

## **REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (MSocSc)**

*These regulations apply to candidates admitted to the Master of Social Sciences in the academic year 2016-17 and thereafter.*

*(See also General Regulations and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula)*

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.

The degree of Master of Social Sciences (MSocSc) is a postgraduate degree awarded for the satisfactory completion of a prescribed course of study in one of the following fields: Behavioral Health; Clinical Psychology; Corporate Environmental Governance; Counselling; Criminology; Educational Psychology; Gerontology; Media, Culture and Creative Cities; Mental Health; Nonprofit Management; Psychology; Social Service Management; and Social Work. These fields of study will not necessarily be offered every year.

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### **Admission requirements**

**MSS1** To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences, candidates

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
- (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;
- (c) for a candidate who is seeking admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution outside Hong Kong of which the language of teaching and/or examination is not English, shall satisfy the University English language requirement applicable to higher degrees as prescribed under General Regulation G2(b); and
- (d) shall satisfy any other admission requirements which may be specified for individual fields of study in the regulations below; and
- (e) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if required.

**MSS1.1** To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the fields of Behavioral Health, Counselling, Gerontology, Mental Health, Social Service Management and Social Work, candidates shall preferably have had a minimum of two years of post-qualification experience in the relevant fields, in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

**MSS1.2** To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Clinical Psychology, candidates shall hold a Bachelor's degree with honours with a major in Psychology, or a recognized equivalent qualification, in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

**MSS1.3** To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Criminology, candidates

- (a) shall hold a Bachelor's degree with honours preferably with a major in the social sciences or humanities discipline; or
  - (b) shall preferably have working experience in the criminal justice system, social welfare agencies, or in other work with offenders,
- in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

**MSS1.4** To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Educational Psychology, candidates

- (a) shall hold a Bachelor's degree with honours with a major in Psychology, or a recognized equivalent qualification;
- (b) shall be eligible for the Graduate Membership of the Hong Kong Psychological Society; and
- (c) shall preferably have relevant working experience in educational or related settings, in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

**MSS1.5** To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Nonprofit Management, candidates shall preferably have three years of relevant working experience, in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

**MSS1.6** To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Psychology, candidates

- (a) shall hold
  - (i) a Bachelor's degree with honours of this University (in a discipline other than psychology and without completion of any other programme in psychology which is designed to bring the honours degree holder up to the standard of a graduate majoring in psychology); or
  - (ii) another qualification of equivalent standard from this University or from another University or comparable institution accepted for this purpose (in a discipline other than psychology and without completion of any other programme in psychology which is designed to bring the honours degree holder up to the standard of a graduate majoring in psychology);
- (b) shall preferably have more than one year of working experience; and
- (c) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination and interview if shortlisted, in addition to the requirements set out in Regulation MSS 1.

**MSS2** An application for exemption from the above requirements shall be considered on a case by case basis.

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### **Qualifying examination**

#### **MSS3**

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidates' formal academic ability or their 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) Candidates who are required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until they have satisfied the examiners in the examination.
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### **Award of degree**

**MSS4** To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Social Sciences, candidates

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula; and
  - (b) shall complete the programme as prescribed in the syllabuses and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below.
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### **Period of study**

**MSS5** The curriculum shall normally extend over one academic year of full-time study; or two academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study or three academic years of part-time study, unless otherwise specified for individual fields of study in the regulations below.

**MSS5.1** In the field of Clinical Psychology, the programme shall normally extend over two academic years of full-time study, with a maximum period of registration of four academic years of full-time study.

**MSS5.2** In the field of Counselling, the programme shall normally extend over two or three academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of three academic years for the two-year part-time study or four academic years for the three-year part-time study.

**MSS5.3** In the field of Criminology, the programme shall normally extend over one academic year of full-time study or two academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study or four academic years of part-time study.

**MSS5.4** In the field of Educational Psychology, the programme shall normally extend over two academic years of full-time study or three academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of four academic years for both full-time and part-time study.

**MSS5.5** In the fields of Media, Culture and Creative Cities, the programme shall normally extend over two academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of four academic years of part-time study.

**MSS5.6** In the field of Nonprofit Management, the programme shall normally extend over one academic year of full-time study, with a maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study.

**MSS5.7** In the fields of Mental Health, Social Service Management, and Social Work, the programme shall normally extend over two academic years of part-time study, with a maximum period of registration of three academic years of part-time study.

**MSS6** Candidates shall not be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration specified in the above regulations, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of the Faculty.

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### **Advanced Standing**

**MSS7** Advanced Standing may be granted to candidates in recognition of studies completed successfully before admission to the curriculum. Candidates who are awarded Advanced Standing will not be granted any further credit transfer for those studies for which Advanced Standing has been granted. The amount of credits to be granted for Advanced Standing shall be determined by the Board of the Faculty, in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) a candidate may be granted a total of not more than 20% of the total credits normally required under a curriculum for Advanced Standing unless otherwise approved by the Senate; and
  - (b) credits granted for Advanced Standing shall not normally be included in the calculation of the GPA unless permitted by the Board of the Faculty but will be recorded on the transcript of the candidate.
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### **Exemption**

**MSS8** Candidates may be exempted, with or without special conditions attached, from the requirement prescribed in the regulations and syllabuses governing the curriculum with the approval of the Board of the Faculty, except in the case of a capstone experience. Approval for exemption of a capstone experience may be granted only by the Senate with good reasons. Candidates who are so exempted must replace the number of exempted credits with courses of the same credit value.

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## **Progression in curriculum**

**MSS9** Candidates may, with the approval of the Board of the Faculty, transfer credits for courses completed at other institutions during their candidature. The number of transferred credits may be recorded in the transcript of the candidate, but the results of courses completed at other institutions shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA. The combined total number of credits to be granted for Advanced Standing and credit transfer shall not exceed half of the total credits normally required under the curricula of the candidates during their candidature at the University.

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## **Completion of curriculum**

**MSS10** To complete the curriculum, candidates

- (a) shall satisfy the requirements prescribed in TPG 6 of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
  - (b) shall follow courses of instruction and complete satisfactorily all prescribed written work and field work;
  - (c) shall complete and present a satisfactory dissertation or capstone project as prescribed in the syllabuses; and
  - (d) shall satisfy the examiners in all prescribed courses and in any prescribed form of examination.
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## **Dissertation and Capstone project**

**MSS11** Subject to the provisions of Regulation MSS 10(c), the title of the dissertation or capstone project shall be submitted for approval by not later than March 31 of the final academic year in which the teaching programme ends and the dissertation or capstone project shall be presented by a date as prescribed in the syllabuses for each field of study; candidates shall submit a statement that the dissertation or capstone project represents their own work (or in the case of conjoint work, a statement countersigned by their co-worker(s), which show their share of the work) undertaken after registration as candidates for the degree.

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## **Assessment**

**MSS12** Candidates shall be assessed for each of the courses for which they have registered, and assessment may be conducted in any combination of continuous assessment of coursework, written examinations and/or any other assessable activities. Only passed courses will earn credits.

### **MSS13**

- (a) Where so prescribed in the syllabuses, coursework or a dissertation or a capstone project shall constitute part or whole of the examination for one or more courses.
- (b) An assessment of the candidates' coursework during their studies, including completion of written assignments and participation in field work or laboratory work, as the case may be, may be taken into account in determining the candidates' result in each written examination paper; or, where so prescribed in the syllabuses, may constitute the examination of one or more courses.

**MSS14** Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat a course for which they have received a passing grade for the purpose of upgrading.

**MSS15** Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners at their first attempt in not more than half of the number of courses to be examined, whether by means of written examination papers or coursework assessment, during any of the academic years of study, may be permitted make up for the failed course(s) in the following manner:

- (a) undergoing re-assessment/re-examination in the failed course; or
- (b) re-submitting failed coursework, without having to repeat the same course of instruction; or
- (c) repeating the failed course by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessments; or
- (d) for elective courses, taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements.

**MSS16** Subject to the provision of Regulation MSS 10(c), candidates who have failed to present a satisfactory dissertation or capstone project may be permitted to submit a new or revised dissertation or capstone project within a specified period.

**MSS17** Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners in any prescribed field work/practical work/internship may be permitted to present themselves for re-examination in field work/practical work/internship within a specified period.

**MSS18** Candidates who are unable because of their illness to be present at the written examination of any course may apply for permission to present themselves at a supplementary examination of the same course to be held before the beginning of the following academic year. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within two weeks of the first day of the candidate's absence from any examination. Any supplementary examination shall be part of that academic year's examinations, and the provision made in the regulations for failure at the first attempt shall apply accordingly.

**MSS19** There shall be no appeal against the results of examinations and all other forms of assessment.

**MSS20** Candidates who

- (a) are not permitted to present themselves for re-assessment/re-examination in any failed course(s) or to repeat the failed course(s) or take another course in lieu under Regulation MSS 15; or
- (b) have failed to satisfy the examiners in any course(s) at a second attempt; or
- (c) are not permitted to submit a new or revised dissertation or capstone project under Regulation MSS 16; or
- (d) have failed to submit a satisfactory new or revised dissertation or capstone project under Regulation MSS 16; or
- (e) have exceeded the maximum period of registration.

may be required to discontinue their studies.

**MSS201** In the field of Clinical Psychology, candidates who have failed two external placements or the second attempt of either the external placement or internal practicum may be required to discontinue their studies.

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## **Grading systems**

**MSS21** Individual courses shall be graded according to the one of the following grading systems:

(a) Letter grades, their standards and the grade points for assessment as follows:

<i>Grade</i>		<i>Standard</i>	<i>Grade Point</i>
A+	}	Excellent	4.3
A			4.0
A-			3.7
B+	}	Good	3.3
B			3.0
B-			2.7
C+	}	Satisfactory	2.3
C			2.0
C-			1.7
D+	}	Pass	1.3
D			1.0
F		Fail	0

or

(b) 'Pass' or 'Fail'.

Courses graded according to (b) above shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA.

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### **Classification of awards**

**MSS22** On successful completion of the curriculum, candidates who have shown exceptional merit may be awarded a mark of distinction, and this mark shall be recorded in the candidates' degree diploma.

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# **SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (MSocSc)**

## **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

The Department of Social Work and Social Administration offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Behavioral Health. The programme provides systematic and comprehensive training in behavioral health with the integration of Eastern and Western holistic orientation for healthcare professionals such as medical doctors, nurses, social workers, psychologists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, counsellors, counselling teachers, sports and fitness instructors, dieticians, Chinese medicine practitioners and complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) practitioners. The programme shall extend over not less than one and not more than two academic years of full-time study; or not less than two and not more than three academic years of part-time study, inclusive of intervening vacations.

