


# GALEF

A pixelated globe of the Earth, showing blue oceans and green landmasses, located at the bottom right of the main title.

 Interdisciplinary Major Programme in  
Global Economics and Finance



LOOK  
FORWARD

Q:



A: Social Science/CUHK

## Programme overview

### Curriculum

- Interrelationships between world economies
- Functions and operations of financial markets, institutions and financial instruments in globalised economies
- Use of econometric and mathematical modelling tools

### Highlights

- Solid interdisciplinary training in economics and finance in a global context
- Non-conventional and latest developments in international economics and finance topics
- Heavy emphasis on internships and research experience

### Career prospects

- Multinational firms in the banking, financial and business consulting sectors
- Financial research in public or private organisations

## Student mix



Brazil  
Canada  
Chile  
China  
South Korea  
India  
Hong Kong  
Taiwan  
Slovakia  
Indonesia  
USA  
Kazakhstan  
Portugal  
United Kingdom  
Malaysia

# Overseas exchange

**55+**  
explored universities

**72%+**  
of students go on an exchange at least once before graduation

## The Netherlands

Maastricht University  
Utrecht University

## France

Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales  
Sciences Po

## UK

Cardiff University  
City, University London  
Durham University  
King's College London  
University College London  
University of Aberdeen  
University of Bath  
University of Leeds  
University of Oxford  
University of Warwick

## Germany

Universitat Mannheim  
WHU – Otto Beisheim School of Management

## Denmark

Copenhagen Business School

## Sweden

Lund University  
Uppsala University

## Finland

University of Tampere

## Canada

Queen's University  
The University of British Columbia  
University of Toronto  
University of Victoria  
York University

## USA

American University  
Northeastern University  
San Diego State University  
The Pennsylvania State University  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Truman State University  
University of California  
University of Michigan  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of South Carolina  
University of Southern California  
University of Tennessee  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

## Austria

Vienna University of Economics and Business

## Switzerland

University of St. Gallen

## Italy

Universita Carlo Cattaneo  
Universita Commerciale L. Bocconi

## Czech Republic

University of Economics, Prague

## Japan

Doshisha University  
Keio University

## South Korea

Korea University  
Sungkyunkwan University

## China

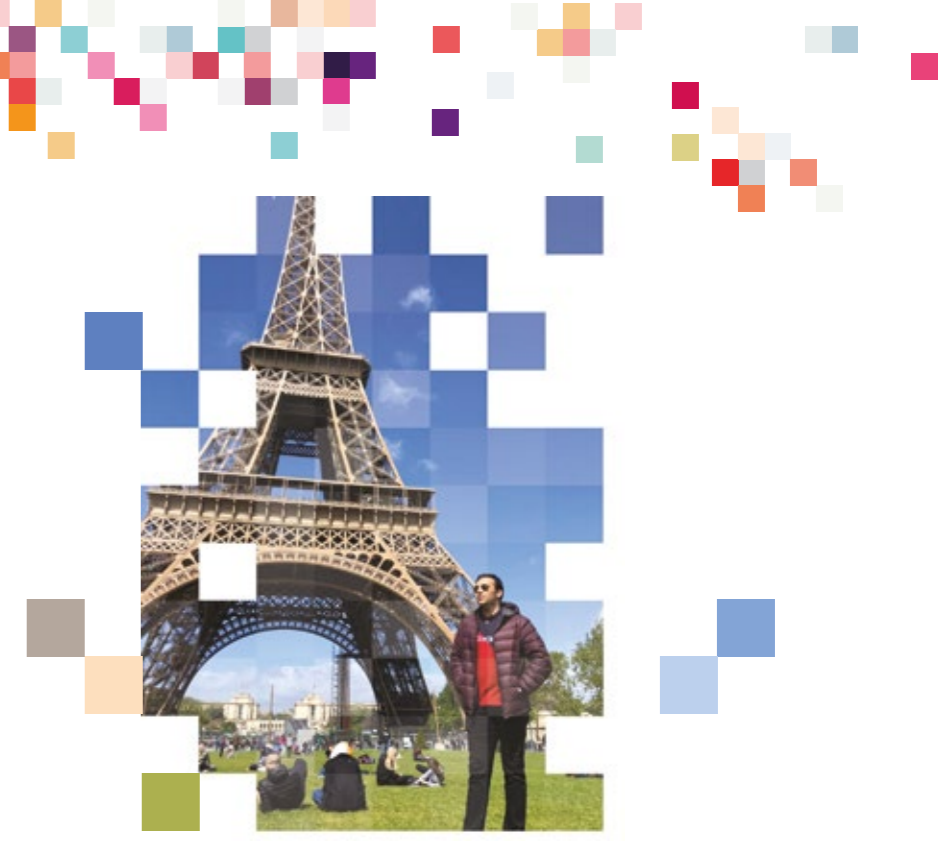
Peking University

## Singapore

National University of Singapore

## Australia

Monash University  
The University of Melbourne  
The University of New South Wales  
The University of Sydney



## Akarsh BHUTANI

Maastricht University – School of Business and Economics (SBE),  
The Netherlands

“At first, it was a difficult decision whether to go on a year-long exchange. However, after the exchange period ended, I am proud to say that it was one of the best decisions I made as a CUHK student.

