Formula for Grade Average Calculation

There are 3 grade averages: TGA, CGA and GGA.

TGA (Term Grade Average) is the combined grade average covering all courses taken in the term and the session immediately following.

CGA (Cumulative Grade Average) is computed based on all the courses taken by the student which are expected at the time of calculation to be applied towards the degree requirements in the current program.

$$\text{TGA \& CGA} = \frac{\text{Sum of (Course Credits x Course grade points)}}{\text{Sum of Course Credits}}$$

GGA (Graduation Grade Average) is calculated at graduation from the courses that are presented for the award of a degree. Courses taken in the first year of study are given a half-weight. Students who enter the University with credit transfer of 10 credits or more are not eligible for this half-weight concession.

Note:
a) Credits/grades that are omitted from grade average calculations
Transfer credits and courses graded AU, I, P, PP or W are omitted from the calculation of all three grade averages.

b) Calculation of 'F' grades
For failed courses which are **repeated**, the new grade obtained after repeating the course will replace the previous F grade and course credits are only counted once in the calculation of CGA and GGA.

c) Uncleared 'F' Grades
For failed courses which are **not** repeated, the **uncleared** 'F' grades will be included in the CGA and GGA calculations (the grade averages will be pulled down) unless the 'F's are approved by departments to be excluded from GGA calculation.

d) Courses which may be Excluded from GGA Calculations
All courses required to satisfy the degree requirements (including dual & minor programs) **must** be used in calculating the GGA, which is used to determine the class of honors. Only 'surplus' courses outside the degree requirements may be excluded, and 'part-credits' from a course cannot be excluded.

e) First Class Honors Cannot be Awarded to Students with Uncleared Course Failures
First class honors are awarded to students with a GGA of A- (3.5) or above, AND with **no** failing course during their studies at HKUST.

f) No Double-counting of the Courses Towards Different Degrees
Credits earned at the UG level can only be used for PG advanced standing purpose if the credits have not been used for the award of another academic qualification and that the courses must be at the 300-level. In this regard, 'surplus' courses at 300-level or above which have been excluded from the GGA calculation at the graduation stage can be used in the future to fulfill the requirements of a PG degree.