Artificial Intelligence: Systems and Technologies (JS4468 / AISTN)
Agenda

1. Introduction of our Department
2. Introduction of AIST Programme
3. Admission Requirements
4. Curriculum Structure
5. FAQ
A Long History

• The first computer science department in HK
• Offering AIST, CDAS, CENG and CSCI programmes
• A strong alumni network
Our Undergraduate Programmes

Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)

- Artificial Intelligence: Systems and Technologies (AIST)
- Computer Science and Engineering (BCSE) (Foundation 1st year)
- Computational Data Science (CDAS) (Joint Programme with Department of Statistics)

- Computer Engineering (CENG)
- Computer Science (CSCI)
Excellent Teaching and Research Team

• 2021 Kyoto Prize Laureate and Turing Award Recipient
  Prof. Andrew Yao

• 7 ACM Fellows
  Prof. Benjamin Wah, Prof. John Lui, etc.

• 13 IEEE Fellows
  Prof. Irwin King, Prof. Evangeline Young, Prof. Yufei Tao, etc.

• 2022 IEEE CEDA Ernest S. Kuh Early Career Award
  Prof. Bei Yu

• Hong Kong Academy of Engineering Sciences Fellows 2021
  Prof. Michael Lyu

• InnoStars Award 2021
  Prof. Jiaya Jia

• Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia (Healthcare & Science Category) – Class of 2022
  Prof. Yu Li

• Distinguished Fellow of the Hong Kong Computer Society 2022
  Prof. Jimmy Lee
## Rankings

**US News and World Report: Best Universities in Artificial Intelligence**

2022-2023

- #1 in Hong Kong
- #3 Globally

**US News and World Report: Best Universities in Computer Science**

2022-2023

- #1 in Hong Kong
- #10 Globally
Strong Alumni Network

IT Industry: Microsoft, Google, IBM, Nokia, amazon.com, facebook

Education: National University of Singapore, Georgia Tech, Carnegie Mellon University Pittsburgh Regional

Banking: HSBC, citibank, Morgan Stanley, Deutsche Bank, Goldman Sachs
The special thing about AIST programme is the learning experience which has been eye-opening. I can get to build a **solid foundation** on not only the **problem-solving mindset**, but also **fundamental knowledge** such as calculus and statistics. Although some may find them difficult, they are valuable tools that will help distinguish me from the non-engineering counterparts.
Sharing from our AIST Alumni

Long Him CHIU, AIST 2023 Graduate

Thanks to the invaluable connections and knowledge I have gained at CUHK, I have been able to apply my academic expertise in AIST to successfully launch and operate my own startup with some CSE friends I met in the programme. This university has played a pivotal role in shaping my career path and created opportunities for personal growth. With support from CUHK, we have been able to transform our aspirations into reality. I will be forever grateful for the transformative experience and lifelong connections I have gained during my time at CUHK.
Recent Achievements in Intl’/Local Competitions

Championship in
Robocon Hong Kong Contest 2022

Hong Kong Computer Society
Student Sponsorship 2022

First Prize in the Cloud Track of the
Huawei ICT Competition
Industrial Visits

• Visit to companies to learn latest development in industry
Work-Study Scheme

• One-year placement and internship for students to gain practical experience in a real working environment

Example of Previous Opportunities in CSE

- Google
- Microsoft
- HP
- HSBC
- 恒生銀行 HANG SENG BANK
- Sun Hung Kai Properties
- ASM Pacific Technology
- HKSTP
- Fujitsu
What’s More?

- Chances to create your own project and innovation with support and advice from CSE teachers

- Exchange opportunities to world-class universities

- High competitiveness in job market with 90% of CSE graduates employed within one month of graduation

- CSE teachers usually have the highest teaching evaluation scores
Artificial Intelligence: Systems & Technologies (AIST) Programme
‘With the omnipresence and power of AI clearly in sight and within our reach, how should humans co-exist and manage this new “being” as a benevolent partner? This is particularly relevant to Hong Kong as it is actively striving for the advancement of Innovation and Technology.’

- Prof. Rocky S. TUAN, Vice-Chancellor and President of CUHK

AI is transforming the way we live!!!

Many disciplines are changing

A – Automotive
B – Bioscience
C – Creative Services
D – Data
E – Education
F – Finance
G – Gaming (note: G may also mean Government)
H – Healthcare
I – Internet of Things

AI in Automobile

Computer vision enables
- Road line detection
- Traffic sign recognition
- Vehicle / pedestrian detection
- ...