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## **EXEMPTION**

Candidates may be granted exemption of up to three courses in recognition of studies completed in related areas. Exemption will only be considered in special circumstances and each application for exemption will be considered on its own merit. Candidates with exemption granted are required to take an additional elective course to replace the exempted course to meet the degree requirements.

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## **ASSESSMENTS**

To complete the programme, candidates shall satisfy the examiners in the assessment of courses as prescribed in the programme. Assessments of the courses may be conducted either by course assignments, by presentations, or by written tests, or a combination of both methods. The grading system follows the standard practice in the Faculty of Social Sciences.

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## **CURRICULUM**

The programme shall extend over not less than one and not more than two academic years of full-time study; or not less than two and not more than three academic years of part-time study, inclusive of intervening vacations.

Candidates are required to complete 60 credits, including 4 compulsory courses (6 credits each), 4 elective courses (6 credits each) and a practicum or dissertation (12 credits). Each course comprises the equivalent of at least 36 contact hours. They are expected to devote 220 hours on the practicum or dissertation and are required to present a progress report on their practicum or dissertation.

Candidates may be approved to enroll up to two courses offered by other postgraduate programmes of the Faculty as substitutes of elective courses in this programme. The substitute must be relevant to behavioral health and comprise the equivalent of at least 36 contact hours.

### ***Compulsory Courses***

Candidates shall complete the following courses.

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| MSBH6104 | Spirituality in clinical practice (6 credits)                            |
| MSBH7001 | Introduction to behavioral health (6 credits)                            |
| MSBH7005 | Scientific inquiry and research methods in behavioral health (6 credits) |
| MSBH7008 | Integrative approaches to holistic well-being (6 credits)                |

### **Elective Courses**

Candidates shall complete four of the following courses.

MSBH6001	The body: health and illnesses (6 credits)
MSBH6101	Counselling and psychotherapy (6 credits)
MSBH6103	Chinese cultural health practices (6 credits)
MSBH6106	Abnormal psychology (6 credits)
MSBH6117	Working with special target populations (6 credits)
MSBH6118	Selected topics (6 credits)
MSBH7007	Introduction to energy therapy methods (6 credits)
EXAT7101	Fundamentals of music therapy (6 credits)
EXAT7102	Fundamentals of drama therapy (6 credits)
EXAT7103	Fundamentals of art therapy (6 credits)
EXAT7104	Fundamentals of dance and movement therapy (6 credits)
SOWK6185	Qualitative research methods (6 credits)
SOWK6199	Assessment and interventions in mental health: A clinical case management approach (6 credits)
SOWK6206	Play Therapy (6 credits)
SOWK6259	Contemporary perspectives on death, dying and bereavement (6 credits)
SOWK6274	Theory and practice of positive psychology and strength-based interventions (6 credits)
SOWK6294	Use of expressive arts therapy in human services (6 credits)

### **Capstone Experience Course**

Candidates shall complete one of the following courses.

MSBH6201	Practicum (12 credits)
MSBH6202	Dissertation (12 credits)

(Note: not all courses will necessarily be offered in a given year.)

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

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### ***Compulsory Courses***

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#### **MSBH6104 Spirituality in clinical practice (6 credits)**

Spirituality is usually considered as the human longing for a sense of meaning and fulfillment in life. It embraces but not limited to elements of religious beliefs and practices. It is often an expression for life perceived as higher, more complex or more integrated with one's worldview and commonly regarded as an essential part of an individual's holistic health and well-being. Proceeding from the theoretical knowledge of spirituality, this course is devoted to experiential learning through class exercises, visits, self-reflection and case reviews. Relevant topics across different religious and spiritual practices will be covered and students will be able to practice spiritual-based counseling with solid theoretical foundation.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **MSBH7001 Introduction to behavioral health (6 credits)**

The course aims at orientating the students to the arts and science of behavioral health as well as the integrative body-mind-spirit approach in holistic health care. It covers the history, rationale, research, development and policy in behavioral health. Developments in both the East and the West will be briefly reviewed. This course is intended to introduce graduate students to the variety of intervention approaches and techniques in behavioral health. The theoretical framework and clinical efficacy of the



approaches will be examined. Implications and practical applications for helping professionals will be deliberated.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **MSBH7005 Scientific inquiry and research methods in behavioral health (6 credits)**

This course covers the nature and logic of scientific inquiry, and fundamental concepts like truth, reality, knowledge, and theory. Basic quantitative and qualitative research methods are covered; advanced research methods and specific approaches in behavioral health i.e. biofeedback, use of images and movement in research etc will also be introduced. Students will learn to be critical consumers of the scientific literature. Towards the end of the course, students are required to prepare a research proposal in which classroom learning can be applied to practical examples in behavioral health.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **MSBH7008 Integrative approaches to holistic well-being (6 credits)**

This course aims at cultivating the students' confidence and competence in developing holistic care practice in an integrative manner. A 3-day experiential learning workshop will provide students the direct experience of the integrative approach, as well as the chance to reflect and grow. The theoretical framework and philosophical underpinning of the intervention design will then be reviewed. Students are expected to develop a deeper understanding and competence in developing their holistic care practice models through integrating what they have learnt in all preceding modules with their direct experience and new theoretical integration acquired in this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### ***Elective Courses***

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### **MSBH6001 The body: health and illnesses (6 credits)**

This course covers the basic biomedical aspects of health and illnesses; making the link between the physical body to the emotional and behavioral manifestations; common clinical encounters covering marriage, sexual health, family and conception, infertility, child health, adolescent period, men's and women's health, mental health, the elderly and palliative care.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **MSBH6101 Counselling and psychotherapy (6 credits)**

This course examines the basic tenets and therapeutic processes of the major counselling and psychotherapy approaches available to modern-day practitioners. It covers basic counselling skills and core issues in counselling practice, such as values, ethics, socio-cultural awareness, therapeutic alliance and use of self. The therapeutic models are clustered according to the four major forces in psychotherapy: psychodynamic, behavioral/cognitive-behavioral, humanistic/experiential and contextual/systemic. Students are expected to be active seekers of knowledge and to participate actively in collective learning. Emphasis is placed on the cultivation of independent, critical, and reflective thought through reading, discussion and experiential learning. It is a pre-requisite of EXAT7101, EXAT7102, EXAT7103, EXAT7104 and SOWK6206.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**MSBH6103 Chinese cultural health practices (6 credits)**

In light of increasing emphasis on cultural competence, this course examines the merits and problems of importing western therapy modalities into the local scene. Attention is drawn to psychological wisdom in ancient Chinese religions and belief systems, including Confucianism, Buddhism, and Taoism. Basic ideas of health and illness in Traditional Chinese Medicine are also reviewed. Chinese health practices such as herbology, acupuncture, qi-gong, and health exercises are examined. The course also consists of an experiential component in which students are expected to learn the Tai Chi Qi-gong 18 Style or the Baduanjin. Students are encouraged to incorporate some of these elements into western counseling and therapy work to construct an indigenous treatment for the Chinese client.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**MSBH6106 Abnormal psychology (6 credits)**

This graduate level course will expose students to past and current research regarding concepts of “abnormal” behaviour, and the processes of clinical assessment of various types of psychological disorders – particularly the neurotic, psychotic, and mood disorders. A variety of in-class exercises – including small group discussion and video tapes are used to understand mental disorders. A number of controversial and culturally-relevant issues in abnormal psychology will also be explored and discussed in the course, such as helping seeking behavior of different cultural groups, and labeling effects of diagnosis. etc. References will be made to our Chinese local context. Case examples will be shared to enhance students’ learning. The newest edition of the multi-axial Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5, 2013) will serve as the explanatory basis for the description and analysis of these dysfunctional conditions. Although this is not a “therapy course”, we will also glance at accepted treatment strategies for particular diagnostic categories.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**MSBH6117 Working with special target populations (6 credits)**

This course covers selected topics that pertain to special populations or problems (e.g., cancer, AIDS, smoking, addictive gambling).

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**MSBH6118 Selected topics (6 credits)**

This course covers selected topics that meet acute societal needs, or are of current interest or on the cutting edge of knowledge advancement in behavioral health. Examples are prevention and coping with pandemic crises; reproductive health; gender, sexuality, and well-being; domestic violence.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**MSBH7007 Introduction to energy therapy methods (6 credits)**

This course introduces a new approach in managing emotional distress that has gained wide acceptance in America and Germany. Being part of the new field of Energy Medicine, this approach focuses on the body as an energy system and addresses the bio-energetic aspects of emotional distress and offer rapid relief through dissipating the maladaptive energy configurations. Energy Therapy methods incorporate affirmative self-statements in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy and concepts of energy and meridians in Traditional Chinese Medicine. The course carries a practical component and students are expected to master the basic therapeutic protocol so that it can be included in their counselling and healing work.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**EXAT7101     Fundamentals of music therapy (6 credits)**

Through both listening to and actively making music, the intentional application of sound and music in therapy has been used for a variety of purposes. Expressive arts therapists who wish to use music in treatment have to become aware of how the properties of rhythm, pitch, and tempo affect all levels of healing from expression to relaxation. By increasing comfort with a variety of musical instruments, genres and styles, students can identify when to offer specific interventions to advance therapy and healing. In becoming secure in the history and foundational theories of the field of music therapy, practitioners can locate their work in a larger theoretical context, while being mindful of cultural variances and considerations. Students who take this course are advised to take MSBH6101 also.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

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**EXAT7102     Fundamentals of drama therapy (6 credits)**

Theatre and dramatic activity have often been used to communicate essential truths and to express particular values. Within the context of therapy, drama allows clients to recreate life experiences, imagine new ones, and experiment with alternate endings and choices. Through re-enactment or witnessing others tell one's story, acting is essential modality of healing. Understanding the history and theory of the fields of drama therapy while taking into consideration such activities as improvisation or pantomime can learn to offer drama in therapeutic and educational settings. Developing cultural sensitivity, self-awareness and critical appreciation will allow students to be competent in offering drama activities with clients. Students who take this course are advised to take MSBH6101 also.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

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**EXAT7103     Fundamentals of art therapy (6 credits)**

This course is designed for helping service professionals, educators, and artists to learn about the practice and profession of art therapy. Content area covered will focus on history, theories and application of art therapy with various populations. In addition to lectures and discussions, students will participate in experiential art workshops to facilitate their understanding of the expressive nature of art making. Although this course does not qualify students to practice art therapy, students will gain awareness of art in therapeutic settings and how to ethically apply art making in their work settings. This course is based on the education standards of the American Art Therapy Association. Students who take this course are advised to take MSBH6101 also.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

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**EXAT7104     Fundamentals of dance and movement therapy (6 credits)**

