

School of Hotel & Tourism Management (SHTM) FAQs for MSc programmes

1. What are the MSc programmes offered in Hong Kong by SHTM for applicants?

Programme Title (Abbreviation)	Programme Code
Master of Science (MSc) in Global Hospitality Business (MGH)	24043
Master of Science (MSc)/Postgraduate Diploma (PgD) in International Hospitality Management (MSc/PgD IHM)	24045-IHM
Master of Science(MSc)/Postgraduate Diploma(PgD) in International Tourism and Convention Management (MSc/PgD ITCM)	24045-ITCM
Master of Science (MSc)/Postgraduate Diploma (PgD) in International Wine Management (MSc/PgD IWM)	24045-IWM

2. What is the main difference between the MGHB and other MSc/PgD programmes offered in Hong Kong?

The MGHB is a collaborative programme offered by three institutions, namely École Hôtelière de Lausanne (EHL), The School of Hotel and Tourism Management at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (SHTM, PolyU) and the Conrad N. Hilton College at the University of Houston (UH). Students will firstly commence their studies at EHL and then continue their studies at SHTM PolyU and UH in the second and third semester respectively.

Other MSc/PgD programmes are delivered in Hong Kong and they are offered by SHTM, PolyU solely.

For the MGH programme, students pay the tuition fees directly to the institution where the courses are offered. For other MSc/PgD programmes offered in Hong Kong, students should pay the tuition fees to PolyU only. The tuition fees and programme structure vary in each programme. Prospective students should refer to the individual webpage of each MSc programme for details.

3. What is the difference between a Master of Science (MSc) and a Postgraduate Diploma (PgD)?

The MSc and PgD programme share the same admission requirements and some common subjects in the curriculum regardless of different award titles. Students are required to complete 31 credits in the MSc whereas 19 credits in the case of the PgD.

4. What is the duration of study for each MSc programme?

For the MSc/PgD in IHM, ITCM or IWM, the programme can be completed within 1 year if students take full time load of study or spread to a maximum of 6 years in part-time mode. The MGH programme is available only in full-time study load and students are required to complete the programme in 1.5 years.

5. What is the medium of instruction?

English is the sole medium of instruction.

6. What are basic requirements for admission to the MSc programmes?

Please note that the admissions requirements may differ slightly in each MSc programme. Basically, applicants should possess a Bachelor's degree in the areas of either hotel or tourism management or else in other business and management related areas. Other requirements include one year of industry work experience and a TOFEL or IELTS result to prove English proficiency (if your Bachelor degree is not taught in English). Applicants should refer to the admission requirements concerned for specific details.

7. Further to the admission requirements, do I have to obtain a Bachelor degree in hotel, tourism or business management related discipline?

It is not mandatory provided that you are a Bachelor degree holder and have obtained at least 1 year of work experience in the hotel or tourism industry. You should also possess TOFEL or IELTS to demonstrate your English proficiency if your Bachelor degree is not taught in English.

8. Do I have to possess 1-year work experience in the industry?

Yes, 1 year of work experience is essential. It is also preferable to have post-bachelor work experience in hotel, tourism, or other business and management related areas. Internship and cumulative work experience may be considered.

9. Can I use TOEIC, College English Test (CET) or other English tests other than TOFEL or IELTS to prove my English proficiency?

Please note that only IELTS or TOFEL is recognized and acceptable at PolyU. For IELTS, an overall Band Score of at least 6 or above (Note: Overall Band Score of 6.5 or above in MGH) is required. In the case of TOFEL, a minimum score of 80 (Internet-based) or 550 (paper-based) or 213 (computer-based) is required (Note: TOFEL Internet-based Total Score 92 or above in MGH).

10. After being admitted to the programme, can students transfer from one programme to another programme?

New students will not be considered for transfer to another programme offered in the same mode of study during their first year of registration.

11. How can I get information on programmes and admissions?

Please visit www.polyu.edu.hk/study or www.polyu.edu.hk/htm/msc for details of our admissions policies, programmes on offer and their entrance requirements, and other admission-related information before you submit an application. Once you have selected a suitable programme, you are strongly encouraged to apply as early as possible at www.polyu.edu.hk/admission since our School will consider applications on a rolling basis until all places have been filled.

12. Will there be an interview after submitting my application?

Yes, there will be an interview for **shortlisted** applicants who have applied for admission to an MSc programme. Shortlisted applicants may also be invited to attempt a written test. Please note that not every applicant will be invited for an interview or a written test, particularly in the cases of those who cannot meet the minimum entrance requirements.

13. What is the dress code for the interview?

Business attire.

14. What is the interview format? What questions will be asked?

The interview can be conducted either face-to-face or over the Skype protocol. It will consist of a 15- to 25-minute panel interview that allows the School to acquire a better knowledge of the student and to identify whether they have the necessary attributes to succeed in the industry. Questions will be mainly centered on the applicant's personality, presentation skills, English ability, work experience and industry knowledge.

15. How can I know my application result?

You will be notified by email if you are shortlisted for an interview and/or test. If you are given an offer or a conditional offer, you will be informed via email/SMS. You may also wish to log into your eAdmission account from time to time to check the progress of your application. If there is no news by July, you can presume your application unsuccessful. No separate notification will be made for unsuccessful cases.

16. Does the School offer scholarships?

The School offers a wide range of scholarships to deserving students. Students should manage to demonstrate good academic results, a high level of community involvement, and in some cases financial need, in order to be eligible for the scholarships offered by the School. The amount of the scholarships may range from several thousands to several tens thousands of dollars, or even a whole semester with all expenses paid, depending on the type of the scholarship, whether by application or by nomination. Examples of scholarships offered in SHTM are the Service Scholarships, Global Hospitality Business Scholarships and International Wine Management Scholarships.

Please note that PolyU reserves the right to change or withdraw scholarships at any time. In case of any dispute/disagreement, PolyU's decision is final.

17. Are any internship opportunities offered within the various MSc programmes?

Students enrolled in the MSc/PgD in IHM, ITCM and IWM programmes may consider taking "Management Practice" which is an optional internship subject for students. Prior to taking the subject, it is necessary for students to seek the School's endorsement.

18. Is there dormitory made available for students?

No dormitory provision is made for non-local self-financed postgraduate students who are pursuing their studies in Hong Kong. Students should pursue their own accommodation. However, the University does offer some 250 residential places at prime urban areas, as an accommodation option, for non-local students. More details can be found on the following website: <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/hall/index.php/non-local-students/off-campus-housing>