Reference: KITTI dataset
http://www.cvlibs.net/datasets/kitti/eval_object.php?objbenchmark=3d
AI in Bioscience

Prof. P.-A. Heng

Prof. Dou Qi

Reference:
https://cutt.ly/xEYdPYC (2019年5月10日明報大學道專題)
AI in Creative Services

AI removes & auto-fills word balloon in manga

References:
https://hk.on.cc/hk/bkn/cnt/aeanews/20200208/bkn-20200208180001681-0208_00912_001.html
http://www.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/~ttwong/papers/mangainpaint/mangainpaint.html
AI in Data

AI can help find insights in data, e.g., **social media data**, and relate different kinds of data.

Can we predict a series of key phrases for a social media post with both texts and images?

Reference:
[https://www.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/lyu/students/phd](https://www.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/lyu/students/phd)
AI in Finance

**How Machine Learning and AI Are Transferring Finance Industry**

September 22, 2021
1:38 PM UTC, FinanceFEEDS Editorial Team

Thanks to the wealth of data that are increasingly available to banks and the general public, sophisticated algorithms are enabling improved processes in many areas of finance.

A subfield of artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML) enables systems to learn and improve independently without the need for explicit programming or human involvement. But ML only works when it has access to enormous volumes of data, allowing

References:
http://startupbeat.hkej.com/?p=91478
AI in Gaming

Some games start to use AI:
- To bring non-player characters (NPC) to life
- To adapt to each player’s gameplay
- To create stronger AI players, e.g., E-sport in Starcraft II (not only chess games)
- To create a more dynamic virtual world

References:
https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-03630-0
https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-03298-6
AI in Healthcare

- Radiology
- Imaging
- Disease Diagnosis
- Telehealth
- Electronic Health Records
- Drug Interactions
- Creation of New Drugs

Reference: https://inews.hket.com/article/2572760/


Prof. Dou Qi
Growing Demand and Opportunities

• Many industries are now looking for the use and advancement of **AI to boost up the work efficiency**
  » Opportunities for you to **innovate and change the world**!

• Many other possible occupations
  » AI Specialist
  » Data Scientist
  » Software Developer
  » Computer Engineer
  » R&D for AI
  » ...

Growing Demand and Opportunities

Due to the pandemic:

• workers going remote
• companies turning to e-commerce to survive,
• organizations needing to be more digitally agile

➢ Engineering is the fastest-growing field in the world
➢ 24 of 28 countries listed data engineer among its fastest-growing careers

Linkedin: The Fastest-Growing Jobs Around the World in 2023
(https://www.linkedin.com/business/talent/blog/talent-acquisition/fastest-growing-jobs-2023)
Growing Demand and Opportunities

• Hong Kong’s start-up ecosystem is **thriving**. In 2022, the number of start-ups in Hong Kong **grew by 6%** to 3,985, employing nearly 15,000 people.

• Biotechnology, **artificial intelligence**, smart city and financial technologies were identified as the four **key areas for Hong Kong’s innovation and technology industry**.

• Hong Kong’s innovation and technology sector together with that of Shenzhen and Guangzhou – the Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Guangzhou science and technology cluster – ranks as **the world’s second performing** according to the Global Innovation Index 2023.

Reference: [https://research.hktdc.com/en/article/MzEzOTIwMDIy](https://research.hktdc.com/en/article/MzEzOTIwMDIy)
Programme Objective

• Equip students with the capabilities of building AI systems that can analyze and infer knowledge from massive information

• Backed by rigorous foundations like data structures, statistics, machine learning and distributed computing

• Emphasize solid trainings on
  » Mathematical analysis and reasoning on massive data
  » Large-scale system design and implementation for processing massive data
Special Features

• 1st Bachelor of Engineering programme in AI in Hong Kong

• 4 specialized streams
  » Biomedical Intelligence
  » Intelligent Multimedia Processing
  » Large-scale Artificial Intelligence
    – Theory and Systems
  » Intelligent Manufacturing and Robotics
Mission

• **Enable students to develop cutting-edge AI solutions** that are of practical interest to academics, industry, and society

• **Nurture local talents in AI related applications** to meet today’s tremendous need of well-trained talents in AI and related specializations
中大計算機科學與工程學系
科技知識培養人才 推動香港人工智能發展