As one of the modalities engaged by creative and expressive arts therapists, dance and movement allow individuals to express, communicate, and engage in healing through their bodies. Engaged in a variety of clinical and educational settings, dance and movement can be engaged as effective nonverbal interventions. In order to be able to use it effectively, practitioners must be grounded in anatomy, comfortable with their own body awareness, and attuned to the artistic, social, and cultural influences that affect movement. By exploring the history of the field of dance and movement therapy and the various ways to involve the body in therapy, students will be able to use dance and/or movement as a way to help facilitate the process during interventions with clinical and non-clinical populations. Students who take this course are advised to take MSBH6101 also.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6185     Qualitative research methods (6 credits)**

This course is designed for students with an interest in understanding all aspects of social life and social relations especially those who will undertake a dissertation study. Starting with the question what is

reality, the course begins with an introduction to different perspectives on approaching reality, followed by an assessment of the general strengths and weaknesses of qualitative research in comparison with other conventions such as quantitative surveys. The lectures will focus on introducing the general process of ethnographic research and the variety of methods for data collection and analysis including ethnography, grounded theory, observation, interviewing, focus groups and narrative analysis, etc. Various cases will be used to demonstrate how qualitative research helps make meaningful policy and social work practice. Seminars will be organized around practical methodological issues with the objective of helping students proceed with their own research projects. Hands-on experience of a range of research techniques will also be provided.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6199 Assessment and interventions in mental health: A clinical case management approach (6 credits)**

Students will be given the opportunity to examine various clinical issues regarding the assessment and interventions on persons with mental health problems such as Depression, Anxiety Disorders, Schizophrenia and Personality Disorders. Students are expected to actively participate in role plays and case discussions. A clinical case management approach will be adopted for this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6206 Play Therapy (6 credits)**

This course introduces the class to the use of play therapy in working with children, adolescents and families. The students will be presented with the essential elements and principles of play therapy, including historical development, theoretical modalities, basic techniques and applications. Students who take this course are advised to take MSBH6101 also.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6259 Contemporary perspectives on death, dying and bereavement (6 credits)**

Death is an inevitable life experience for everyone. Death-related problem is one of the commonest issues that clients brought to counseling, but is also rated as the most uncomfortable scenario by beginning counselors. This course is aimed to orientate those in helping profession the updated knowledge and intervention on death, dying and bereavement. Reviewing major theories related to death, including end-of-life situation, suicide, trauma and bereavement, the students are expected to have a better understanding of the universality of impermanence, and the impact of death towards individuals and societies. Updated intervention strategies on end-of-life care and bereavement care will be introduced. It is hoped to equip those who are working with or going to work with clients facing death, dying and bereavement with both the knowledge and practical competence.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6274 Theory and practice of positive psychology and strength-based interventions (6 credits)**

Positive Psychology emphasizes the discovery and cultivation of human strengths and potential for a flourished life, and Positive Interventions utilize the clinical applications of Positive Psychology in alleviating symptoms and distress and enhancing psychological well-being. This course critically reviews the theory and practice of positive psychology and positive interventions, including the study of happiness, character strengths, wellness, optimism, resilience, compassion, meaning, goals, flow, creativity and hope and their relevance to psychological health and applications to counseling and psychotherapy. Both overseas and local developments in these areas will be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

## **SOWK6294 Use of expressive arts therapy in human services (6 credits)**

Art is a natural form of communication that offers a way to expressive feelings and thoughts in a manner that is less inhibiting than solely verbal means. Expressive arts therapy has powerful healing potentials, enabling self-discovery, expression of feelings, stimulating insight, and as a means for relaxation and communication. Expressive arts therapy can be utilized as a viable intervention in the field of social work, developing people holistically and connecting the body, mind and spirit. This course will provide an opportunity for the students to experience the use of expressive arts therapy for personal growth and inner exploration. Theory will be introduced through lectures and integrated within experiential exercises and sharing of reflections. The integration of expressive arts therapy within the practice of individual counselling and group work will be shared through case studies, life demonstrations and video analysis. Various arts media will be introduced in this course e.g. visual art, craft work, music, dramatic exercises, and body movement giving the students firsthand experience in understanding how to use different art forms with potential clients.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### ***Capstone Experience Course***

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## **MSBH6201 Practicum (12 credits)**

The practicum comprises 200 hours of prescribed work in healthcare settings under guidance by a supervisor, plus at least 20 hours of tutorials. A practicum report of not more than 10,000 words shall be submitted by not later than May 31 of the final academic year of study.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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## **MSBH6202 Dissertation (12 credits)**

The dissertation shall demonstrate the student's ability to apply sound research methodology to investigate problems relevant to the field of study. It shall not exceed 20,000 words in length. The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval by not later than March 31 of the final academic year of study, and the dissertation shall be presented by not later than June 30 of the final academic year of study.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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## **CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY**

The Department of Psychology offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Clinical Psychology. The programme aims to train competent and professional clinical psychologists and has an emphasis on science-based practices.

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## **STRUCTURE AND EVALUATION**

The programme shall extend over two years and the intervening vacations. The full-time programme consists of a total of 159 credits. Candidates are required to complete 21 compulsory courses, including 14 taught courses (6 credits each) and 1 taught course (3 credits each) (a total of 87 credits), 5 practicum courses, Practicum I to V with a total of 60 credits, and a dissertation research course given 12 credits (PSYC8006 Dissertation). 10 of the taught courses are normally taken in the first year and the remaining 5 are taken in the second year. Each credit-unit is roughly equivalent to 20 hours of student learning activities (including both contact hours and all other forms of student learning activities) for the taught courses and the dissertation, or 30 hours of work for practicum, under supervision of a

clinical supervisor. Whereas the first year of the programme shall focus on the theoretical foundations and basic skills training in Clinical Psychology, the second year shall extend to include the application of the theories and assessment and treatment models to special populations in various clinical settings. The courses are as follows:

#### First year

- PSYC7024 Induction Programme (3 credits)
- PSYC7029 Practicum I (12 credits)
- PSYC7030 Practicum II (12 credits)
- PSYC7002 Assessment of personality and psychopathology (6 credits)
- PSYC7003 Individual psychotherapy I (6 credits)
- PSYC7004 Individual psychotherapy II (6 credits)
- PSYC7005 Psychopathology I (6 credits)
- PSYC7006 Psychopathology II (6 credits)
- PSYC7018 Cognitive assessment (6 credits)
- PSYC7019 Research methods and statistics I (6 credits)
- PSYC7020 Research methods and statistics II (6 credits)
- PSYC7009 Clinical seminar I (6 credits)

#### Second year

- PSYC8011 Practicum III (12 credits)
- PSYC8012 Practicum IV (12 credits)
- PSYC8013 Practicum V (12 credits)
- PSYC8001 Clinical seminar II (6 credits)
- PSYC8002 Community and health psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC8003 Family and group therapy (6 credits)
- PSYC8004 Clinical neuropsychology (6 credits)
- PSYC8005 Ethics and professional issues (6 credits)

#### *Capstone Experience Course*

- PSYC8006 Dissertation (12 credits)

The courses listed above may be offered at a different year of study.

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## EXAMINATIONS

Examinations of the courses followed by a candidate may be either by a written paper in the examination held in December or May of the academic year of study, or by continuous assessment of the candidates' performance in completing the requirements of these courses, or by a combination of these methods.

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## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **PSYC7024 Induction Programme (3 credits)**

This course aims at engaging trainees in a number of orientation activities designed to provide them with a preliminary understanding of the theoretical and practical issues addressed in the programme and to prepare them for their first placement beginning in December of the year of training.

Assessment: 100% coursework

This course will be assessed on a pass/fail basis and will not be counted in the calculation of the GPA. However, grades will be recorded on the official transcript

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**PSYC7029     Practicum I (12 credits)**

Practicum I is the first of the five practicum courses. It consists of a minimum of 44 days of on-site clinical placement. In addition, students will start their 2-year long, minimum 30 days, in-house supervised clinical activities with the Psychological Services Unit for at least 3 days within this period. Through the on-site clinical placements, students will have the opportunity to learn and work under the direct supervision of experienced clinical psychologists who are providing services in different settings such as public hospitals, social services agencies, and government departments. They will gain practical experience in working with a variety of client groups with different problems across the life span. The training includes supervised practice in assessment, case formulation, and treatment. Involvement in case conferences, workshops, seminars, or projects within the placement settings may also form part of the training. Students will learn the professional ethics, service contexts and rules in different settings, and acquire knowledge and skills to work effectively in different teams or structures. Assessment: 100% practicum

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**PSYC7030     Practicum II (12 credits)**

Practicum II is the second of the five practicum courses. It consists of a minimum of 44 days of on-site clinical placement. In addition, students will continue their 2-year long, minimum 30 days, in-house supervised clinical activities with the Psychological Services Unit for at least 3 days within this period. Through the on-site clinical placements, students will have the opportunity to learn and work under the direct supervision of experienced clinical psychologists in different settings such as public hospitals, social services agencies, and government departments. They will gain practical experience in working with a variety of client groups with different problems across the life span. The training includes supervised practice in assessment, case formulation, and treatment. Involvement in case conferences, workshops, seminars, or projects within the placement settings may also form part of the training. Students will learn the professional ethics, service contexts and rules in different settings, and acquire knowledge and skills to work effectively in different teams or structures. Assessment: 100% practicum

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**PSYC8011     Practicum III (12 credits)**

Practicum III is the third of the five practicum courses. It consists of a minimum of 44 days of on-site clinical placement. In addition, students will continue their 2-year long in-house supervised clinical activities with the Psychological Services Unit for a minimum of 3 days within this period and plan to complete a minimum of 30 days of the in-house training by the end of the 2-year training. Through the on-site clinical placements, students will have the opportunity to learn and work under the direct supervision of experienced clinical psychologists in different settings such as public hospitals, social services agencies, and government departments. They will gain practical experience in working with a variety of client groups with different problems across the life span. The training includes supervised practice in assessment, case formulation, and treatment. Involvement in case conferences, workshops, seminars, or projects within the placement settings may also form part of the training. Students will learn the professional ethics, service contexts and rules in different settings, and acquire knowledge and skills to work effectively in different teams or structures. Assessment: 100% practicum

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**PSYC8012     Practicum IV (12 credits)**

Practicum IV is the fourth of the five practicum courses. It consists of a minimum of 44 days of on-site clinical placement. In addition, students will continue their 2-year long in-house supervised clinical activities with the Psychological Services Unit and work towards completing a minimum of 30 days of the in-house training by the end of the 2-year training. Through the on-site clinical placements, students will have the opportunity to learn and work under the direct supervision of experienced clinical

psychologists in different settings such as public hospitals, social services agencies, and government departments. They will gain practical experience in working with a variety of client groups with different problems across the life span. The training includes supervised practice in assessment, case formulation, and treatment. Involvement in case conferences, workshops, seminars, or projects within the placement settings may also form part of the training. Students will learn the professional ethics, service contexts and rules in different settings, and acquire knowledge and skills to work effectively in different teams or structures.

