

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
LKS FACULTY OF MEDICINE**

**Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)**

***Objectives of the Programme***

The objective of the MBBS curriculum, including the study track of MBBS (Distinguished MedScholar) and the 4-year Graduate Entry Track, is to produce doctors who are competent in the understanding and delivery of effective, humane and ethical medical care, committed to lifelong learning, and ready to proceed to postgraduate training. The curriculum is made up of system-based blocks and clinical clerkships. The content and the mode of delivery are designed to manifest the following four themes of the curriculum:

**(a) Human Biology in Health and Disease**

**Emphases of the theme:**

- Structure, function, organisation and development of the human body, and the changes associated with disease, injury and abnormal development
- The effect of environmental change and societal factors on human disease and behaviour
- Integration of knowledge from biological, behavioural and social sciences  
Understanding of the principles and practice of scientific research

**(b) Professional Skills: Diagnostic, Problem Solving, Effective Communication and Clinical Management**

**Emphases of the theme:**

- Diagnostic, problem-solving and management skills of clinical disorders
- Recognition and respect for the patient's individual perceptions and beliefs
- Importance of effective communication in the doctor-patient relationship

**(c) Population Health and Primary Healthcare, Health Services, Economics and Policy**

**Emphases of the theme:**

- Epidemiology and the wider determinants of health, illness and disease
- Integration of primary, secondary and tertiary care in the provision of health services
- Equity, effectiveness and efficiency in health care provision
- Influence of community structures and economy on health care expectation and delivery
- Community resources and the role of allied health

**(d) Medical ethics, Professional Attitudes and Behaviour**

**Emphases of the theme:**

- Understanding of a doctor's ethical and legal obligations
- Professional attitudes and behaviour of a health care professional to patients, colleagues and the community
- Commitment to upholding professional practice through regular self-appraisal and continuing education

## ***Learning outcomes of the MBBS Programme***

**University Educational Aim 1:** Benchmarked against the highest international standards, the 4-year undergraduate curriculum at HKU is designed to enable our students to develop their capabilities in pursuit of academic / professional excellence, critical intellectual enquiry and life-long learning.

*Related to medicine: Recognise the limits of scientific knowledge and understanding in dealing with clinical issues, critique the best available evidence on outcomes to analyse complex clinical issues*

By the end of the MBBS programme, students should be able to:

- describe the structure, function, organisation and development of the human body, and the changes associated with disease, injury and abnormal development
- apply the principles and practice of scientific research to improve understanding of health and disease
- plan and interpret the investigation of patients with common or chronic conditions
- synthesise knowledge and skills to be prepared for life-long, self-directed learning
- be able to apply the principles of evidence based medicine in clinical care

**University Educational Aim 2:** Benchmarked against the highest international standards, the 4-year undergraduate curriculum at HKU is designed to enable our students to develop their capabilities in tackling novel situations and ill-defined problems.

*Related to medicine: Make rational and sensitive decisions about ill-defined clinical problems based on best available evidence*

By the end of the MBBS programme, students should be able to:

- describe the effect of environmental change on human disease and behavior
- take clinical histories and conduct clinical examinations in an organised manner in a wide variety of clinical situations
- analyse the equity, effectiveness and efficiency in health care provision
- explain key issues in a problematic healthcare situation and to plan how to address the problem
- explain the processes of how clinical studies are designed to test novel treatments

**University Educational Aim 3:** Benchmarked against the highest international standards, the 4-year undergraduate curriculum at HKU is designed to enable our students to develop their capabilities in critical self-reflection, greater understanding of others, and upholding personal and professional ethics.

*Related to medicine: Engage in relevant and realistic professional self-appraisals as medical practitioners*

By the end of the MBBS programme, students should be able to:

- integrate knowledge from biological, behavioral and social sciences
- keep organised and accurate clinical records, and to communicate effectively with other health-care professionals
- collaborate constructively in group situations and to function as a member of a team
- recognise the professional roles and responsibilities of doctors as well as their ethical and legal obligations
- uphold professional practice through regular self-appraisal and continuing education
- recognise the need to balance personal and professional activities

University Educational Aim 4: Benchmarked against the highest international standards, the 4-year undergraduate curriculum at HKU is designed to enable our students to develop their capabilities in intercultural communication and global citizenship.

*Related to medicine: Identify socio-cultural factors that contribute to the development and/or continuation of poor health and explain how it impacts on individuals and communities*

By the end of the MBBS programme, students should be able to:

- integrate knowledge from biological, behavioral and social sciences
- relate to the importance of the patient's social and ethnic background
- respect the individual patient's perceptions and beliefs
- counsel patients, and to give bad news in a supportive fashion
- analyse the pattern of disease and disability in Hong Kong and the epidemiology and the wider determinants of health, illness and disease
- explain the structure and function of the health care system in Hong Kong, together with the range of community services available
- assess the health care needs of particular groups or communities, and to plan ways of meeting such needs
- recognise the cultural, economic and technological influences on health and illness and the development of medical understanding and health-care systems in response to changing social contexts
- demonstrate professional attitudes and behavior to patients, colleagues and the community

University Educational Aim 5: Benchmarked against the highest international standards, the 4-year undergraduate curriculum at HKU is designed to enable our students to develop their capabilities in communication and collaboration.

*Related to medicine: Demonstrate the ability to communicate ethically with patients, staff members, peers and other health care professional orally and in writing, elicit and interpret clinical symptoms and signs by interviewing and examining patients systematically and with sensitivity, and to use this information to guide further investigations*

By the end of the MBBS programme, students should be able to:

- demonstrate humane and effective relationships with patients in order to enhance both patient satisfaction and clinical outcomes
- develop management plans for patients in conjunction with other professionals
- conduct basic clinical procedures safely and effectively
- recognise the importance of the patients' family and friends in the management of illness
- differentiate the role of traditional/ allied health care providers and community resources
- recognise the roles of allied health professionals in the delivery of health care in the patient care team setting

University Educational Aim 6: Benchmarked against the highest international standards, the 4-year undergraduate curriculum at HKU is designed to enable our students to develop their capabilities in leadership and advocacy for the improvement of the human condition.

*Related to medicine: Participate in the generation, interpretation, application and dissemination of significant advances in medical knowledge, apply ethical reasoning in the making of clinical decisions*

By the end of the MBBS programme, students should be able to:

- explain a doctor's ethical and legal obligations
- formulate plans of investigation and management that take into account the economic impact of such plans
- describe the importance of public health care policy in the provision of appropriate care to communities and to the maintenance of health and the prevention of diseases
- recognise the influence of community structures and economy on health care expectation and delivery
- describe the professional roles and responsibilities of doctors as well as their ethical and legal obligations
- show concern for the welfare of professional colleagues
- teach patients, colleagues and other health care professionals

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