Offered by The University of Hong Kong’s Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science since 1987, the Master of Statistics (MStat) Programme has been training statisticians for 26 years. The programme aims to strengthen candidates’ skills and knowledge for their further academic achievement and train professionals from all walks of life in analyzing information in various disciplines such as medicine, finance, science and social science.

Available in both full-time and part-time modes, the programme offers great flexibility for students who wish to take a general approach or a specialized theme in Risk Management or Data Analytics.

Up-to-date Curriculum
- Designed to provide a rigorous training in the principles and the practice of statistics, the programme combines theories with hands-on applications of methodologies, aided with powerful commercial software. In a world that is awash with information, the ability to extract useful data is a tremendous asset in commercial decisions in such disciplines as finance and risk management.

“Statistics is essential to many aspects of contemporary life,” explained Dr. Philip L.H. Yu, Director of the Programme. “Data analysis is widely used in different industries, from the government census to the medical health care, and marketing research for important decision making.”

This year, summer courses are introduced to provide additional choices. “We are adding three summer courses into our curriculum – Big data analytics, Structural equation modelling and Quantitative strategies and algorithmic trading. The first course provides advanced skills of analyzing unstructured data like tweets, emails and textual messages. The second course develops skills of identifying hidden factors in understanding various social science issues. The last one aims to strengthen investment techniques and trading strategies,” Dr. Yu added. “To engage students in applying the skills into practice, we also set up the Innovative Data Mining Application Award in the data mining course to give academic recognition to excellent work.”

Value-added Support
- Attuned to the computer age, the Department provides optional courses to prepare students by rejuvenating their skills in data management using a range of commonly used statistical softwares such as SAS, SPSS and R, and mathematical skills: matrices and calculus. To enhance students’ IT knowledge and skills which are not covered in the current curriculum but are essential for career development of statistical and risk analysts, a series of computer hands-on workshops on Excel VBA programming, MS-Access, SQL and C++ basics are offered as a non-credit bearing course.

For full-time students, credits will be given to encourage them to have first-hand experience in the applications of academic knowledge in a real-life work environment.

Distinctive Diversity
- Apart from students who come to MStat straight from their undergraduate study, a lot of our students come from the banking and finance industry, the marketing industry, as well as medical and health care sector, among others,” said Dr. Yu. “The programme can equip them with the analytical skills they need to tackle tasks from their work.”

The faculty members are also a group of experts and professionals with many years of relevant experience and high-level academic achievement from all around the world. The prestigious roster boasts such honorary professors as the former Head of HKEx’s Risk Management Department and the former Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of the Census and Statistics Department of HKSAR.

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**Master of Statistics 2014**

- **Advanced Knowledge • Practical Skills • Professional Views**

- **• Be a knowledgeable statistician in principles and practice**
- **• Complete the Programme in one year full-time or two years part-time**
- **• Experience hands-on applications of methodologies with powerful statistical software**
- **• Select a theme of your interest: Risk Management theme and Data Analytics theme**
- **• Join the programme of over 25 years in curriculum development and delivery**

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**Information Session**

- **Date:** Feb 20, 2014 (Thursday)
- **Time:** 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- **Venue:** T6, 1/F, Meng Wah Complex, HKU

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**Online Application:** [http://www.asa.hku.hk/admissions/tpg](http://www.asa.hku.hk/admissions/tpg)

**Application Deadline:** March 20, 2014

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