

Updated in October 2025



Short survey

- Q: Where did you learn about the BSc(ACD) programme?
- Type:
- menti.com
- **7424 1652**



Programme Overview

- The BSc (Applied Child Development) [(ACD)] programme is a **two-year top-up degree** for holders of Higher Diplomas or Associate Degrees in the field of Early Childhood Education to upgrade their academic qualifications.
- Successful applicants shall be admitted directly to **Year 3** (i.e. there is no Year 1 or Year 2 admission).



Professional Recognition

Graduates of the BSc(ACD) programme will:

- (i) be eligible for registration as **Child Care Workers** and **Child Care Supervisors** under the Child Care Services Regulations;
- (ii) be considered to have met the required BEd(ECE) requirement for **new KG principal appointment***.

* Based on EDB's official document, "[Professional Upgrading for Newly-appointed Kindergarten Principals](#)", a locally recognised Bachelor Degree / higher degree plus a locally recognised Postgraduate Diploma in Early Childhood Education [PGDE(ECE)] or C(ECE) qualification can be considered to have **met the required BEd(ECE) requirement for new KG principal appointment**.

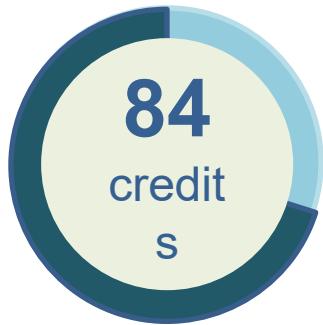


Special Features

- The BSc (ACD) programme
 - provides students with a strong foundation in the **knowledge, skills and attitude** required for working with a wide diversity of children and families.
 - allows students to gain insights into the theories of **child development** and acquire deep understanding of the interrelationships among **theory, research, practice and policy**.



Programme Structure (120 credits)



