, by recruiting business leaders as Professors of Practice or members of our external advisory committees. The connection brings industrial insights and opportunities for research collaboration, internship and placement, and helps cultivate cross-disciplinary talents to meet the rapidly changing social needs in the high-tech and digital era.

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Regular Faculty at UGOD Thrust

Ge Lin KAN
[Head] /Professor
PhD in Spatial Demography,
State University of New York at Buffalo
Research interests:
GIS, Spatial Epidemiology,
Data Integration
Aging Urban Health

BIN JIANG
Professor
PhD in GeoInformatics,
Utrecht University
Research interests:
Georeferenced Big Data, Geospatial
Analysis, AI/Deep Learning

Zhuoni ZHANG
Associate Professor
PhD in Social Science,
The Hong Kong University of Science
and Technology
Research interests:
Urban Studies, Social Stratification,
Population Migration

Zhigang GE
Assistant Professor
PhD in Economics,
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Research interests:
Wealth and Income Inequality, Dynamic
Taxation, Entrepreneurship

Chaosu LI
Assistant Professor
PhD in Regional Planning,
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Research interests:
Urban Planning and Governance, Urban
Form, Climate Change Planning, Applied
GIS, Urban Big Data Analytics

Wanru XIONG
Assistant Professor
PhD in Demography,
Princeton University
Research interests:
Fertility, Marriage and Family, Migration,
Population Projection

Lin YANG
Assistant Professor
PhD in Applied Economics and
Management,
Cornell University
Research interests:
Environmental and Urban Economics,
Environmental Regulations,
Transportation, Energy Transition,
Climate Change, Solving Environmental
and Urban Challenges in China Using
High-resolution and High-frequency Data

Cheuk Yi Kelvin YUEN
Assistant Professor
PhD in Economics,
Washington University in St. Louis
Research interests:
Macroeconomics,
Labor Economics,
Entrepreneurship

Muzhi ZHOU
Assistant Professor
PhD in Sociology,
University of Oxford
Research interests:
Children & Family,
Ageing & Care,
Comparative Study,
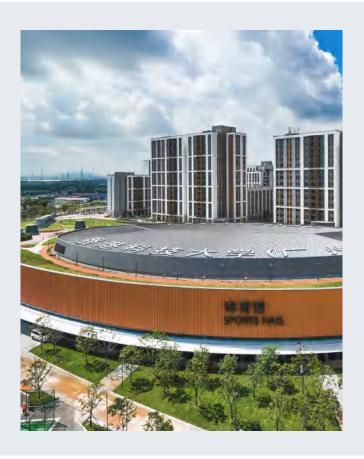Digital Technology & Digital Divide,
Time Use

Program Name

Doctor of Philosophy in
Urban Governance and Design-PhD

「 **UGOD** 」

Program Objectives

The PhD Program seeks to train students in original research with cross-disciplinary approach to urban governance and design, and to cultivate independent and innovative thinking for knowledge creation in the field. A PhD graduate is expected to demonstrate mastery of knowledge in the chosen area of research and to synthesize and create new knowledge by making an original and substantial contribution to the cross-disciplinary studies of cities.

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Admission Timeline

21 Jul 2023
Application opens

Start at Jan 2024
First round of interviews
(offline and online)

15 Jun 2024
Application deadline for
international students

15 Jul 2024
Application deadline for
Chinese students

Sep 2023 – Aug 2024
Admission offers issued #

Jan-Jul 2024
More interviews will be scheduled

* Since we will be accepting applications on a rolling basis until all PhD positions are occupied, applicants are encouraged to submit their application as soon as possible (by the end of December 2023).

Admission Requirements

General Admission Requirements

For PhD applicants seeking postgraduate admission

Obtained a bachelor's degree with a proven record of outstanding performance from a recognized institution; or presented evidence of satisfactory work at the postgraduate level on a full-time basis for at least one year, or on a part-time basis for at least two years.

English Language Requirements

Fulfill the English language requirements with one of the following proficiency attainments

Proficiency Test	Minimum Score
TOEFL- Internet-based Test (iBT)	80 (in one single attempt)
TOEFL-Paper-based Test (pBT)	550
TOEFL-Revised paper-delivered test	60 (total scores for Reading, Listening and Writing sections)
IELTS (Academic Module)	Overall score: 6.5 and All sub-score: 5.5

Applicants are not required to present TOEFL or IELTS score if

•Their first language is English, or
•They obtained the bachelor's degree (or equivalent) from an institution where the medium of instruction was English.

Application Fees
Research Postgraduate Programs (PhD)

CNY 150

Program Progression for PhD

First 3-semester coursework
Demonstrate competence

▼

PhD Qualifying Exam
Written proposal with oral defense

▼

PhD candidacy

Other required coursework

▼

Thesis and oral defense

▼

PhD degree conferred

Postgraduate Studentship (PGS)

CNY 15,000

per month, up to 4 years for full-time PhD students

Program Duration

PhD·Full-time:

3 years — with a relevant research master's degree

4 years — without a relevant research master's degree

Curriculum

Minimum Credit Requirement:

PhD: 21 credits

Each student is required to take cross-disciplinary core courses, core courses from both the Society Hub and other Hubs, a required course, and other elective courses to form an individualized curriculum relevant to the cross-disciplinary thesis research. To ensure that students will take appropriate courses to equip them with needed domain knowledge, each student has a Program Planning Committee to approve the courses to be taken soonest after program commencement and no later than the end of the first year. Depending on the approved curriculum, individual students may be required to complete additional credits beyond the minimal credit requirements.

Tuition

Research Postgraduate Programs (with PGS) CNY 40,000 per academic year

CNY 40,000

Research Postgraduate Programs (self-funded) CNY 150,000 per academic year

CNY 150,000

Useful QR code Attached

For Program Details

Contact Proposed Supervisors

Submit Online Application

For Program Details： https://fytgs.hkust-gz.edu.cn/ programs/2024-25/society-hub-urban-governance-and-design-3