

REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN TRANSPORT POLICY AND PLANNING MA(TranspPol&Plan)

(See also General Regulations)

Any publication based on work approved for a higher degree should contain a reference to the effect that the work was submitted to the University of Hong Kong for the award of the degree.

MAT 1 Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Arts in Transport Policy and Planning, a candidate

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations;¹
 - (b) shall hold
 - (i) a Bachelor's degree with honours of this University; or
 - (ii) another qualification of equivalent standard from this University or from another university or comparable institution accepted for this purpose; or a relevant professional qualification of equivalent standard and membership of an appropriate professional body accepted for this purpose², with relevant experience; and
 - (c) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if required.
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MAT 2 Qualifying examination

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidate's formal academic ability or his ability to follow the courses of study prescribed. It shall consist of one or more written papers or their equivalent and may include a project report.
 - (b) A candidate who is required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until he has satisfied the examiners in the examination.
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MAT 3 Award of degree

To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Arts in Transport Policy and Planning, a candidate

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations; and
- (b) shall complete the curriculum and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below.

¹ In addition to the TOEFL requirement specified in General Regulation G 2, the Faculty also requires *either* a Test of Written English (TWE) score of 4 or above *or* an Essay Rating score of 4.0 or above in the computer-based TOEFL.

² Membership of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (MCILT) is accepted by the Faculty of Arts for this purposes.

MAT 4 Length of curriculum

The curriculum shall extend over not less than two academic years of part-time study with a minimum of 300 hours of prescribed work.

MAT 5 Completion of curriculum

To complete the curriculum, a candidate

- (a) shall follow courses of instruction and complete satisfactorily all prescribed written work;
- (b) shall participate and present research findings in the MA(TranspPol&Plan) dissertation seminar series;
- (c) shall complete and present a satisfactory dissertation on a subject within his approved field of study; and
- (d) shall satisfy the examiners in all prescribed courses and in any prescribed form of examination.

The examiners may also prescribe an oral examination.

MAT 6 Title of dissertation

The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval not later than December 1 of the second year of study and the dissertation shall be presented by June 15 of that year. The candidate shall submit a statement that the dissertation represents his own work undertaken after registration as a candidate for the degree.

MAT 7 Examinations

- (a) Examinations will be held at the end of the semester in which the courses are taken. A candidate must satisfy the examiners in the first year examinations before proceeding to the second year. A candidate failing to satisfy the examiners in not more than two papers in the first year may be permitted to sit a supplementary examination in the failed paper(s) to be held after the second semester of the first year and before the commencement of the second year of study. Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners in three or more papers in the first year may be required to repeat the first year of the curriculum and re-present themselves for the first year examinations or to discontinue their studies.
- (b) A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in not more than two courses in the second year of study but has presented a satisfactory dissertation may be permitted to present himself for re-examination in the failed course(s) on a specified date(s) not less than two months nor more than twelve months after the publication of results.
- (c) A candidate who has presented an unsatisfactory dissertation but has satisfied the examiners in all the courses in the second year may be permitted to revise the dissertation and re-present it within a specified period of not less than two months and not more than twelve months after receipt of a notice that it is unsatisfactory.
- (d) A candidate who has presented an unsatisfactory dissertation and has failed to satisfy the examiners in any one course in the second year may be permitted to present himself for re-examination in the paper of failure and to revise and re-present the dissertation within a specified period of not less than two months nor more than twelve months after the publication of the results.

MAT 8

- (a) A candidate who is not permitted to present himself for re-examination in any paper or papers in which he has failed to satisfy the examiners or to revise and re-present his dissertation within the specified period shall be deemed to have failed and shall be recommended for discontinuation under the provisions of General Regulation G 12.
 - (b) A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in a second attempt in any paper or papers or in his dissertation may be required to discontinue his studies.
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MAT 9 Examination results

At the conclusion of the examination, and after presentation of the dissertation, a pass list shall be published in alphabetical order. A candidate who has shown exceptional merit may be awarded a mark of distinction, and this mark shall be recorded in the candidate's degree certificate.