Major in
Applied Child
Development

Language
Enhancement

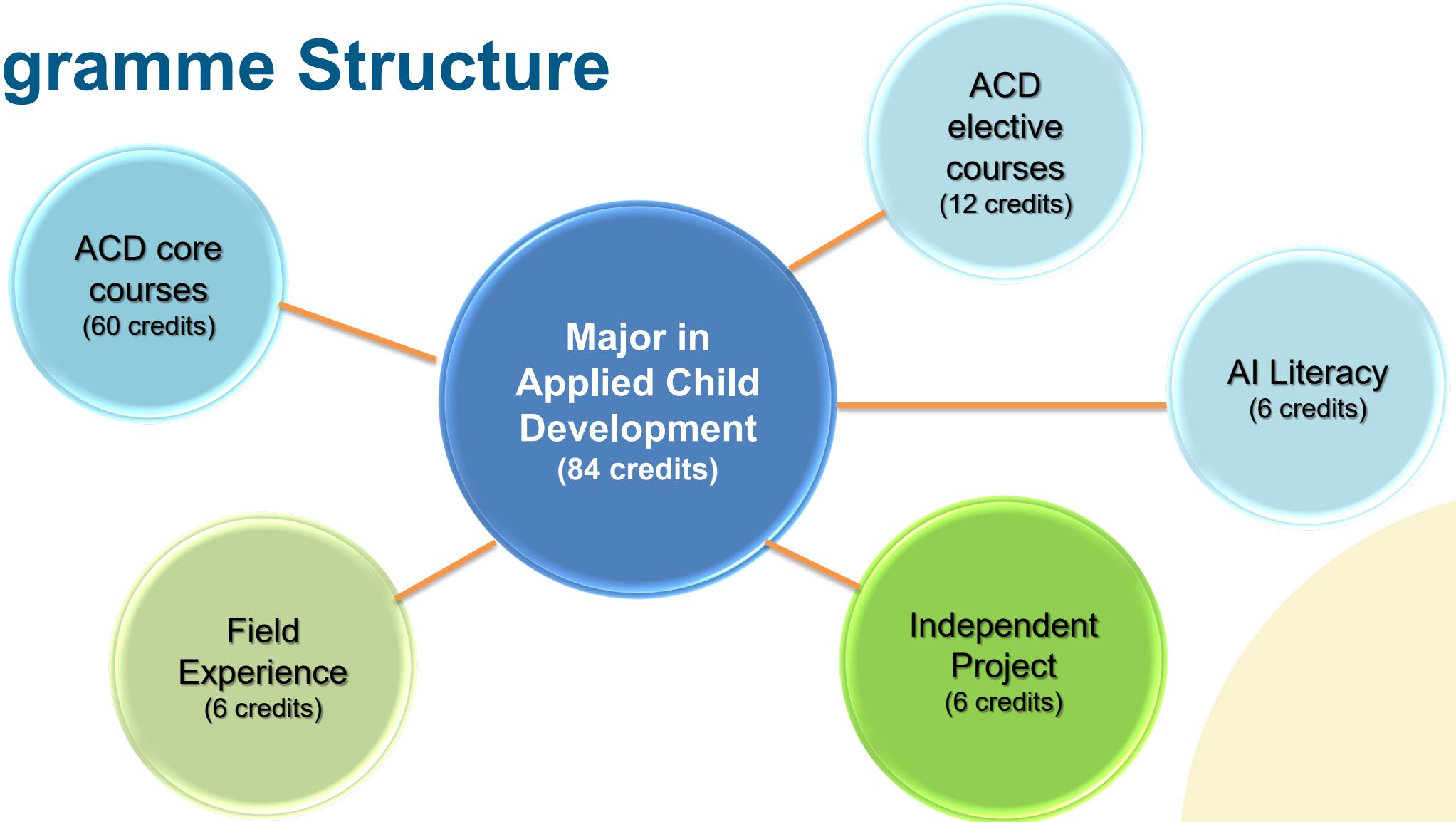
Common
Core

Electives

AI Literacy



Programme Structure



ACD Core Courses

- The programme offers courses that cover a variety of topics including:
 - Perspectives on Early Childhood Development and Learning
 - Cognitive and Language Development
 - Social and Emotional Development
 - Physical Development
 - Introduction to Research Methods
 - Observation and Assessment of Children and Early Childhood Programmes
 - Development and Education of Young Children with Special Needs
 - Child Development and Public Policy
 - Developmental Neuroscience



ACD Elective Courses

- The programme offers elective courses that cover a variety of topics. Examples of elective courses offered include:
 - Bilingualism in Young Children
 - Children, Arts and Technology
 - Children's play and learning
 - Guidance and Counseling
 - Contemporary Issues in Child Development



Field Experience

- Field experience provides students with the opportunity to **apply and integrate** the knowledge gained from coursework to research and practice.
- Field experience sites include **research organisations, non-profit organisations and other professional settings**.
 - Special educational needs, family support services, children's rights and protection
- Your work will be supervised by the Field Supervisor at the placement site and by the Faculty Supervisor through a series of seminar meetings.



Independent Project

- In second year of study, students complete an **independent research project** under the supervision of a Faculty mentor in a self-selected area of interest.



Other Learning Opportunities

- Experiential Learning in the summer
- Exchange programme in the summer
 - Universities attended by BSc(ACD) students before:
 - University of California, Los Angeles
 - The University of British Columbia, Canada
 - Yonsei University, Korea
 - University of Helsinki, Finland



Other Learning Opportunities

- Study trip/ visits/ seminars





Why choose HKU?

- **Internationally, HKU Faculty of Education ranks:**
- **No. 6 in the 2025 Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings by Subject**
- **No. 1 among Asian universities**

Rank	Name Country/Region	No. of FTE Students	No. of students per staff	International Students	Female:Male Ratio
1	University of California, Berkeley United States	39,991	17.9	22%	52 : 48
2	Stanford University United States	14,517	6.4	23%	47 : 53
3	University of Oxford United Kingdom	21,750	10.9	42%	49 : 51
4	University of Cambridge United Kingdom	20,565	11.5	38%	48 : 52
5	Harvard University United States	20,050	9.0	25%	51 : 49
6	University of Hong Kong Hong Kong	18,103	18.3	43%	55 : 45
7	Tsinghua University China	38,518	11.2	10%	n/a



Why choose HKU?

- Internationally, HKU Faculty of Education ranks No. 3 in the QS World University Rankings for Education 2025
- Well established **reputation** in early childhood education
- **Freedom** to explore and **broaden** opportunities
- **Supportive** learning environment
- **Flexible** career and study pathways
- Programme instructors with **extensive local and international teaching and administrative experience in early childhood settings**



Learning experience in HKU

Sharing by current ACD student



Career Prospects

Teaching positions in schools and child care centres, special schools and other educational settings

Teaching

Administration

Administration in NGOs, family and children's agencies and other educational bodies

Research

Further studies

Further studies in the field of early childhood education and related areas

Research opportunities in organisations and tertiary institutions



Career Prospects

Employment Sector

Kindergarten Teacher
Native English Teacher
Teacher Assistant
Tutor Centre (Manager)
.....



