The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) is a research-oriented university, which is well-known for its excellence in research. We have a wide international connection for offering students research opportunities in foreign universities. At HKUST, we are committed to achieving excellence in research, and to ensuring our research contributes to the social and economic development of Hong Kong and beyond. Our research culture nurtures and engages the public in solving a spectrum of problems.

The IRE program has offered me many research opportunities, allowing me to freely explore my research interest. I am grateful to be supervised by a number of faculty members to gain the essential background for performing cutting-edge research. Gaining research experience during my undergraduate studies has significantly sharpened my competitive edge for my PhD application. Within the IRE community, the academic atmosphere is strong. Frequent discussion about advanced materials encouraged me to study much more than regular courses. This has prepared me to pursue further studies in Physics. Being a member in the IRE program has been a fruitful experience for me.

The IRE program offers students an early opportunity to nurture their research abilities and curiosity and grit, which are the essential attributes to a successful career. However, IRE is not only an academic program – it is a lifestyle of its own. Not only can students enjoy FREE choice among six major programs offered by the School: Biotechnology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Ocean Science and Technology, and Physics. It is through these peer interactions that I have come to see that pursuing a research career in Hong Kong is actually possible. I started working in research project in year 2, where I gained hands-on experience in doing literature review, designing, conducting and evaluating the experiment. This project makes me first taste the series of satisfaction of doing research. In my overseas research internship, I worked as a full time researcher in an organic synthesis research group in Japan. Though the experimental techniques are similar, the research culture and approach are different. My classmates who are also passionate in science supports me to keep trying when there is bottleneck in my research project. The many research opportunities and supports build my confidence in being a researcher.
ADMISSION

Direct Year 1 or Transfer in Year 2

The IRE program is an independent and separate program choice. Students can apply for the IRE program through the direct choice in JUPAS, or apply for transfer from the regular Science (Group A) program or Science (Group B) program of the School of Science into IRE after their first year of study. Students interested in the IRE track are encouraged to include either one of Science (Group A) program (JS5102) or Science (Group B) program (JS5103), and the IRE program (JS5101) in their program choices.

To be admitted to the IRE Program, HKDSE students must fulfill the HKUST’s general admission requirements and School of Science’s specific requirements, and must pass the IRE admission interview.

Admission Requirements (JUPAS Applicants with HKDSE Results)

University General Requirements

i. 4C + 2X (four core subjects plus two electives), or
ii. 4C + M1/M2 + 1X (four core subjects with Mathematics Extended Module 1 or 2 plus one elective)

Minimum Level Requirements

Subject Level

English Language 3

Chinese Language 3

Mathematics (Compulsory Module) 2

Liberal Studies 2

Elective 1* (Science Elective) Must be one of: Biology / Chemistry / Physics / Combined Science / Mathematics (Compulsory Module) OR M1 / M2 3

Elective 2* Any one Category A subject OR M1/M2 3

JUPAS Score Calculation for IRE Program (JS5101)

(1) Eng + (2) Math + (3 & 4) Best TWO science electives + (5) Next Best ONE subject

Subject 1 English Language

Subject 2 Mathematics

Subject 3 & 4 Best Two Science Electives

Must be two subjects from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, M1, M2 or Combined Science

Subject 5 Next Best One Subject

Can be core, M1/ M2 or any Category A subject

Remarks:

* Only Category A core and elective subjects (including Mathematics Extended Part Module 1 or 2, i.e. M1/M2) are used in the admission score calculation.

* Elective subjects may include M1/M2.

ADMISSION SCHOLARSHIPS

The University and the School of Science offer a number of scholarships to award students for their academic and non-academic excellence both upon entry and during the course of study. In 2018/19 academic year, over 2,300 scholarships and prizes were awarded to undergraduate students in various programs of study, with the total value awarded amounting to approximately HK$73 million.

Please refer to the QR code for information on scholarship for JUPAS students.

JOIN IRE PROGRAM

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2358 5065

Fax: (852) 2358 1464

Website: science.ust.hk

Email: ugscience@ust.hk

Copyright © 2019 HKUST