MAT10 Supplementary examination

Candidates who are unable because of illness to be present for any written examination may apply for permission to present themselves for a supplementary examination. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within two weeks of the first day of absence from any examination. The supplementary examination shall be held at a time to be determined by the Board of Examiners for the degree of M.A. in Transport Policy and Planning. Candidates who fail to satisfy the examiners in the supplementary examination shall be considered as failure at the first attempt.

**SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF ARTS IN TRANSPORT POLICY AND PLANNING**

PURPOSE

The programme aims at providing the expanding transport sector in Hong Kong with a steady supply of well trained professionals at the executive level, as well as providing training for graduates aspiring to pursue careers in the transport field. The programme offers those already working in the sector opportunities for updating themselves with the latest developments in transport studies. Graduates of this programme will be exempted automatically from the examination requirements leading to the qualification of Membership of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (MCILT).

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Coursework teaching conforms with the undergraduate teaching year. There are usually three sessions of two contact hours per week. Examinations will be held at the end of the semester. Candidates must take eight courses during the programme, seven of which are compulsory (as listed in A below) and one of which is an elective (to be chosen from those listed in B below):

A. Compulsory Courses

GEOG7001. Survey and data analysis in transport studies

Surveys are commonly used to collect useful data in transport studies. A myriad of survey methods and instruments are available. This course covers the major aspects including survey design, sampling, hypothesis testing, interview and questionnaire design, survey implementation and administration, computer-based data processing, analysis and retrieval and report writing. Different aspects of surveys are discussed with reference to the transport-related professions and disciplines in different political and socio-economic contexts. Examples include travel characteristics, origin-destination, freight and public transport surveys conducted in Hong Kong and the other parts of the world. The applications of geographic information system (GIS) in transport studies are also covered.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

GEOG7002. Transport and development

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the theoretical approaches and empirical evidences on the interrelationship between the transport and development processes. Specific case studies are drawn extensively from different parts of the world, in particular Asia. Particular emphasis is placed on the role of government policies and the substantially different contexts of developed and developing Countries in understanding the transport-development interrelationship and making transport provisions more "sustainable" and "compatible" with local circumstances.

Assessment: 30% coursework: 70% examination.

GEOG7003. Transport economics

This course covers in-depth discussion on a number of basic topics in transport economics – present discounted valuation of cash flows, basic financial analysis, investment criteria, pricing theories and practice, travel time valuation, peak load and cost allocation problems, risk, uncertainty and sensitivity analysis, and considerations of equity.

Assessment: 40% coursework: 60% examination.

GEOG7006. Engineering for transport systems

The course introduces students to the basic performance characteristics of various transport modes for passengers and freight. The focus will be on the interaction between performance and factors related to transportation technology, facility, system design and patterns of demand.

Assessment: 30% coursework: 70% examination.

GEOG7007. Analysis, modelling and project appraisal in transportation

This course introduces students with case studies to various practical modelling and project appraisal techniques developed for and employed in the transportation sector. The course is divided into two sections. The first section introduces the various techniques used to model transport behaviour and discusses the role and limitations of model applications in the transport planning process. The basic concepts of traffic generation, distribution, mode split and traffic assignment modelling are introduced and illustrated using examples from Hong Kong and the United Kingdom. The second section introduces appraisal of transport projects. Cost-benefit analysis (emphasized on financial side) will be discussed. It will look at how various transport projects are carried out from start to finish.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

URBP6123. Public transport systems

This course is designed to examine the nature and the role of public transport systems mainly in the urban context with special reference to high density development. Topics will include the nature and characteristics of passenger transport, the operation and management of public transit systems, deregulation and privatization, the role of para-transit, and multi-modal co-operation and competition. Assessment: 100% coursework.