I believe that joy in life comes from new and unique experiences. This was the case during my time spent in the Netherlands. From biking for my classes on a daily basis to enjoying the beauty of being in the small town of Maastricht, it was a wholesome experience. The teaching method that prevailed at my host university was much different from that at CUHK. We mainly had tutorials in groups of 12-14 people and few lectures. Studying in a classroom where no more than 2-3 students belonged to the same country helped me to broaden my horizons and become more interculturally competent.

The best part about going on exchange was travel. I managed to see 16 countries over the period of nine months. I will cherish these experiences and the friendships and bonds that I developed throughout this journey for the rest of my life.”

# Professional training programme

**160+**  
partner companies

**81%+**  
of students have completed  
at least one term / summer  
internship before graduation



## Internship recruiting companies (selected)

Swiss Reinsurance  
 UBS Fidelity Wellington Management  
 Bank of America Merrill Lynch Ernst & Young HSBC  
 Nest.vc Citi Barclays A.T. Kearney Nomura Bloomberg  
 J.P. Morgan KPMG HKEX Accenture Goldman Sachs  
 Alibaba Entrepreneurs Fund BNP Paribas BDA Partners PwC  
 Pacific Pension & Investment Institute HKMA DBS  
 Western Asset Management Company UBS Hong Kong Policy Research Institute  
 Standard Chartered Commerzbank Folger Hill Asset Management  
 Ion Pacific Limited Point72 Hang Lung Properties Hang Seng Bank  
 State Street Morgan Stanley John Swire & Sons  
 China International Capital Corporation (CICC) S&P Global Ratings  
 Royal Bank of Canada Wealth Management  
 The Hong Kong Jockey Club

## Giovanni TIONARDY

UOB Indonesia

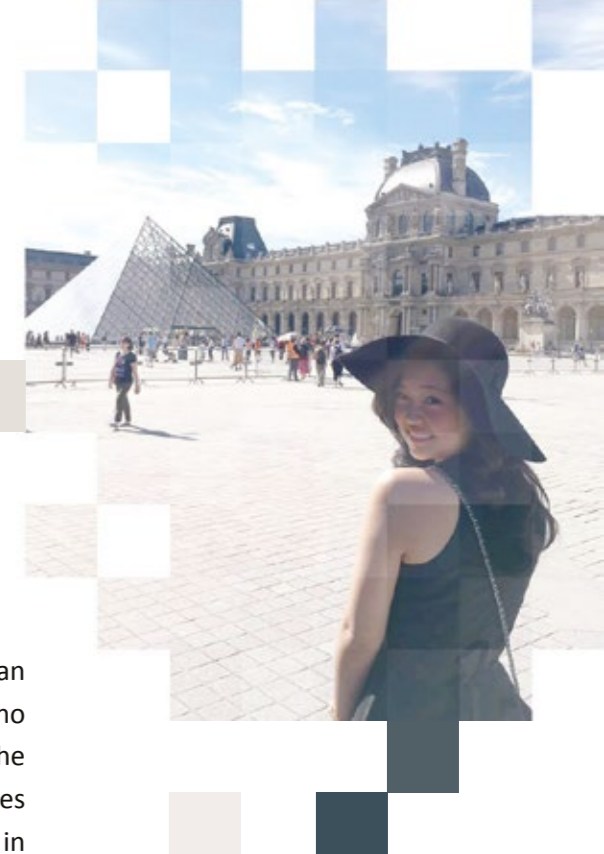
“The Learn Earn and Progress (LEAP) programme was an eight-week internship designed for penultimate-year students who were seeking a career in the banking industry. Participants in the programme were offered hands-on experience working on a series of projects, attending several in-class trainings and taking part in banking networking sessions. ...

Over two months, I worked as a System Parameter intern in the Operations Department. My main responsibilities were to study the core banking system and create technical instructions regarding the maintenance, update, addition and removal of data in it. ... Upon completion of internship, I also gave presentations to my team regarding the whole LEAP programme structure and recommendations that were to be implemented in the Operations Division.