人工智能（AI）發展一日千里，本年政府更大力推動有關AI科技的項目，可見此已成為現今科技的大趨勢。社會對相關人才亦倍加渴求。因此，中大計算機科學與工程學系著重科技知識，培養人才面對有關AI問題時，掌握社區對AI人才的需求。

科技智慧及機器人學系主任金聲教授指出，「物聯網」、「雲計算」、「數位經濟」，未來對人才的需求將日趨繁多。中大計算機科學與工程學系約有80名大學生，最近「物聯網」、「雲計算」、「數位經濟」部門的需求大增，人才供不應求。

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中文大學首創人工智能課程 為未來創科五萬職位提供人才

人工智能无疑是近年非常熱門的新科技潮流，其應用範圍之廣，甚至可以取代真人的工作，影響就業市場。不過也有意見認為人工智能的普及會為求職市場增加需求，在香港新增達五萬個職位。香港中文大學就看準這個機會，開辦人工智能課程培育相關人才。
## HKDSE Subject Minimum Level Subject Weighting

### HKDSE Core Subjects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HKDSE Subject</th>
<th>Minimum Level</th>
<th>Subject Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Language</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Language</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics (Compulsory Part)</td>
<td>5^</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship and Social Development</td>
<td>A (Attained)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HKDSE Elective Subjects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HKDSE Elective Subjects</th>
<th>Minimum Level</th>
<th>Subject Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any two subjects</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>#</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^ Applicants with level 4 in Mathematics (Compulsory Part) and good results in other HKDSE subjects will be exceptionally considered on a case-by-case basis.

# The AIST programme accepts any subject as elective, with subject weighting of 1.75 for Mathematics M1/M2; 1.5 for Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and ICT; and 1 for any other subjects.

Selection is based on the Best 5 HKDSE subjects with subject weighting applied. Bonus points will be awarded to the 6th and 7th subjects, if any.
# AIST Admission Grades (2023 Entry)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentile</th>
<th>CHI</th>
<th>ENG</th>
<th>MATHS</th>
<th>LS</th>
<th>M1/M2</th>
<th>1(^{st}) Elective</th>
<th>2(^{nd}) Elective</th>
<th>3(^{rd}) Elective</th>
<th>2023 Programme Weighted Total(^\wedge)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upper Quartile</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5**</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5**</td>
<td>5**</td>
<td>5*</td>
<td></td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5**</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5*</td>
<td>5*</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>54.125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Quartile</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5**</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5*</td>
<td>5*</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>51.375</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^\wedge\) Category A subjects score conversion scale: 5** = 8.5 | 5* = 7 | 5 = 5.5 | 4 = 4 | 3 = 3 | 2 = 2 | 1 = 1;
Category C subjects score conversion scale: A = 5 | B = 4 | C = 3 | D = 2 | E = 1;
2023 Subject Weighting: Eng (x 1.25); Chi (x 1.25); Math (x 1.75); M1 or M2 (x 1.75); Bio, Chem, Comb. Sci, ICT, Phy (x 1.5).

- AIST was one of the **15 CUHK programmes** that admitted top students with a **score of 33 or above** in their best five HKDSE subjects in 2023 entry.
AIST Admission Requirements for Non-JUPAS & International Applicants

• Applicants seeking admission on the strength of qualifications other than HKDSE examination results (e.g., IB, GCE-AL, overseas qualifications) can apply through Non-JUPAS channels

• Will be considered on the basis of their education background and academic achievements

• Will be expected to demonstrate outstanding abilities in English, mathematics and science subjects

Check out details on the website of CUHK’s Office of Admissions and Financial Aid:
Non-JUPAS Applications: http://admission.cuhk.edu.hk/non-jupas-yr-1/requirements.html
International Applications: http://admission.cuhk.edu.hk/international/requirements.html
Curriculum Structure
Curriculum – Overview

1. Faculty Package
2. Major Foundation
3. Major Core
4. Final Year Project

Major Electives

University Common Core (Languages, GE, PE)
(39 Units)

Free Electives
(9 Units)

123 units
# University Core Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University Core Courses</th>
<th>Units Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Foundation</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University GE</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(At least 2 units in each Area A, C &amp; D)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College GE</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding China (UGCP1001)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(online course - complete before graduation in any one term, including summer term)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong in the Wider Constitutional Order</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(UGCP1002)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(online course - complete before graduation in any one term, including summer term)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Literacy and Computational Thinking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(ENGG1003 or ENGG1004)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total of units required</strong></td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Curriculum – Major Requirements