Assessment: 100% practicum

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### **PSYC8013      Practicum V (12 credits)**

Practicum V is the fifth of the five practicum courses. It consists of a minimum of 44 days of on-site clinical placement. In addition, students will have to complete their 2-year long, minimum 30 days, in-house supervised clinical activities with the Psychological Services Unit within this period. Through the on-site clinical placements, students will have the opportunity to learn and work under the direct supervision of experienced clinical psychologists in different settings such as public hospitals, social services agencies, and government departments. They will gain practical experience in working with a variety of client groups with different problems across the life span. The training includes supervised practice in assessment, case formulation, and treatment. Involvement in case conferences, workshops, seminars, or projects within the placement settings may also form part of the training. Students will learn the professional ethics, service contexts and rules in different settings, and acquire knowledge and skills to work effectively in different teams or structures.

Assessment: 100% practicum

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### **PSYC7002      Assessment of personality and psychopathology (6 credits)**

This course focuses on the theoretical, practical, and cross-cultural issues related to the assessment of psychopathology and personality. Trainees will be exposed to a variety of clinical evaluation protocols in order to evaluate the level of functioning and symptomatology of an individual. They will also be exposed to the application of these techniques to a wide range of psychiatric problems as stipulated in DSM-5. These include mental state examination, test administration and interpretation, diagnostic decision making, integration of material derived from patient history and other relevant sources, and comprehensive case conceptualization.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **PSYC7003      Individual psychotherapy I (6 credits)**

This course introduces the common principles and skills of psychotherapies. In addition to reviewing the theoretical rationale and recent research and clinical literature, this course also focuses on the application of the empirically-supported therapeutic techniques to clinical and special populations.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **PSYC7004      Individual psychotherapy II (6 credits)**

The course focuses on the application of evidence-based psychotherapeutic approaches to the treatment of specific psychological disorders in both adults and children. Cultural issues in the practice of psychotherapy will be discussed when appropriate. Experienced clinicians are invited to introduce common treatment approaches applied to different populations in Hong Kong. In addition, new developments and contemporary issues in psychotherapy will be critically examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **PSYC7005      Psychopathology I (6 credits)**

In this first course of Psychopathology, students will learn important theoretical concepts in the definition, aetiology, features and classification of mental disorders. Major disorders across the life span will be examined. Significant paradigms, such as biological, psychodynamic, cognitive – behavioural and relevant psychosocial theories will be discussed, together with special issues in the diagnosis and conceptualisation of specific mental disorders.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **PSYC7006      Psychopathology II (6 credits)**

This second course of Psychopathology uses a developmental psychopathology perspective to discuss major topics of mental health problems across the life span. It aims to enhance the conceptualisation and case formulation skills of trainees as scientist–practitioners. The topics will be examined in depth, with special emphasis on the integration of theoretical conceptualisation, research findings and clinical practice. Special attention will be given to current issues of concern in both the Eastern and Western contexts.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **PSYC7018      Cognitive assessment (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction to the assessment of cognitive functioning. Students learn to administer, score, and interpret a number of commonly used cognitive tests. Students also learn to present test results in professional psychological reports. Related psychometric principles, professional ethics, and cultural issues will be discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **PSYC7019      Research methods and statistics I (6 credits)**

This course covers intermediate research methods and statistics. Issues on research practices and experimental designs are presented. The course uses empirical examples in psychology to illustrate various research designs and statistical methods and to ensure that students become intelligent consumers of research findings.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **PSYC7020      Research methods and statistics II (6 credits)**

This course covers intermediate research methods and statistics. Issues on research practices and experimental designs are presented. The course uses empirical examples in psychology to illustrate various research designs and statistical methods and to ensure that students become intelligent consumers of research findings.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **PSYC7009      Clinical seminar I (6 credits)**

A series of skill-training workshops will be offered to prepare students for further practical training in clinical placements. The course is composed of two arms: Assessment and Intervention. The Assessment arm covers core principles and strategies for intake interview with both adult and children populations. Intellectual assessment in the local context will be covered and commonly used tools for assessing a broad range of cognitive, behavioural, emotional, and social functions in children will also be introduced. The Treatment arm covers basic attitude and skills in counselling and forming

therapeutic alliance, as well as specific skills used in cognitive and behavioural therapies.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC8001      Clinical seminar II (6 credits)**

The seminar provides in-depth clinical case presentations and discussions, with a focus on contemporary approaches to case conceptualization and treatment planning for a range of complex psychological problems. Emphasis is placed on integration of psychological theories and clinical practice, as well as training on therapeutic skills and treatment strategies for effect implementation. Students will get the chance to learn advanced knowledge and skills in different specialist areas of psychological practice. Experienced clinicians and scholars will be invited to share their expertise on specialized topics. Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC8002      Community and health psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides an overview of the history, context, and development of community psychology and health psychology. Students will be exposed to key concepts and values associated with the fields. They will also explore the application of community psychology and health psychology in the local context. The course provides ample opportunities for students to collectively develop and examine community-based initiatives to tackle mental health problems. Special emphasis is given to multicultural and diversity issues.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC8003      Family and group therapy (6 credits)**

This course provides an overview of the theories and practice of family and group interventions. For Family Intervention, it covers fundamental concepts, theories and frameworks in working with families and couples. Students will be able to develop basic knowledge and different theories of family therapy and how it can be applied in special populations. The course will be conducted in didactic lectures with case illustrations, videos and/or exercises.

The Group Intervention component aims to familiarize the trainees with the major theories, principles and techniques of group interventions through reading, discussion, videos and role plays. Group development, dynamics and different stages in the group processes will be examined. The empirical basis for efficacy of group interventions and group interventions for different populations and different psychological disorders will be addressed.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC8004      Clinical neuropsychology (6 credits)**

This course aims to provide an overview of basic functional neuroanatomy and clinical neuropathology. Literature in neuroscience and clinical neuropsychology will be reviewed and discussed. Neuropsychological assessment approaches will be introduced.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC8005      Ethics and professional issues (6 credits)**

The focus of this course is on the process of ethical decision making in the professional practice of clinical psychology. Models of ethical decision making will be introduced, discussed, and applied. In addition to the Code of Professional Conduct published by the Hong Kong Psychological Society, a number of ethical codes, guidelines, and standards of practice will be reviewed.

Assessment: 100% coursework

This course will be assessed on a pass/fail basis and will not be counted in the calculation of the GPA. However, grades will be recorded on the official transcript.

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## **Capstone Experience Course**

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### **PSYC8006     Dissertation (12 credits)**

While in residence, each student proposes and completes a substantive, scholarly work relevant to clinical psychology. The dissertation must represent a student's individual work. The examiners may also prescribe an oral examination on the subject of the dissertation. The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval on March 31 of the final academic year of study, and the dissertation shall be submitted by June 30 of the final academic year of study.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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## **CORPORATE ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE**

The Faculty of Social Sciences offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Corporate Environmental Governance. This programme equips students with the necessary skills and techniques to deal with the challenge of sustainable development from a business perspective, as well as an appreciation of the wider context of globalization, social responsibility and trade issues. It provides a series of courses that address contemporary theories and practices concerning the integration of environmental and social issues into business strategy. It is aimed at students wanting to work in the field of corporate social responsibility, sustainability reporting and environmental management and policy. It will be especially relevant for students looking for a career in corporate sustainability and environmental management or consultancy, and for those already in business development and management who wish to acquire knowledge concerning environmental and social issues.

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## **CURRICULUM**

The programme shall extend over not less than one and not more than two academic years of full-time study; or not less than two and not more than three academic years of part-time study, and is offered on a modular basis. Each course consists of 36 hours of teaching and 84 hours student-based learning time. Each course consists of a total of 120 hours of study. Candidates are required to complete 60 credits, including 6 compulsory courses (6 credits each), 2 elective courses (6 credits each) and a dissertation (12 credits). Candidates are also required to attend the Dissertation Seminars which will provide an introduction to research methods. Candidates are also required to make a presentation on the subject of their dissertation.

### **Compulsory courses**

Candidates shall complete all courses from the following list:

- CEGP6001    Corporate environmental management (6 credits)
- CEGP6012    Management systems and auditing (6 credits)
- CEGP6003    Environmental economics and analysis (6 credits)
- CEGP6004    Business and environmental policy (6 credits)
- CEPG6005    Business and sustainable development (6 credits)
- CEGP6010    Corporate social responsibility (6 credits)

### Electives courses

Candidates shall complete 2 courses out of 3 courses from the following list:

CEGP6011 Sustainability, Globalisation and Trade (6 credits)

CEGP6013 Shared value and inclusive business (6 credits)

CEGP6014 Business in a low carbon economy (6 credits)

### Capstone Experience Course

Candidates shall complete the following course:

CEGP6008 Dissertation (12 credits)

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## **EXAMINATIONS**

There is no written examination and candidates are assessed through coursework only. Most assessments are based on papers/reports prepared by candidates working either individually or in groups. Particular emphasis is placed on the research and analysis elements of assessed work.

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

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### *Compulsory courses*

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#### **CEGP6001 Corporate environmental management (6 credits)**

The aim of this course is two fold. Firstly, it examines various perspectives on business and the environment including a rationale for business involvement with environmental issues and reasons why they might voluntarily be involved. This will also include an analysis of the strategic reasons why a company would wish to engage with the environment including the issue of competitive advantage resulting from good environmental practice as part of its broader commitment to corporate social responsibility (CSR) and risk management. Secondly, it begins to examine tools associated with environmental management that enable a firm to improve its compliance, compliance-plus performance and risk management strategies. A number of tools will be covered but will exclude environmental management systems, and environmental auditing which is considered as so important that they are given a course of their own (see below). Topics to be covered include: perspectives on business and the environment; strategic management and the environment; corporate environmental management techniques and tools; risk management; company-based environmental policies, supply chain codes of conduct; life cycle assessment; eco-labeling; green marketing; sustainability reporting; value chain management; business organization and the environment.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **CEGP6012 Management systems and auditing (6 credits)**

This course is dedicated to the fundamental management approach adopted by most companies involved in environmental activities, namely the construction of an integrated environmental management system (EMS) and associated auditing and measurement. The course will consider the design of the system, its implementation and issues of continuous improvement. It will be linked to quality management and risk management approaches. Environmental auditing will be dealt with in the context of the systems-based approach and will examine audit methodology, measurement, assurance and reporting issues. Emphasis will be placed on practical approaches to improving environmental performance over time and measuring improvements in an effective way to different stakeholders. Topics to be covered included: environmental management systems; EMS standards (ISO14000); energy management standards (ISO50000); risk management standards (ISO31000); performance

measurement; environmental auditing; benchmarking; assurance; energy efficiency; resource efficiency; best practice issues; reporting.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **CEGP6003 Environmental economics and analysis (6 credits)**

This course aims to equip students with the ability to undertake an economic analysis of environmental damage, its measurement and remediation strategies. It will examine the environment in the context of the market mechanism and policies for improving environmental performance. There will be an emphasis on market failure and strategies for internalising the external costs of environmental damage such as pollution. It will serve as a foundation for more advanced consideration of policy issues in the course on Business and Environmental Policy. A good deal of attention will be paid to cost-benefit analysis and methodologies for the valuation of the environment including conservation and biodiversity. There will also be a consideration of alternative policy instruments from an economic perspective. The aim is also to examine way of managing resources in a way that is both economically and environmentally efficient. Topics to be covered included: supply and demand models and the environment; market mechanisms; elasticity and implications for policy development; internalisation of external costs; valuation of the environment; resource management; cost-benefit analysis; economic analysis of policy instruments; the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity (TEEB).