Credit is due to GLEF for helping me secure this internship. The two most beneficial courses were GLEF3010, International Monetary Systems, and FINA3030, Management of Financial Institutions. The International Monetary Systems was the most unique course that GLEF offered. Students were put into a simulation game, and everyone had to work hard to earn good grades. Students were also trained to write short research papers and give a 30-minute presentation. These tasks indirectly helped me improve my verbal and communication skills. Management of Financial Institutions is a course on the banking industry, and it was very useful to me during my internship at UOB Indonesia because it helped me understand the bank system. It did not take me long to learn the core banking system, as I learned most of the banking structure from this course.

Another factor that contributed to my internship placement was my exchange experience at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Through its teaching structure and method, I was able to build confidence in myself and control my fears about public speaking.

In short, GLEF has done an excellent job in offering me the classes that are necessary in the banking industry.”





# Student life



Orientation Camp

Photo day with graduates

Inauguration ceremony

Chinese New Year gathering

Winter BBQ

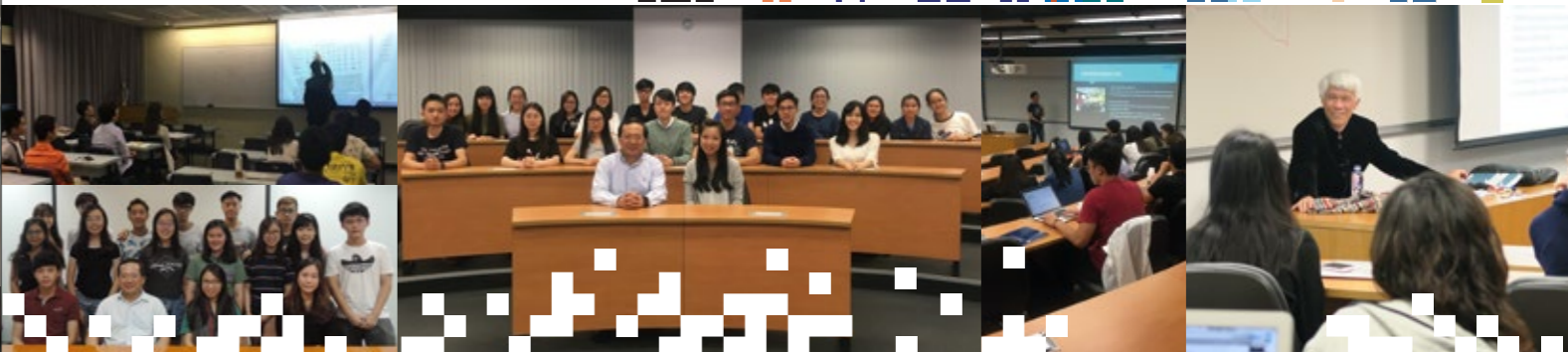
## The Society of Global Economics and Finance (GEFS)

The Society of Global Economics and Finance (GEFS) was established in 2012 to serve student members at GLEF.

The seventh cabinet of GEFS, Glefalcon, which took office on 18 February 2019, is dedicated to serving GLEFers and to unite GLEF members as a family. We have organized a series of activities to strengthen our mutual bonds: the New Year barbeque gathering in January to assemble everyone after the Christmas holiday and to motivate each other before the start of the second semester, the Spring Dinner in February to celebrate the Lunar New Year, the Photo Day in March to share joy with our fellow graduates and the Orientation Camp in August to welcome our freshmen and help them adapt to university life.

Apart from networking events, GEFS has organised career-related activities to provide students with clearer aspirations and prospects for their careers. We have held several career-related workshops to help GLEFers gain a better understanding of different industries and to equip them with skills, experience and knowledge. We aim to assist our members in planning and preparing for their career paths at an earlier stage so they will have an edge over others.

GEFS will strain every sinew in the interests of our members and faculties and serve the GLEF family with passion and dedication.



Investment workshop

Exchange sharing

Internship sharing

Guest lecture by Prof. Joseph YAM, Founder of HKMA

## Career ambassador

We believe that in addition to academic studies and recreational activities, career development is an important part of our students' university lives. To provide more insights into different career paths for our students, two current senior students are appointed as GLEF Career Ambassadors every year. Their duty is to supplement the programme's career support, such as by organising various events to enhance students' awareness and understanding of their career pursuits.

This year, several career-related activities were organized. For instance, hard skill workshops such as investment and VBA workshops were held in response to our students' demand. These workshops aim to enrich students' skill sets and empower them with practical knowledge that extends beyond lessons. Furthermore, senior students were invited to conduct an exchange and internship sharing sessions. Such sessions not only establish an additional platform for junior students to connect with their fellow students but also provide junior students with useful job-hunting tips and diversified industry knowledge. Attendees can then plan for their career paths in advance as they learn more about the job duties and requirements of the various roles in different industries.

In addition to career events, we maintain an internship and exchange database with abundant and detailed information about past internship and exchange experiences for all students' reference. Students are encouraged to use the database and to proactively reach out to senior students to make the most out of the strong GLEF network.