1. Faculty Package
2. Major Foundation / Core
3. Major Core
4. Final Year Project

Major Electives
Major Electives
Major Practicum

Major Foundation / Core

75 units
## Major Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Requirements</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Package</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Courses</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Required Courses</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Components</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stream Requirements</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total of units required</strong></td>
<td><strong>75</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Curriculum – Faculty Package

**Faculty Package (9 units)**

- Programming (ENGG1110)
- Linear Algebra (ENGG1120)
- Multivariable Calculus (ENGG1130)
Curriculum – Major Foundation

Major Foundation / Core (10 units)
- Calculus for Engineers (MATH1510)
- Physics (PHYS1003/1110)
- Intro to AI & ML (AIST1000)
- Intro to Computing Using Python (AIST1110)
**Curriculum – Major Foundation**

**Major Foundation / Core (13 units)**

- Discrete Maths (ENGG2440)
- Probability (ENGG2760)
- Statistics (ENGG2780)
- Data Structures (CSCI2100)
- Intro to Computer Systems (AIST3020)
Curriculum – Major Practicum

Major Practicum (3 units)

» Technology, Society and Engineering Practice (AIST2601)
» Engineering Practicum (AIST2602)
Major Core (12 units)

- Numerical Optimization (AIST3030)
- Design and Analysis of Algorithms (CSCI3160)
- Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence (CSCI3230)
- Fundamentals of Machine Learning (CSCI3320)
## Curriculum – Major Electives

### Major Electives (22 units)

**Streams**
1. Biomedical Intelligence
2. Intelligent Multimedia Processing
3. Large-scale Artificial Intelligence – Theory and Systems
4. Intelligent Manufacturing and Robotics

**Non-Stream**
5. General Artificial Intelligence: Systems and Technologies
Stream 1: Biomedical Intelligence

• Study how to build **intelligent biomedicine** and **healthcare applications**

• Two emerging markets:
  » **Personalized genomics** and **precision medicine** (e.g., disease prevention, prediction, early diagnosis and treatment)
  » **Clinical record systems** (e.g., electronic medical records and pharmacy prescription information and insurance records)

Research on medical image analysis by Prof. P.-A. Heng
Stream 2: Intelligent Multimedia Processing

• Study how to bridge AI and human brain functions and design models, algorithms, and systems for multimedia processing with high performance and high accuracy.

• Areas: digital image processing, face recognition, computer animation, human-computer interactions, speech and audio processing, computational linguistics
Stream 3: Large-scale AI – Theory and Systems

- Study the **advanced techniques** of realizing large-scale artificial intelligence from both theory and system perspectives
  - **Theory**: machine learning theory, statistical inference, online algorithms, etc.
  - **Systems**: high performance computing, distributed storage, big data management, etc.
Stream 4: Intelligent Manufacturing & Robotics

- Study **how to integrate manufacturing and robotics with AI** for different aspects of human activities.

- Focus on the topics of **mechanics**, sensing and control, design & manufacturing, **human-robot interactions**, etc.
Distinct Topics

• Many other practical and interesting courses in AI:
  » Machine Learning
  » Deep Learning
  » Large Scale Distributed Computing
  » Intelligent Embedded Systems
  » Knowledge Representation/Inference
  » Human-Computer Interactions
  » Natural Language Processing
  » Big Data Analytics
  ... ...
**Curriculum – Final Year Project (FYP)**

**Final Year Project** (6 units)

- Pick an interesting topic
- Interdisciplinary nature
- Apply the knowledge learnt in the previous courses
- Many open topics. Your creativity and discussion with the supervisor
- Complete a project under the supervision of an advisor
FYP (AI + Bioinformatics)

• Apply machine learning to predict RNA-protein interaction

RNA-binding protein (RBP)

RNA folds to a specific structure to fit into the protein binding site

Sample from current CE/CS students (FYP KY1804)
FYP (AI + Multimedia)

• Design a neural network that learns to produce a tiling
FYP (AI + Computer Vision)

• Chinese Medicinal Herb Recognizer

Sample from current CE/CS students (FYP MHW1804)
FYP (AI + 3D Vision)

• Design the best neural network for 3D car detection

Sample from FYP CWF2002 (The UG student co-authored “research papers” in AAAI 2021 & CVPR 2021)
FAQs
FAQ Content:
Q: Will there be any interview?
Q: How many students will be admitted?
Q: Will there be any exchange opportunity?
Q: Will there be any scholarship or financial aid?
Q: What are the differences between AIST and CSCI?
Q: What are the career prospects of AIST graduates?
Q: Can I transfer to CENG / CSCI or other majors in Year 2?
Q: Can I declare CENG / CSCI as second major or minor?
Q: I am still struggling to choose between AIST / CENG / CSCI. What can I do?
Q: Will there be any interview?
Interview Arrangements for JUPAS Applicants

• Interviews will be arranged in **mid/late June every year**.