Education

91.7%

68.8%

Community, Social & Personal Services

25.0%

Commerce & Industry

8.3%

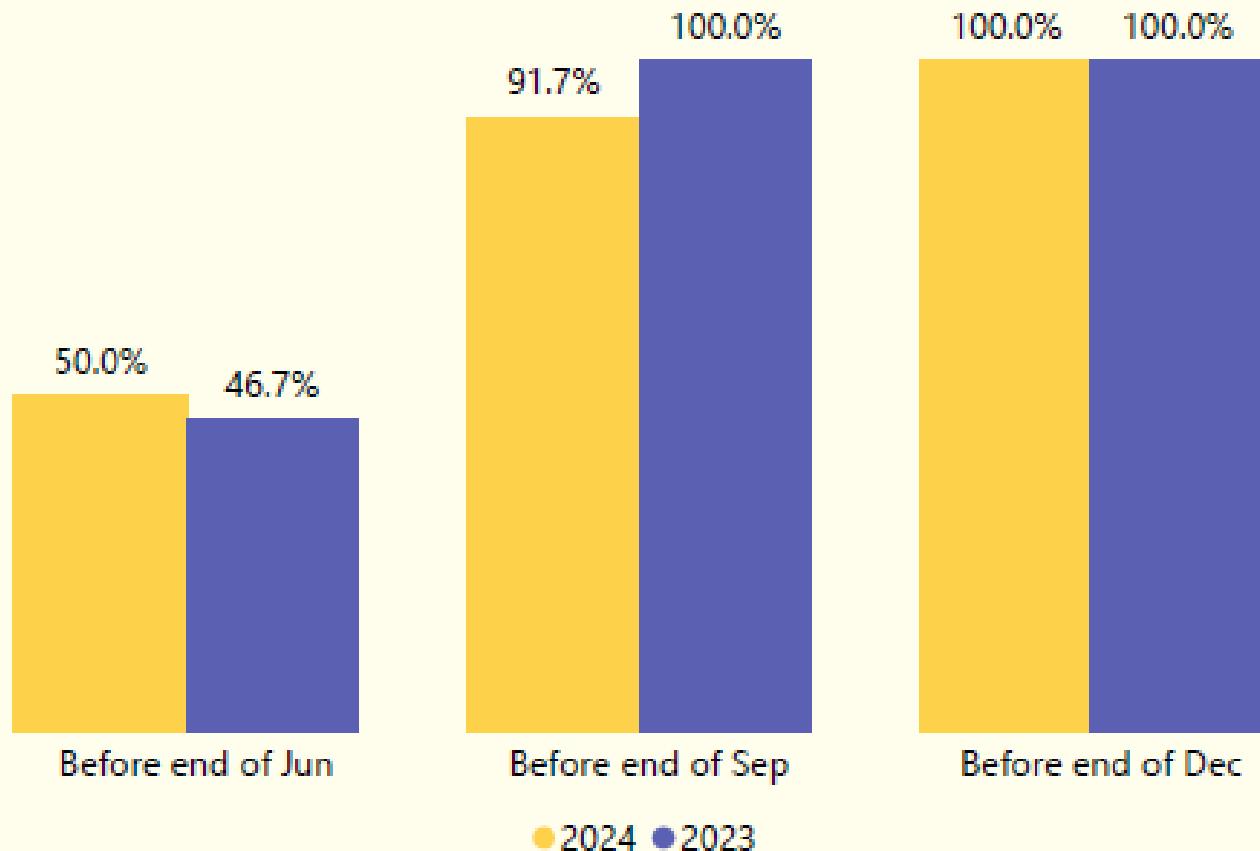
6.3%

● 2024 ● 2023



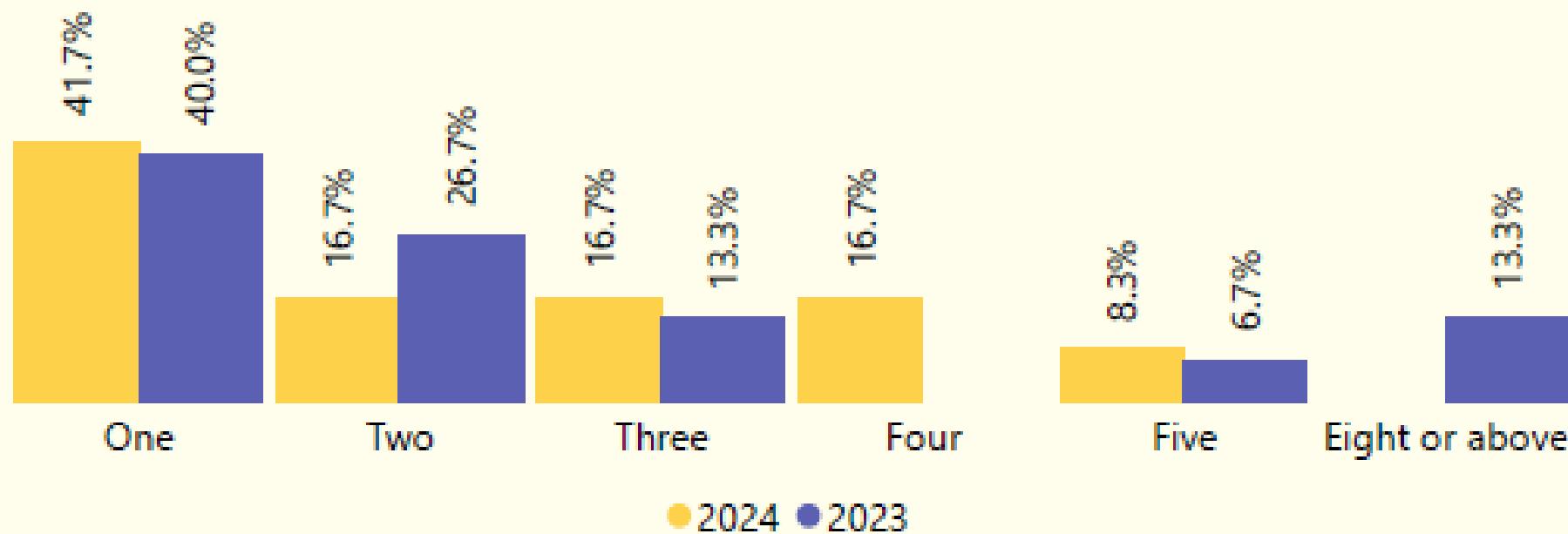
Career Prospects

Time to Receive First Job Offer



Career Prospects

Number of Job Offer Received



Career Prospects

Sharing by ACD graduates



Admission Requirements

- Candidates holding a recognised **Higher Diploma/Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education** of at least two years in duration from a community college in Hong Kong are eligible to apply.
- Final-year students on such programmes can also apply and their applications will be considered subject to their completion of the programme by August 2026.
- There are **20 places for admissions** to the BSc(ACD) programme for the September 2026 intake.