## HSBC Financial Innovation Case Study 2019

Steven LO

“It is such a great experience to participate in the HSBC Financial Innovation Case Study 2019. I was fortunate enough to be awarded the 2nd runner-up among all the elite teams from different backgrounds.

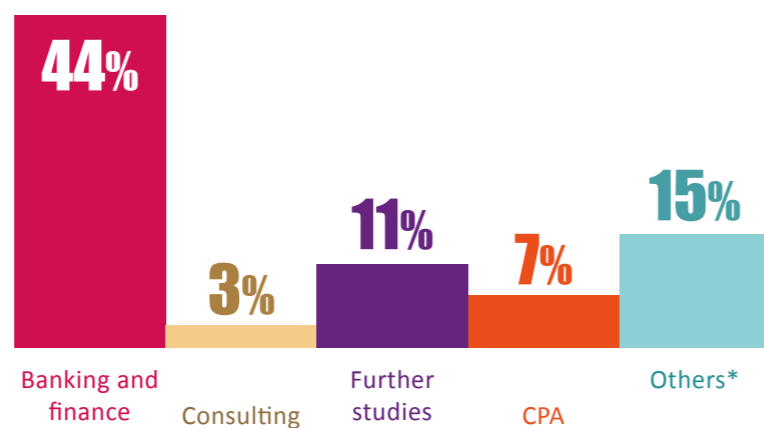
Our team proposed an all-in-one tech-driven solution for HSBC to increase the public’s financial literacy and capability. The extensive research process involved enabled me to acquire knowledge on the latest FinTech and the landscape of e-wallets in Hong Kong. With rapid technology advancement, the FinTech industry is becoming extremely popular and has become entrenched in our everyday life. We may use Apple Pay, PayMe and Fast Payment System every single day, but not all of us understand how they work and earn revenue. By doing the case study, we had the opportunity to tap into the industry and learn practical knowledge that cannot be acquired from textbooks.”

GLEF student Steven LO and his CUHK teammates won second runner-up in the HSBC Financial Dialogue Series 2019 – Financial Innovation Case Study.

The HSBC Financial Dialogue Series is a continuous programme that aims to engage over 300 local university students and HSBC Scholars in finance, business and economics each year through interactive dialogue sessions with prestigious leaders and financial experts, as well as through the exclusive accelerated learning programme afterwards.

## Career Prospects

(up to 2019 graduates)



\*e.g., start-up business, training, marketing

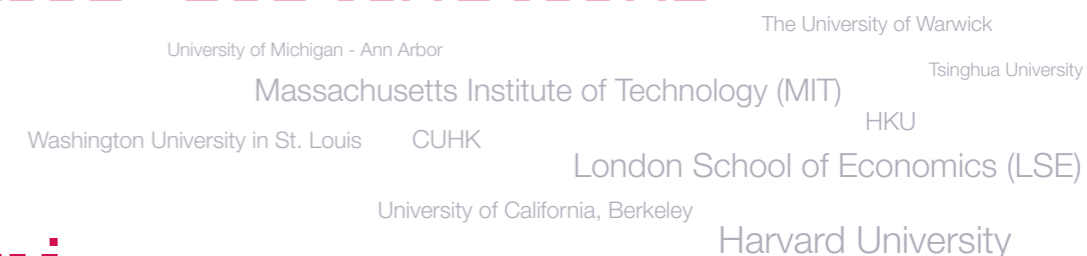
## Graduate destinations

(selected)



## Postgraduate studies destinations

(selected)



## Alumni



### Shirley SZETO

Class of 2019  
Associate, Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation

“Four years ago, if you were to ask me, ‘What are your expectations from university life?’, I’d probably answer you, ‘Nothing much’.

I was once told that my two years of high school would be the highlights of my life. I was devastated. Yet in retrospect, GLEF has offered me more than I could have imagined. It has shaped who I am today.

GLEF has been a journey of self-discovery. Solid economic theories and financial knowledge aside, the programme opens up the flexibility to explore further opportunities, from entrepreneurship courses and study trips to full-time semester internship experiences to creating my own start-up.

The challenging skills acquired in the programme have laid a foundation for me to use, and the programme has nurtured my ambition to strive. I was able to expand my comfort zone and channel my passion.

GLEF is a cradle of brilliant minds. Along this journey, I was accompanied by liked-minded friends who have supported me in competitions, organising committees and my highs and lows. The small cohort, along with our programme co-directors, friendly programme manager and career counsellors, make up a well-rounded support system that can help you push through your boundaries.

Everyone is unique in GLEF, and each of us is creating our own story. Today, I see myself as a game-changer who can create a real impact. Are you ready to embark on your journey of self-exploration?”



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Catch us at  
[glef.econ.cuhk.edu.hk](http://glef.econ.cuhk.edu.hk)



University Affiliation  
Program



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