

For Immediate Release
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Opportunities in Mathematics at HKUST

New changes in the entrance requirements for the Mathematics Department of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology will allow more secondary school students to gain access to its undergraduate programmes.

With effect from the academic year 1996-97, applicants with acceptable grades in AL (Hong Kong Advanced Level) Pure Mathematics, plus one AL or two AS (Hong Kong Advanced Supplementary) subjects will be eligible for the Mathematics undergraduate programmes. In previous years, AL Physics was also required. But now it becomes optional.

"This modification will open our door to talented students who were previously excluded simply because they did not study AL Physics," explains Professor Din-Yu Hsieh, Head of Mathematics.

The new requirement will particularly benefit students who wish to combine mathematics with courses from other disciplines with a view to entering the business and commercial sectors. These students will find that the curriculum of the Mathematics Department is one of the most liberal and flexible at HKUST, says Professor Hsieh. Students can opt for pure mathematics courses or for applied mathematics with options in business and management, computer science, physical and engineering science, scientific computation and statistics.

"It is our aim to incorporate the best of the two worlds of pure mathematics and applied mathematics," says Professor Hsieh. "Our students have the freedom to choose between many options without sacrificing a grounding in basic mathematics. The training they receive here will no doubt help them enormously in their workplace. We believe this arrangement will equip our graduates for careers in a variety of fields."

Note to Editors:

Direct enquiries to the Office of Public Affairs at 2358 6320 or pager 1163388 call 2652