Application Process

- Applicants should submit their applications through "[**Admissions to Senior Year Places**](#)".
- Programme Code: A202
- You are strongly advised to put this programme as your **1st choice**.
- Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an **interview and a written test in February – early April 2026**.
- Admission decision will be announced on a rolling basis starting from February / March 2026 up till the end of August 2026.



To conclude...

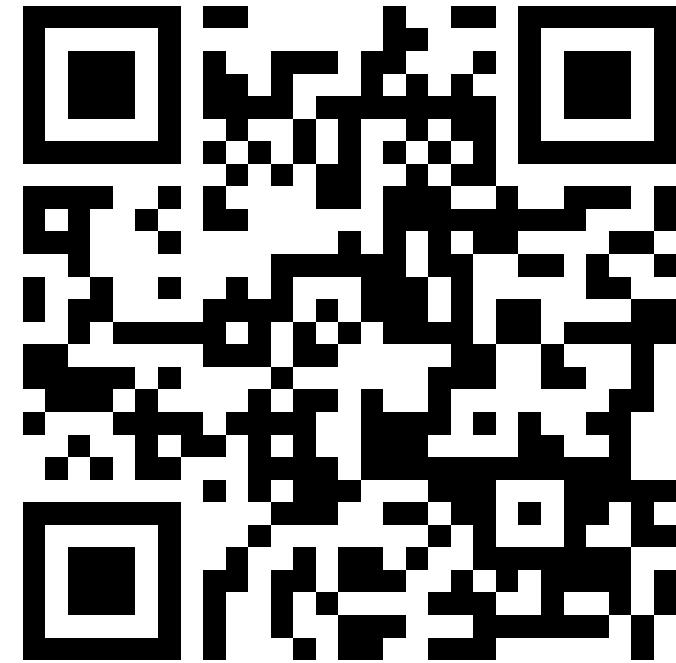
Possibility
(Potential)

Opportunity



Further Information

- Tel: (852) 3917 2545
- Email: bscacd@hku.hk
- Website:
<https://web.edu.hku.hk/programme/bsacd>



Programme Director

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Thank you!

Q & A

