**Admission**

Q1: I am currently a final year undergraduate student, can I apply for MPhil/PhD programs now?  
A: Yes. Please first submit your latest transcript online for assessment.

Q2: Can I apply for more than one MPhil/PhD program in different departments?  
A: Applicants may submit more than one application. However, we see the advantage of staying focused and getting prepared accordingly.

Q3: What are the requirements of MPhil for undergraduate students?  
A: In general, a first degree of Second Upper Class in the related area is the minimum requirement.

Q4: Could an undergraduate student apply for PhD? Is a high GPA important for selection?  
A: Yes we admit Bachelor’s students directly into PhD programs. A high GPA always help. Experience of research helps too.

Q5: How will the GPA be viewed?  
A: Faculty will look into your overall profile such as your research ability in addition to the GPA.

Q6: Would a taught Master’s degree be beneficial for applying for MPhil/PhD program?  
A: Yes.

Q7: Do I need to find a supervisor before making the application?  
A: Not necessarily but it does help.

Q8: Do we need to prepare a research proposal for the application? If so, how precise does it have to be?  
A: All applicants of MPhil/PhD programs are required to outline their proposed research plan and past research experience in the application. It is not mandatory for applicants of Engineering programs to submit a research proposal.

Q9: How is my online application reviewed?  
A: After submission, your application will be circulated among faculty. If you are selected for interview,
the program office will inform you. You are advised to communicate with your potential supervisor after submitting the online application.

Q10: When will I be notified of the admission result?  
A: Individual program offices will issue offers according to their own schedules. Successful applicants will receive an email notification. Please log in to the online system to keep track of your application status.

**English/Other Requirements**

Q1: I obtained a Bachelor and Master’s degree from institutions where the medium of instruction is English. Am I required to take the English Proficiency Test?  
A: You are exempted to take English proficiency test if you obtained a degree from an institution where the medium of instruction was English.

Q2: I would like to ask when we should have our IELTS/TOFEL result ready?  
A: The test score is an essential factor in assessing your application. You are highly recommended to take relevant test and upload score report as soon as possible.

Q3: Am I required to submit GRE score for application?  
A: GRE scores are not required for Engineering programs.

**Program of Study**

Q1: What are the differences between MPhil programs and PhD programs?  
A: PhD programs are more in-depth than MPhil programs although both will have a focused topic.

Q2: How long does it normally take to graduate? Will it take longer time if I joined the overseas study programs?  
A: The normative study period for full-time PhD is 4 years (without MPhil) and 3 years (with MPhil), and 2 years for full-time MPhil. The overseas study programs do not necessarily delay the graduation.

Q3: Are we expected to publish papers before graduation? Is it part of the graduation requirements?  
A: Most supervisors expect students to publish papers before graduation.
Q4: Usually research articles are required for completion of PhD degree, would patents be acceptable too?
A: Publications are the default standards.

Q5: Can a MPhil student transfer to a PhD program after a year of study?
A: Yes, if a MPhil student can demonstrate good academic/research performance and have the support of the supervisor(s).

**Financial Support**

Q1: What is the condition for applying studentship?
A: All full-time MPhil/PhD students are automatically considered for the Postgraduate Studentship. No separate application is required.

Q2: If I am currently receiving Postgraduate Studentship, can I apply for the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship next year?
A: Only if you are a MPhil student. If you have outstanding academic results, you could apply for MPhil this year and apply for Hong Kong PhD Fellowship next year.

Q3: If I apply for Hong Kong PhD Fellowship but am not selected, will I be considered for Postgraduate Studentship automatically?
A: Yes.

**Others**

Q1: Have a question that can’t find the answer?
A: Send us a message at sengrpg@ust.hk.