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **CEGP6004 Business and environmental policy (6 credits)**

The three courses above provide the foundation for this course considering various policy options for dealing with business and the environment. At the heart of the course will be a comparison or instruments related to regulation, the use of the market mechanism and voluntary initiatives such as codes of conduct or negotiated agreements. The ecological modernization approach will be examined in depth and prospects for environmental transformation evaluated. Case studies will be drawn from a number of countries. International conventions and protocols will also be examined in the context for the search for global solutions to environmental problems. Topics to be covered included: policy approaches to the environment; regulation; market instruments; voluntary agreements; negotiated agreements; ecological modernization; international environmental policy; conventions and protocols. The course will examine lessons from the development of sustainable cities and implications for the localization of policy. It will consider the importance of policy at local, regional, national and international levels.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **CEGP6005 Business and sustainable development (6 credits)**

This course is a continuation of the course on Corporate Environmental Management but it looks at the wider context of sustainable development and considers ways in which businesses can operate in a way that is consistent with that concept. Emphasis will be put on models of business and sustainable development and an evaluation of how they might be implemented. The course also introduces the important concept of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and its various elements. This takes us into a discussion about issues such as human rights, labour practices, fair trade and community engagement. International standards and conventions of the United Nations and International Labour Organisation (ILO) will be examined as well as voluntary standards for environmental and social responsibility. Topics to be covered included: the meaning of sustainable development in the business context; the elements of sustainable development; corporate social responsibility (CSR); human rights and associated conventions including UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights (UNGPs); Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); tools associated with culture change and organizational change; stakeholder engagement and accountability; sustainability auditing and measurement;

sustainable development reporting; Global Reporting Initiative (GRI); Standards (SA8000 and AA1000); free trade and fair trade.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **CEGP6010 Corporate social responsibility (6 credits)**

This course adopts a case study approach of international and local companies to demonstrate and illuminate best practice in corporate environmental governance. It will explore and evaluate the motivation for corporate engagement with environmental and social issues and will examine how individual companies have integrated these considerations into their management structures and practices. It will examine the business case for CSR including links to brand reputation and competitiveness. The emphasis of the course will be on understanding the effectiveness of different approaches to environmental and social governance within the corporate sector. It will ways in which companies have linked CSR strategies to core business and how is evolving beyond traditional philanthropy and towards strategic community investment. It will also examine how CSR is an important part of risk management. Inputs from teaching staff will be supplemented by contributions from representatives of the corporate sector and local and visiting academics. Students will develop their own case studies in groups.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### ***Capstone Experience Course***

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### **CEGP6008 Dissertation (12 credits)**

All candidates are required to prepare a dissertation of 15,000 – 20,000 words, which is to be submitted by July 31 in the final year of study. The dissertation shall be on a topic within the field of corporate environmental governance and the topic shall be approved by the Academic Committee of the Programme. All students are also required to attend a dissertation seminar at which they will be introduced to basic research methods in the social sciences and will present progress reports on their dissertations.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### ***Elective courses***

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### **CEGP6011 Sustainability, globalisation and trade (6 credits)**

This course explores four major themes. First, it examines the emergence and principal features of discourses of sustainability. Second, it focuses on processes of globalization and their relationship with and impacts upon sustainable development at the national and global levels. Third, it examines various aspects of international trade and international movements of capital and the manner in which these both influence and are shaped by corporate and governmental perceptions of sustainability imperatives, including the implications of differing environmental standards and requirements on the trade in goods and services between nations and the way in which companies must position themselves to deal with the changing regulatory environment as it affects trade. Fourthly, it examine to globalization of supply chains and the implications for trade patterns as well as implications for international policy with respect to the environment and social responsibility. Topics to be covered include: discourses of sustainability and globalization, globalization and the international trading system, the emergence of the World Trade Organisation, WTO and the environment, ‘pollution havens’, TRIPS, GATS, Fair Trade, the globalisation of supply chains, and the impacts of regulatory controls on production design and marketing (e.g., EU RoHS and WEEE Directives).

Assessment: 100% coursework

### **CEGP6013 Shared value and inclusive business (6 credits)**

This course examines the rapidly developing area of business strategy associated with commercial activities in society that simultaneously solve social and environmental challenges and improve the competitiveness of business. It will examine approaches including product design, the development of markets, improvements in productivity along supply chains and ways of creating clusters of economic growth that meet targeted social and environmental needs. It will examine the portfolio of approaches that companies can undertake to meet social needs, including philanthropy, social business, community investment and shared value. It will go on to examine ways in which poverty can be reduced through inclusive business strategies that involve more people in the value chains of large companies. The course will draw on case studies of shared value and inclusive business.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **CEGP6014 Business in a low carbon economy (6 credits)**

The low carbon sector is the focus of the course and it will begin by examining ways in which we have seen a major growth in this sector and the importance of this to achieving improved environmental and energy performance. It will emphasize the role of business innovation that is focused on the green, low carbon economy. The course will examine ways in which the low carbon economy is central to local, regional and national economies. The course will examine how business innovation can be supported (in particular for SMEs) and the importance of leadership of low carbon innovation across supply chains, localities and public services. It will consider we can help businesses share knowledge and connect expertise across the low carbon sector and undertake practical and applied research into low carbon business innovation.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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## **COUNSELLING**

The Department of Social Work and Social Administration offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Counselling for professionals in the human services, such as social workers, teachers, managers, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and hearing therapists and other related professionals who are interested in counselling. The programme shall extend over (a) not less than two academic years for the part-time two-year study, or (b) not less than three academic years for the part-time three-year study, inclusive of intervening vacations.

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## **EXEMPTION**

Candidates may be granted exemption of up to two compulsory courses in recognition of studies completed in related areas. Exemption will only be considered in special circumstances and each application for exemption will be considered on its own merit. Candidates with exemption granted are required to take an additional elective course(s) to replace the exempted course(s) to meet the degree requirements.

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## **EXAMINATIONS**

To complete the programme, candidates shall satisfy the examiners in the assessment of courses and a practice-based project report as prescribed in the programme. Assessments of the courses may be conducted by ongoing coursework assignments, or by written tests, or by a combination of both.

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## CURRICULUM

Candidates are required to complete 66 credits, including 5 compulsory courses (6 credits each), and 3 elective courses (6 credits each) or 1 elective course (6 credits) with a dissertation (12 credits), a skills training laboratory (6 credits each) and a practicum (12 credits) that includes a practice-based project report. Elective courses are so designed that they can provide a focused study in one of three service settings: welfare, education, and health care. By selecting a particular combination of courses, candidates may (1) specialize in one stream from these three service settings; or (2) choose a more broad-based curriculum; or (3) choose to complete 1 elective course with a dissertation (equivalent to two courses) if candidates are interested in advancing their research skills.

### (A) *Compulsory courses*

Candidates shall complete the following courses.

- SOWK6040 Practice research in human services (6 credits)
- SOWK6158 Critical issues in human development (6 credits)
- SOWK6159 Abnormal psychology (6 credits)
- SOWK6160 Assessment and testing (6 credits)
- SOWK6161 Theories and practices in counselling and professional ethics (6 credits)

### (B) *Elective courses*

Dissertation option: Candidates shall complete one of the following courses.

Non-dissertation option: Candidates shall complete three of the following courses.

- SOWK6022 Emotion-focused interventions: theory and practice (6 credits)
- SOWK6127 Cognitive-behavioral interventions (6 credits)
- SOWK6162 Counselling in the welfare setting (6 credits)
- SOWK6163 Counselling in the health care setting (6 credits)
- SOWK6164 Counselling in the educational setting (6 credits)
- SOWK6166 Substance abuse counselling (6 credits)
- SOWK6168 Group counselling (6 credits)
- SOWK6188 The fundamentals of art therapy (6 credits)
- SOWK6204 Hypnotherapy (6 credits)
- SOWK6206 Play therapy (6 credits)
- SOWK6210 Family therapy (6 credits)
- SOWK6274 Theory and practice of positive psychology and strength-based interventions (6 credits)
- SOWK6276 Philosophy, science and art of fostering authentic and intimate connections (6 credits)
- SOWK6299 Applied motivational interviewing in addiction recovery (6 credits)
- SOWK6314 Theories and practices in coaching in the workplace (6 credits)

(Note: not all elective courses will necessarily be offered in a given year.)

### (C) *Skills training (Compulsory)*

Candidates shall complete the following course.

- SOWK6170 Skills training laboratory (6 credits)

### *Capstone Experience Courses*

#### (D) *Practicum (Compulsory)*

Candidates opt for either dissertation or non-dissertation option shall complete the following course.

- SOWK6171 Practicum and practice-based project report (12 credits)

#### (E) *Dissertation (Elective)*

Candidates opt for dissertation option shall complete the following course.

