

## B.A. (Hons.) in English Language and Literature

### 1. Why study a degree in English today?

The English Major Programme (“Programme”) offers excellent opportunities for students to develop their

- disciplinary knowledge in English language and literature with a cross-cultural perspective
- written and verbal communication skills
- critical thinking skills and appreciation of creative writing
- leadership skills and teamwork techniques
- awareness of international values, including overseas study and/or work experience

These are valuable assets for global citizens and leaders of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### 2. What is the English Major Programme about?

The English Major Programme provides students with

- a rigorous disciplinary training in English language and linguistics, comparative literature, and literatures written in English
- comparative and cross-cultural perspectives on, or approaches to, English language and linguistics, literary studies, and creative writing
- useful critical and analytical tools when addressing issues related to language, literature and culture in everyday life

### 3. What are the special features of the English Major Programme at HKBU?

The Programme offers students a variety of study routes in the form of “concentrations” within their Major, “Minors” outside their Major, and several “Double Majors” to meet individual interests, goals and needs flexibly.

**Concentrations:** Students can use their major elective units to concentrate their study on a focused area within their Major, namely, “Literary and Comparative Studies” or “Language and Communication Studies” in their third and fourth years. Students may also choose a “flexible” concentration within the Major by accumulating sufficient units leading to a “General Studies” concentration.

**Double Majors:** Students choosing to take a Double Major will study BA English as their ‘home’ major and BA Chinese or BA Religious Studies or BA Translation as their second major within the 4-year curriculum commencing September 2012. Upon graduation, Double Major students will receive one degree with two Majors.

**Minors:** Students may use their free elective units to develop a Minor in an area outside their Major programme. Depending on individual interests, students may choose any approved Minor programme on offer, such as Creative Writing, Theatre Studies, Marketing, Journalism, etc.

### 4. What other special learning opportunities are available in the English Major Programme?

We offer a broad array of extra- and co-curricular activities, including overseas exchange, and other programmes as follows:

**Overseas Exchange programmes:** Students may choose to go overseas on study exchange for one or two semesters in order to

- experience a new culture
- improve their language proficiency and cross-cultural perspective
- enhance their career prospects
- improve their interpersonal skills
- develop their leadership skills

**Work Attachment Programme:** Students can also join programmes organized by the Office of Student Affairs and work overseas in the summer. Popular placement choices include Disneyland in Florida, and the American Red Cross in Atlanta and Chicago, and other worthwhile destinations.

*Awards and scholarships:* Each year a dozen awards and scholarships may be offered to ENG students who demonstrate outstanding performance in academic or related areas.

Students have also enjoyed participating in extra-curricular activities, such as the Harvard National Model United Nations, the Hall Tutorship Programme, Leadership Training Programmes, and the Global Citizen Programme, so as to develop their leadership skills.

## 5. Who can apply?

All qualified JUPAS students. For non-JUPAS applicants (including those from international schools) with no knowledge of the Chinese Language, either French or German can be used to fulfill the University's language requirement.

Application is open to anyone who has satisfied the general University admission requirements to the English Major Programme as follows:

Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education\*

- Level 3 or above in English Language and Chinese Language
- Level 2 or above in Mathematics and Liberal Studies
- Level 3 or above in two electives subjects

Applicants are not required to have prior knowledge of English literature. The BA English Programme welcomes applications from all disciplines.

## 6. What about my career pathway or job opportunities after HKBU?

Teaching has long been a reliable career choice for many of our graduates. Some have chosen to work in government departments or with top accountancy and business firms. Others have opted to build careers in the creative arts or in public relations. Our Programme has produced pop song writers, novelists, lawyers, immigration officers, bankers, journalists, translators, editors, university professors, entrepreneurs, politicians, and many more. With a BA English Language and Literature degree, you will soon discover that the world is your oyster!

\* The above entrance requirements are subject to change without notice.