URBP6131. Transport policy and planning

This course focuses on key issues in transport policy and the implementation of transport plans and programmes. It examines the role of private and public modes within the overall urban transport system as well as pedestrian movement planning, airport development and seaport development. The course uses examples drawn from various countries to evaluate the appropriateness and effectiveness of alternative policies and implementation mechanisms.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

B. Elective Courses

Students will also need to take any one of the following seven elective courses:

ENVM8005. Environmental auditing and management systems

Principles of environmental auditing and environmental management systems (EMS); structure and organization of audits; acting on audit outputs; environmental reporting; development of standards for auditing and EMS; BS7750; EMAS; ISO14000; auditing in Hong Kong and case study applications.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

ENVM8006. Environmental impact assessment

Origins and development of EIA; impact assessment methodologies; ecological aspects of EIA; project and strategic assessments; EIA and the decision making processes; EIA in Hong Kong; case study application of EIA.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

GEOG7008. Transport policy and planning in China

This course has two components. The first component deals with the national transport policies and planning in China, concerning all major transport modes including air, rail, waterway, and highway. The emphasis is on the policy responses of the central and local governments to the changes in the last two decades since the re-introduction of market mechanism. The second component focuses on China's urban transportation. A comprehensive discussion covers aspects of which transport planners in large Chinese cities are most concerned with, such as the priority of public transport, the bicycle issue, the control of automobile usage versus the national policy in favor of car manufacturing, and the impact of new land/property reform on transport development.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

GEOG7009. Transport logistics planning and services management

Logistics has to do with the inbound and outbound of freight and passengers and the corresponding areas of inventory management, warehousing, packaging and information system. This course introduces and applies management techniques to supply chain management in a global setting and in

the context of public policy and corporate operations. It introduces principles and approaches, leading to student knowledge and experience in management decision making applied to business logistics. It uses readings, lectures, presentations, group work, and cases, using a largely qualitative approach. Topics covered include the management process, management decision making, supply chain management, information systems, logistics networks and channels, risk management in global operations, performance measurement, total quality management, public policy issues in logistics, and corporate structures and approaches.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

GEOG7010. Transport law and management

This course covers the legal framework for carriage and the mechanisms of transport management. Under transport law, topics covered include the contracts of carriage, bills of lading, charterparties, freight and demurrage, master's authority, shipowner's duties, loading and unloading, exclusion and limitation of liability, introduction to admiralty jurisdiction, the comparative aspects of Hong Kong and mainland Chinese shipping law, marine pollution, marine insurance and protection and indemnity clubs (P & I Clubs) and an introduction to carriage by the air and by road. Under transport management, the topics are pricing versus regulation, traffic management and traffic restraint, and management of vehicle movements and access.

Assessment: 75% coursework: 25% examination.

URBP6429. Physical planning and urban form

This course focuses on the physical form of the city and straddles the junction between urban planning and urban design. It covers concepts and principles underlying urban form as well as techniques in physical planning. The course is divided into three modules: the first is on analysing and understanding the physical structure of the city and forces that shape it; the second focuses on elements of urban form; and the third introduces the fundamental principles of site analysis for both high and low density development.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

URBP6434. Regional development planning

Global restructuring has led to new theorization and practice of regional development and planning in both developed and developing countries. This course reveals an evolution of regional development theories derived from the Western and Asian contexts. The course also examines in detail the practice of regional development planning in selected Asian Pacific countries.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

C. Seminars, Field Trips, and Dissertation

In addition to the courses, students will be required to attend a series of seminars to be offered by scholars and practitioners in the field. Field-trips are designed to provide opportunities for students to examine first hand transport-related developments and problems in and around Hong Kong. Second year candidates must also complete a topical study or research project in two parts as follows:

- (a) a dissertation of 10,000 - 20,000 words, with a focus on one of the passenger or freight transport modes and on a global, regional, or local scale; and
- (b) a presentation of research findings in the 'dissertation seminars' series.

Attendance and participation in the 'dissertation seminar' series are required.

The dissertation carries a weighting approximately equivalent to two papers. Successful dissertations to be lodged in the Library shall be subject to the correction of typographical, grammatical and/or other errors as determined by the examiners.