- SOWK6264 Dissertation (12 credits)



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## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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### *Compulsory Courses*

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#### **SOWK6040 Practice research in human services (6 credits)**

Social workers, teachers, nurses and counselors are guided by theories, research and practice wisdom in their work. It is important for students to be able to appraise, utilize, participate and contribute to research. In order to build evidenced and indigenous practice knowledge appropriate to local settings, this course aims to introduce students to principles and procedures of evidence-based practice. Specifically, it aims to help students in tracing research foundations in clinical practice, examining critical issues associated with evidence-based practice, accessing and evaluating new information related to practice and ultimately evaluating critically their practices. Through carrying out a mini-practice research as ongoing assignments, the students are expected to equip with hand-on experiences in planning, designing, implementing research and presenting its findings.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **SOWK6158 Critical issues in human development (6 credits)**

This course examines factors affecting human development through an exploration of the normal patterns of growth from infancy to old age. Individual, social, and familial conditions affecting growth at different stages in the life cycle will be studied, together with related problems of adaptation and adjustment, with particular foci on current thinking in the field of developmental psychology.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **SOWK6159 Abnormal psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides a broad exposure to both theory and practice in the understanding of mental disorders. A wide array of types of mental disorders will be examined. Important themes will be emphasized such as the continuum in behavior from normal behavior to mental illness, issues in diagnosis and classification, and the diathesis-stress and nature-nurture models of abnormal behaviour.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **SOWK6160 Assessment and testing (6 credits)**

This course surveys the major concepts and techniques in the field of psychometrics and provides students with some hands-on experience with commonly used tests. Topics covered include: the context of testing and measurement, the testing process, test standardization, reliability and validity, the nature of intelligence and its appraisal, personality assessment, special domain testing, occupational applications, and ethics in testing.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **SOWK6161 Theories and practices in counselling and professional ethics (6 credits)**

This course provides a theoretical foundation for the practice of counselling. Topics covered include the major approaches in counselling, counsellor dimensions, working with various clinical and non-clinical populations, professional ethics and limitations of counselling.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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## *Elective Courses*

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### **SOWK6022 Emotion-focused interventions: theory and practice (6 credits)**

Social work practice recognizes the importance of the role of emotions in therapeutic change. This course will begin with a review of current theories and research on emotion-focused interventions before focusing on the application of these theories in the local setting. This is followed by an examination of the awareness, the arousal, and reorganization of the emotions in counselling and psychotherapy. Commonly encountered emotions in casework and groupwork practice like anger, fear, guilt, shame, sadness and grief will be examined. Moreover, the course aims to enhance students' self-awareness and competence in handling critical incidents in clinical practice.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6127 Cognitive-behavioral interventions (6 credits)**

The course introduces students to the Beck's cognitive-behaviour therapy model in working with people with depression and anxieties. A case process approach will be adopted to provide a stage-by-stage and step-by-step understanding of the theory and practice of Beck's CBT. Other CBT models for working with people with psychosis, OCD, pathological gambling, substance abuse and etc. will also be discussed in class. Invited speakers will share their local experiences in using CBT for working with Chinese clients in Hong Kong.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6162 Counselling in the welfare setting (6 credits)**

This course introduces the various macro and micro intervention approaches in working with disadvantaged individuals who are users of social services in Hong Kong. Through a systems perspective, students will have the opportunity to examine various intervention approaches in helping disadvantaged groups, such as new arrivals, elderly people, at-risk youth, and mentally and physically handicapped persons to deal with their intra-personal, interpersonal and environmentally-induced difficulties. The course emphasizes the integration of micro and macro intervention approaches.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6163 Counselling in the health care setting (6 credits)**

Counselling approaches used in health care, such as crisis intervention, grief work, cognitive behavioural intervention, support groups, art therapy, psycho-education skills, bereavement counselling, pastoral care and peer counselling, will be examined. Students will be provided with experiential training on skills/ techniques in working with patients in hospitals and in the community.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6164 Counselling in the educational setting (6 credits)**

This course offers an understanding of the developmental characteristics, needs and struggles of students in schools (children and adolescents). To understand the counselling process and acquire necessary skills in offering counselling to students are the main foci, such that students may be helped to cope better with their school life.

Assessment: 100% coursework

**SOWK6166 Substance abuse counselling (6 credits)**

This course examines the drug scene in Hong Kong and gives an overview of the problem of substance abuse in society. The different theoretical conceptualizations of substance abuse and theories of addiction are then reviewed as a prelude to devising intervention approaches to help drug-addicted persons.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6168 Group counselling (6 credits)**

This course provides an overview of the theories and practice of group counselling approaches. Applications include working with families, children, the elderly people, and medical/psychiatric patients. Cultural issues, current research and developments in group counselling will also be discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6188 The fundamentals of art therapy (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to the philosophy and practice of Art Therapy, and how Art Therapy activities can be modified and used with potential clients under careful working guidelines. Students will also experience different art activities/philosophies, which are designed according to the various needs of potential clients. Lectures, participation in group workshops, and video and case presentations will form a part of this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6204 Hypnotherapy (6 credits)**

This course gives an overview of the historical development and domain of hypnosis, as well as contemporary approaches in hypnosis. A particular emphasis is placed on the fundamentals of hypnotherapy where particular skills will be of use in the counselling process. Lecture topics include the art of hypnotizing, styles of hypnotic suggestion, clinical applications, professional ethics and limitations of hypnotherapy.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6206 Play therapy (6 credits)**

The objective of the module is to introduce the student to the principles and practice of play therapy and its application to the counseling and psychotherapy for children, adolescents and families. At the end of the course, the students will have an introduction of the history and development of play therapy, an understanding of various theoretical models of play therapy, rationale for the use of play in therapy, and phrase of the client's progress in play therapy. Practice material will be provided including how to development therapeutic rapport, conduct a play based assessment, setting up of a playroom and the selection of therapeutic play materials. Best practice tips on engaging the client, recording keeping and other ethical issues will be discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6210 Family therapy (6 credits)**

This course begins with an overview of the evolution of family therapy since the 1950s, with a major focus on specific family therapy approaches in working with children, youth, couples, and the elderly, such as conduct disorders in children, eating disorders in adolescents and depression in couples. Apart from an emphasis on theoretical and conceptual integration, this course draws heavily from case and

video materials for discussion. Role-play and experiential activities will be used extensively for the training of family therapy strategies and skills.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6274 Theory and practice of positive psychology and strength-based interventions (6 credits)**

Positive Psychology emphasizes the discovery and cultivation of human strengths and potential for a flourishing life, and Positive Interventions utilize the clinical applications of Positive Psychology in alleviating symptoms and distress and enhancing psychological well-being. This course critically reviews the theory and practice of positive psychology and positive interventions, including the study of happiness, character strengths, wellness, optimism, resilience, compassion, meaning, goals, flow, creativity and hope and their relevance to psychological health and applications to counseling and psychotherapy. Both overseas and local developments in these areas will be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6276 Philosophy, science and art of fostering authentic and intimate connections (6 credits)**

This course is for all who want to be emotionally and relationally competent in human interaction, be it in the family, at work, with friends, or with neighbors. The idea is not to have to seek psychological security behind a rigid mask, but capable to be present here and now in our strong and vulnerable, true and caring, confident and gentle selves, and capable also of developing mutually satisfying and meaningful relationships. This course is primarily experiential and practice oriented, integrating the philosophy, science and art of intra and interpersonal competence into real life applications. Recent thinking in philosophy, psychology, group work, and neuroscience will be applied to working with intense emotions, inner blocks and inconsistencies, dilemmas and relational conflicts that haunt human encounters. Through class demonstrations, paired and small group practice, students will come to acquire concepts and skills that will guide them in facing the daily test of human interaction, help them advance their listening skills, increase self-understanding, gain confidence in decision-making, achieve relational transformation, connect with their deeper spiritual self, and affirm a more attuned, grounded, steady, and creative presence.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6299 Applied motivational interviewing in addiction recovery (6 credits)**

This course provides an overview of Motivational Interviewing (MI), an evidence-based counselling strategy for promoting behavioural change. MI originates from treating alcohol dependence, and was further extended to other settings, including health care, the criminal justice system, correctional and education, to mention just a few. Over 30 decades of evolution, MI has spread widely across many settings and cultures.

MI was developed from clinical observation, rather than theory. However, there are numbers of social psychology and counselling theories that can be used to explain the underlying mechanism of motivating strategies in the process of motivational interviewing, such as cognitive dissonance theory, self-determination theory, etc. Students are required to learn different social psychology theories and counselling theories to deconstruct MI. In addition, multifaceted unfolding of the concepts of addiction and recovery-oriented approach toward addiction treatment will be covered.

Students can be equipped with not only the knowledge and conceptual framework of motivational interviewing, but also practical experiences through group exercises and role-play. Active participation is expected in order to cultivate mutual learning communities and achieve better learning outcomes.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6314 Theories and practices in coaching in the workplace (6 credits)**

This course aims to introduce the basic theories and practices in coaching. Students will be able to distinguish coaching from other learning and development approaches such as mentoring, counselling, consulting, training, facilitating etc. Various theoretical approaches to coaching will be covered. This course also encourages students to evaluate the various coaching models and develop their own coaching model to be applied in their own coaching practice. The emphasis is also on using coaching as a management tool and conversational tool to enhance performance at work for higher motivation and retention. The topic on cross cultural coaching is also a relatively imminent area for further research.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

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***Skills training***

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**SOWK6170 Skills training laboratory (6 credits)**

This laboratory provides training on basic relationship building strategies and methods. Counselling relies on an establishment of therapeutic relationship. Characteristics and dimensions related to such counsellor-client relationship will be introduced, and strategies and methods for building rapport will be practiced in the laboratory setting. Further, the course will also cover basic skills related to case and group counselling. Teaching is done via an experiential learning approach. Students are required to participate actively in class and complete practice assignments.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

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***Practicum (Capstone Experience Course)***

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**SOWK6171 Practicum and practice-based project report (12 credits)**

All students will have to be engaged in a total of 250 hours of clinical work, and to complete a practice-based project report of no more than 10,000 words. A practicum teacher will be assigned to supervise the student's clinical work and to facilitate his/her completion of the practice-based project report. The report should essentially be an evaluation of the clinical work performed by the student. Individual and group supervision will be provided. *Students must hand in their reports not later than June 30 of the same year when the practicum is undertaken.*

Prerequisite: Students who have completed and passed the following courses

- SOWK6158 Critical issues in human development (6 credits)
- SOWK6159 Abnormal psychology (6 credits)
- SOWK6160 Assessment and testing (6 credits)
- SOWK6161 Theories and practices in counselling and professional ethics (6 credits)
- SOWK6170 Skills training laboratory (6 credits)

are permitted to take the practicum and practice-based project report course.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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***Dissertation (Capstone Experience Course)***

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**SOWK6264 Dissertation (12 credits)**

The dissertation is offered to students who have proven record to show their ability to conduct research. The dissertation shall be a critical study that demonstrates the application of sound research methodology to the investigation of problem(s) relevant to the field of counselling. The proposed topic

of investigation has to be substantially different from the issues or problems covered in the practice-based project report (SOWK6171). The dissertation option is subject to approval of the Head of Department and relevant dissertation supervisor. The dissertation must represent a student's individual work and should not exceed 20,000 words in length. The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval not later than March 31 of the same academic year of study. The dissertation shall be presented by not later than **August 1** of the same academic year of study.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

## CRIMINOLOGY

The Department of Sociology offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Criminology.

## ASSESSMENT

Candidates are assessed for each compulsory course by way of a 3-hour written examination that accounts for 40% of total marks and 60% by coursework assignments. However, candidates are assessed for each of elective course by 100% coursework and that may include presentations, projects, essays and written tests.