• Not all applicants will be interviewed. We only consider **Band A applications** when shortlisting interviewees.

• Shortlisted applicants will receive an **invitation email by early June** for the details, *e.g.*, **date, time, format, etc.**

• Stay tuned! **Check your email regularly** for the latest update!
Interview Arrangements for Non-JUPAS & International Students

• Interviews will be conducted in batches from ~Jan. every year.

• You are encouraged to attach adequate supporting documents, e.g., transcripts, predicted grade, certificates, etc., in your application for our holistic review.

• Shortlisted applicants will receive an invitation email for the details, e.g., date, time, format, etc.

• Stay tuned! Check your email regularly for the latest update!
Q: How many students will be admitted to AIST?
Local Intake Quota

• 30

Note: There is no fixed quota for international students and Mainland students attempting Gao Kao.
Q: Will there be any exchange opportunity?
Exchange to Overseas Universities

• You are encouraged to join the exchange programme to **broaden your horizon and learn with peers from diverse background**

• List of some overseas universities for the exchange
  » Macquarie University, Australia
  » University of Toronto, Canada
  » Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China
  » Telecom & Management SudParis, France
  » Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Sweden
  » University of California, Davis, USA
  ...

Q: Will there be any scholarship or financial aid?
Scholarships and Financial Aids

• The Government and the University offer various scholarships and financial aids depending on student’s financial situation, or their outstanding performance in academic or other areas.

• List of some scholarships and financial aids
  » Admission Scholarships
  » Scholarships for Overseas Studies
  » Government or University Financial Aid
  » Summer Subsistence and Travel Loan Scheme
  » Student Residence Bursary Scheme
  ...

Check out more details on the website of CUHK’s Office of Admissions and Financial Aid: [https://admission.cuhk.edu.hk/finance.html](https://admission.cuhk.edu.hk/finance.html)
Q: What are the differences between AIST and CSCI?
AIST vs CSCI?

- AIST and CSCI have related foundation & basic theories

- AIST requires stronger Math foundation since it involves statistics, probability, calculus, linear algebra, etc., which are basis for machine learning and deep learning

- CSCI focuses more on software design and computing solutions, taking care of coding and software architecture
Q: What are the career prospects of AIST graduates?
Career Prospects

Employers of our graduates include:

- Google
- Intel
- Microsoft
- IBM
- Apple
- Facebook
- Yahoo
- Deloitte
- Hong Kong Government
- Investment Banking Institutes

Many disciplines are changing:

- A – Automotive
- B – Bioscience
- C – Creative Services
- D – Data
- E – Education
- F – Finance
- G – Gaming (note: G may also mean Government)
- H – Healthcare
- I – Internet of Things

... ...
Q: Can I transfer to CENG / CSCI or other majors in Year 2?
If you look for CENG / CSCI or other majors instead...

• You may submit application for change of major (to CENG / CSCI or other majors), subject to prevailing regulations stipulated by RES and approval by relevant unit(s).

• If you are determined to go for CENG / CCSCI, you may choose Computer Science and Engineering (JS4412) as your choice and select CENG / CSCI in Major Allocation when progressing to Year 2.
Q: Can I declare CENG / CSCI as second major or minor?
Declare Second Major / Minor

• You are **not allowed to declare CENG / CSCI as your second major or minor** if you are a CSE student.

• However, you are encouraged to broaden your horizons and declare second major / minor offered by other departments.
Q: I am still struggling to choose between AIST / CENG / CSCI. What can I do?
If you are still struggling to choose...

- You can **go through our website and admission materials** for a better understanding before applying, and **write to us via email at ug-admiss@cse.cuhk.edu.hk** if you have any further queries.

- You can **join our outreach activities** in the future and chat with our teachers and student ambassadors.
Contact Us

(852) 3943 4269

ug-admiss@cse.cuhk.edu.hk

www.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/
See you in Fall 2024!