## CURRICULUM

The degree programme extends over not less than one and not more than two academic years of full-time study or not less than two and not more than four academic years of part-time study. All courses are offered on both part-time and full-time basis. Classes are conducted during evenings and occasional weekends.

The compulsory courses provide candidates with a broad, integrated understanding of the social science approach to the study of crime and deviance. The elective courses, building upon that foundation, introduce the candidates to a variety of contemporary developments in criminology and related social policy issues.

To receive the award of the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Criminology, candidates must complete 8 courses (6 credits each) plus a dissertation (12 credits), with a total of 60 credits. As a rule, full-time candidates are expected to do an individual dissertation, while part-time candidates are expected to do a group dissertation. Consideration may be given to part-time candidates to do an individual dissertation but requires approval by the department coordinator. The 8 courses include 4 compulsory courses and 4 courses from the list of elective courses.

The programme structure is summarized as follows:

Duration of Study	Part-time	Full-time
<b>Year 1</b>		
Semester 1	SOCI7002 SOCI7009	SOCI7002 SOCI7009 2 Elective courses plus SOCI8021 Individual dissertation
Semester 2	SOCI7001 SOCI7004	SOCI7001 SOCI7004 2 Elective courses plus SOCI8021 Individual dissertation

<b>Year 2</b>		
Semester 1	2 Elective courses plus SOCI8022 Group dissertation	
Semester 2	2 Elective courses plus SOCI8022 Group dissertation	

### ***Compulsory courses***

Candidates shall complete all courses from the following list:

- SOCI7001 Criminal justice: process and politics (6 credits)
- SOCI7002 Methods of research for criminology (6 credits)
- SOCI7004 Theoretical criminology (6 credits)
- SOCI7009 Global and comparative criminology (6 credits)

### ***Elective courses***

Candidates shall complete 4 courses from the following list:

- SOCI8002 Economic and organized crime (6 credits)
- SOCI8003 Law and society (6 credits)
- SOCI8004 Punishment and society (6 credits)
- SOCI8006 Youth and delinquency (6 credits)
- SOCI8008 Special topics in criminology (6 credits)
- SOCI8011 Media and crime (6 credits)
- SOCI8013 Gender, crime and social control (6 credits)
- SOCI8015 Crime and deviance in PR China (6 credits)
- SOCI8017 Cultural criminology (6 credits)
- SOCI8018 Policing in comparative perspective (6 credits)
- SOCI8019 Issues in police reform (6 credits)
- SOCI8020 White collar and corporate crime (6 credits)
- SOCI8032 Drugs and society (6 credits)

### ***Capstone Experience course (Compulsory)***

Full-time candidates shall complete Individual dissertation and part-time candidates shall complete Group dissertation.

- SOCI8021 Individual dissertation (12 credits)
- SOCI8022 Group dissertation (12 credits)

Candidates should consult the Department of Sociology to find out what courses are being offered in any semester. The elective courses are offered depending on student interest and staff availability.

Candidates may apply to substitute for a listed course or courses in the syllabus of this programme with a course or courses offered by another Department in the University. Candidates may: (a) select courses from a list of pre-approved courses issued by the Department of Sociology; or (b) apply to be granted permission to take other postgraduate courses which are not listed as pre-approved courses. In both cases, the courses will have been approved by the Faculty Curriculum Development Committee as being of equivalent standard to that of those listed for the syllabus of this programme. Candidates shall normally be permitted to take not more than one course from another Department in the University. Permission normally will be granted only to take postgraduate courses, and only for those courses which can be shown to have relevance to the candidates' overall course of study. Permission shall not be granted to substitute any other course for a required course in the syllabus of this programme.

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## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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### *Compulsory Courses*

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#### **SOCI7001 Criminal justice: process and politics (6 credits)**

This course critically reviews the process of law enforcement from initial contact with suspects through to prosecution and sentencing. The focus is on the ways criminal justice policies are developed and the problems and issues arising from the implementation of different approaches to crime control. Topics include: policing models (including private policing and crime prevention strategies); the effectiveness of policing; discretion and bias; due process and legal constraints in law enforcement; adjudication and sentencing; and policies toward victims.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

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#### **SOCI7002 Methods of research for criminology (6 credits)**

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an overview of social research methods and to demonstrate how these methods can be applied to crime and criminal justice. The course aims to engage with key epistemological debates relating to the subject and object of criminological research, while equipping students with a strong practical foundation in specific research methods. The course will cover: the relationship between theory, method, and data; historical and contemporary trajectories of quantitative and qualitative research (including ethnography and participant-observation); debates on risk, ethics and reflexivity; practical guidance on developing a research project, conducting interviews for social research, and critically assessing criminological research methodologies. This course will form an important foundation for the individual or group dissertation later in the programme.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

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#### **SOCI7004 Theoretical criminology (6 credits)**

This course comprises an introduction to major historical and contemporary theories of crime and deviance. The course covers: classical and positivist theories of crime; biological and psychological influences; social structural and social process theories of crime; Marxist and neo-Marxist explanations of crime and law; the emergence of neoclassic theories of crime (e.g., rational choice and routine activities); postmodern and restorative approaches to crime control.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination

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#### **SOCI7009 Global and comparative criminology (6 credits)**

In recent years, increasing attention has been paid to the 'global' question in criminology. As people, money, culture and technology circulate and cross-cut the globe on a daily basis, so the traditional borders of criminology have become merged and blurred. Just as 'global' issues – human trafficking, the international drug trade, corporate harm and cyber-crime – must be understood in an international context, so too must traditionally 'local' arenas of criminological interest – youth gangs, policing, sex-work – be located within a comparative perspective, in particular those beyond traditional Anglo-American bases of power. This course discusses the concept of globalisation and its implications for the study of criminology, introducing students to key theoretical and methodological debates in the field of global and comparative criminology through analysis of both global and local case-study examples.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.

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## *Elective Courses*

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### **SOCI8002      Economic and organized crime (6 credits)**

The course focuses on a range of criminal activities that occur within an organizational setting or are in accordance with established organizational goals, and which harms individuals or society at large. More specifically, the course will devote attention to such topics as economic and organized crime and discuss the ways in which they are interrelated and frequently overlap with political crime. Special consideration will be given to the ways in which the state may organize crime.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOCI8003      Law and society (6 credits)**

This course will examine the relationship between law and society. It looks at the history and development of law in different cultures, examining the form and content of 'law' found in pre-industrial society, capitalist society and socialist society. Particular legal concepts such as the law of contract and the public/private distinction are placed in their socio-historic setting. Specific topics (e.g. law and domestic relations, rape in marriage, child abuse, homosexuality, artificial reproduction, and restrictions on pornography) are examined insofar as they are related to the application of these concepts.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOCI8004      Punishment and society (6 credits)**

The course aims to explain punishment and society in a comparative and historical context. Popular conceptions and professional evidence about punishment will be compared. The social institution of punishment is in many ways a mirror of society and its norms. The course will look at the different functions of punishment, like retribution, deterrence, incapacitation, rehabilitation, and restoration. We will trace those functions historically and culturally, mapping vast cultural and social differences in the way in which punishment is practiced in America, Europe, the Islamic world, and in China.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOCI8006      Youth and delinquency (6 credits)**

The problem of juvenile delinquency has influenced the formation of law and social policy in many societies. This course will use a wide variety of historical and comparative materials to analyze the response of social service agencies and the criminal justice system to juvenile delinquency. It will also examine various theoretical approaches that have been used in studying juvenile delinquency.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOCI8008      Special topics in criminology (6 credits)**

A lecture and seminar programme designed to provide students with a course of study in current or newly emerging topics in criminology and criminal justice. The course enables, for example, new subject or sub-specialist areas to be offered. This may *inter alia*, include:

cyber crime and e-commerce crime  
crime prevention  
criminal intelligence analysis  
criminal justice system administration and management  
computer forensics

security and terrorism studies  
criminal profiling  
victimology (including trafficking, stalking and “hate” crimes)

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOCI8011      Media and crime (6 credits)**

The media plays an extremely influential role in the public’s conceptions of crime and order. This course aims to provide students with a better understanding of theories about the media’s impact on crime, the news making process in relation to crime, and how the media shapes our ideas and responses to crime. The course also focuses on the representation of crime in popular culture, particularly in films and novels.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOCI8013      Gender, crime and social control (6 credits)**

This course provides students with a comparative perspective of men and women’s involvement in crime and punishment. The first part of the course focuses on the differential images and realities of men and women in relation to crime. This will lead us to a critical examination of the assumptions, tenets and explanations of traditional theories about men and women in crime. These theoretical frameworks are then compared with gendered theories about crime. The second half of the course explores the differential treatment of men and women under the law from the point of policing through to imprisonment.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOCI8015      Crime and deviance in PR China (6 credits)**

The course offers an overview and introduction to the developments of crime and deviance in China. The emphasis will be historical, comparative and contemporary. We look at Chinese definitions of deviance and crime from the past, the Communist period, and with a particular emphasis on the recent period of rapid modernization. The course will also review issues and problems in the control of crime and public order in the People’s Republic of China. The content covers theories and practices of deviance, crime, discipline, policing, and punishment.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOCI8017      Cultural criminology (6 credits)**

Cultural criminology comes as a reaction and interpretive alternative to normative analyses of social problems. Rather than ask questions about root causes of crime, cultural criminologists seek to explore the processes through which ascriptions of crime and criminality, and reactions to these ascriptions are promulgated within particular social and cultural contexts. The course will offer a comparative perspective contrasting North American ‘cultures of control’, with other ‘welfare’ and ‘disciplinary welfare’ contexts, including Hong Kong.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOCI8018      Policing in comparative perspective (6 credits)**

This course examines policing in a broad social and cultural perspective. Our focus is the concept of the “police function”: under what sorts of historical and socio-cultural conditions does the idea of the police function make sense? With this question as our guide, we will examine the maintenance of order in stateless societies, look at various historical moments in the emergence of police as an element of

modern government, and finally take a survey of the novel policing formations emerging from the processes of decolonization, globalization and neo-liberalism.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOCI8019      Issues in police reform (6 credits)**

When, why and how do police forces change? This course takes up these questions through case studies of exemplary events of police reform, such as: Robert Peel's formation of the London Metropolitan Police in 1829; William Parker's reform of the Los Angeles Police Department in the 1950s; William Bratton's reform of the New York Police Department in the 1990s; post-apartheid policing in South Africa; and post-Maoist policing in the People's Republic of China. Through comparative study and in-depth analysis, students will draw lessons about the general dynamics underlying police reform.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOCI8020      White collar and corporate crime (6 credits)**

This course examines the topic of white-collar and corporate crime. Classic theoretical works will be considered as well as more contemporary writings. To illustrate these points we will explore important international case studies that shed light on how and why these offenses occur. We will begin with a general introduction to the field, including definitions, conceptual, and theoretical issues from the social sciences, law, and criminology regarding what has become known as white-collar, occupational, organizational, and corporate crime. Following this, we will discuss various forms of white-collar crime including: consumer crime, environmental crime, governmental crime, official corruption, computer crime, health care fraud, and financial fraud. The course will guide students in studying important questions, to critically think about issues, to research the topics discussed, and to become familiar with the literature on white-collar and corporate crime, through assigned readings, presentations, class discussion, a writing assignment and an in-class exam.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOCI8032      Drugs and society (6 credits)**

Drug use is a significant feature of contemporary society and is a cause of concern in view of its impact on individuals and society, and its connectedness with crime. The overall objective of this course is to provide students with a better understanding of the ways in which drugs and society are interconnected. The aim of the course is to provide students with an integrative arena for the social understanding of drug use, why people use drugs, and the key epistemological (criminological, sociological and psychological) debates relating to the subject. It also focuses on the social, political and health factors that shape the control and treatment of drugs.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### ***Capstone Experience course***

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### **SOCI8021      Individual dissertation (12 credits)**

The individual dissertation is a component of the curriculum designed to foster independent research for full-time students. Consequently, in addition to successfully completing eight taught courses, candidates must write a dissertation not exceeding 20,000 words on an approved topic. A dissertation topic is selected by the end of the first semester in the current academic year. The dissertation is prepared under the direction of a supervisor appointed by the Department. The final title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval not later than March 31 of the same academic year and dissertation shall be presented not later than June 30 of the same academic year.

Assessment: 100% coursework

## **SOCI8022      Group dissertation (12 credits)**

The group dissertation is a component of the curriculum designed to foster small group research for part-time students. Consequently, in addition to successfully completing eight taught courses, candidates must write a dissertation of a reasonable length (pending on actual group size) on an approved topic. A dissertation topic is selected by the end of the second semester in the first year. The group dissertation is prepared under the direction of a supervisor appointed by the Department. The final title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval not later than March 31 of the second academic year of study and dissertation shall be presented not later than June 30 of the same year. Assessment: 100% coursework

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## **EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY**

The Department of Psychology offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Educational Psychology. The programme is designed to provide instruction and training in the theory and practice of educational psychology. To this end, emphasis will be placed on both academic studies and related practical experience in the field.

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## **STRUCTURE AND EVALUATION**

The period of study extends over two years full-time or three years part-time, commencing in September and including the intervening vacations. Throughout the programme, in both its theoretical and practical aspects, special attention will be paid to the needs and issues concerning educational psychology in the local setting.

The full time programme consists of a total of 156 credits. The quantitative value of a credit is equivalent to 20 hours of student learning activities (including both contact hours and all other forms of student learning activities) for taught course or 27 hours of work for practicum, under supervision of an experienced psychologist. Candidates are required to complete 19 compulsory courses, including 15 taught courses (6 credits each) (a total of 90 credits), 3 practicum courses (18 credits each) (a total of 54 credits for PSYC6012 Practicum I, PSYC6013 Practicum II and PSYC6014 Practicum III) and a 2-year dissertation research course (12 credits) (PSYC6007 Dissertation research). 10 of the taught courses are normally taken in the first year and the remaining 5 in the second year. Duration of each taught course is normally one semester and consists of three hours of weekly lectures, discussions, seminars or workshops. The courses are as follows:

### First year courses

PSYC6002	Research methods & statistics I (6 credits)
PSYC6003	Research methods & statistics II (6 credits)
PSYC7010	Psychoeducational assessment I (6 credits)
PSYC7011	Psychoeducational assessment II (6 credits)
PSYC7026	Children with special needs I (6 credits)
PSYC7027	Children with special needs II (6 credits)
PSYC7014	Psychoeducational intervention I (6 credits)
PSYC7015	Psychoeducational intervention II (6 credits)
PSYC7016	Skills training seminar I (6 credits)
PSYC7017	Skills training seminar II (6 credits)

### *Capstone Experience Course*

PSYC7028	Dissertation research (12 credits)
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## Second year courses

PSYC6004	Curriculum and instruction (6 credits)
PSYC6019	Professional ethics and issues in educational psychology (6 credits)
PSYC8010	Skills training seminar III (6 credits)
PSYC8007	Applied developmental psychology (6 credits)
PSYC8008	Motivation and learning (6 credits)
PSYC6012	Practicum I (18 credits)
PSYC6013	Practicum II (18 credits)
PSYC6014	Practicum III (18 credits)

### *Capstone Experience Course*

PSYC7028	Dissertation research (12 credits)
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The part-time programme consists of the same 15 compulsory courses, three practicum courses and a 2-year dissertation research course. Of the taught courses, seven are normally taken in the first year, five in the second and three in the third year. The courses are as follows:

## First year courses

PSYC7010	Psychoeducational assessment I (6 credits)
PSYC7011	Psychoeducational assessment II (6 credits)
PSYC7026	Children with special needs I (6 credits)
PSYC7027	Children with special needs II (6 credits)
PSYC7014	Psychoeducational intervention I (6 credits)
PSYC7015	Psychoeducational intervention II (6 credits)
PSYC7016	Skills training seminar I (6 credits)
PSYC6012	Practicum I (18 credits)

## Second year courses

PSYC8007	Applied developmental psychology (6 credits)
PSYC8008	Motivation and learning (6 credits)
PSYC6004	Curriculum and instruction (6 credits)
PSYC6019	Professional ethics and issues in educational psychology (6 credits)
PSYC7017	Skills training seminar II (6 credits)
PSYC6013	Practicum II (18 credits)

### *Capstone Experience Course*

PSYC7028	Dissertation research (12 credits)
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## Third year courses

PSYC6002	Research methods & statistics I (6 credits)
PSYC6003	Research methods & statistics II (6 credits)
PSYC8010	Skills training seminar III (6 credits)
PSYC6014	Practicum III (18 credits)

### *Capstone Experience Course*

PSYC7028	Dissertation research (12 credits)
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The part-time programme may not be offered. An announcement would be made whenever it is available.

## **EXAMINATIONS**

Examinations of the courses followed by a candidate may be either by a written paper in the examination held in December or May of the academic year of study, or by continuous assessment of the candidates' performance in completing the requirements of these courses, or by a combination of these methods.

A candidate's performance in the programme, whether full-time or part-time, is evaluated in three parts: (1) formal courses on the basis of written examination and/or continuous assessment of all written and practical work carried out during the year; (2) dissertation research and (3) practical training as set out below. Candidates must pass all three components of the programme.

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

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### **PSYC6002      Research methods and statistics I (6 credits)**

This course covers advanced concepts of measurement and psychometrics, research design, and data collection and analysis. Experimental, quasi-experimental, correlational and descriptive research methods are presented. The course uses empirical studies of educational and psychological issues based on quantitative and qualitative data to illustrate various research designs and statistical methods and to ensure that students become intelligent consumers of research results.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **PSYC6003      Research methods and statistics II (6 credits)**

This course covers more advanced statistical techniques, including multivariate data analysis. Communicating about research both orally and in writing is stressed. At the end of the course, students will have developed a viable research proposal in preparation for their thesis according to standards of the American Psychological Association.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **PSYC7010      Psychoeducational assessment I (6 credits)**

This course provides students with theoretical foundations of psychoeducational assessment and basic concepts in measurement. Starting with standards related to professional conduct and ethics in assessment, the course introduces students to formal and informal techniques and instruments used most frequently in the local setting. Focus will be put on the assessment of intelligence, achievement, and learning disabilities. The assessment of infants and young children is a special topic. The integration of assessment data into a comprehensive psychological report with associated recommendations for intervention is an essential component of this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **PSYC7011      Psychoeducational assessment II (6 credits)**

The focus of this course is on the assessment of behavioural and adjustment problems in children and adolescents. Using the problem-solving and systems approach as framework, students will be introduced to important concepts, procedures and instruments associated with the assessment of behaviour, personality, and social-emotional functioning in the school context.

Assessment: 100% coursework

**PSYC7026 Children with special needs I (6 credits)**

This course introduces some basic concepts and issues on educating students with special educational needs with focus on the characteristics, identification and intervention strategies for students with intellectual and learning related disabilities. The course covers the following topics: Historical background; inclusive education; early identification and early intervention; provisions for students with intellectual disability and learning disability.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC7027 Children with special needs II (6 credits)**

This course focuses on the basic characteristics, identification and intervention measures for students with emotional and behavioural related disabilities. Topics include different classification systems, general remediation strategies and specific training programmes in mainstream and special educational settings for students with emotional and behavioural problems.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC7014 Psychoeducational intervention I (6 credits)**

The nature and basic principles of psychoeducational intervention are introduced. The first half of the course will cover the fundamentals of counselling and guidance. It focuses on the process and stages of counselling in a pan-theoretical way. The second half of the course will cover some of the major approaches in counselling and intervention (e.g., person-centred therapy and behavior modification). It aims at equipping the students with specific and useful techniques and procedures derived from these approaches. Students are expected to master both theories and practical skills. Practical training is an indispensable component of this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC7015 Psychoeducational intervention II (6 credits)**

Major approaches and different levels of psychoeducational intervention are covered. The course emphasizes both direct and indirect intervention. Students are encouraged to go beyond the remedial model and are expected to work as an active agent with broader perspective in preventive intervention. Practical training is an indispensable component of this course. The students are expected to apply the acquired knowledge and practical skills to their work in educational settings. Topics include cognitive-behavioural intervention, systems and ecological approaches, school consultation, family work, psychodynamic approaches, alternative forms of therapy with children and adolescents, and career and vocational counselling.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC7016 Skills training seminar I (6 credits)**

This course is the first in a series of practical skills training seminars. It provides an initial orientation programme immersing students into settings related to roles and functions of educational psychologists. Subsequently more intensive discussion and hands-on practice of assessment skills and intervention programmes are provided. Students observe and practise skills related to consultation and interviewing, observational techniques, testing procedures, reporting test results and recommending interventions.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC7017 Skills training seminar II (6 credits)**

This course is the second in a series of practical skills training. It is offered when the students start their first practicum. It provides a platform for the students to polish the micro-skills that are required in their first practicum. These are the skills in assessment, counselling, consultation, inter-disciplinary collaboration, and systems-intervention. This course also provides a forum in which experienced educational psychologists from the field can share their specialities and expertise with the students.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC8010 Skills training seminar III (6 credits)**

This course is the last in a series of practical skills training seminars. It is offered in the second year when the students are immersed in practicums. It provides a platform for them to further polish the micro-skills that are required in field work. It also provides them with opportunities to seek support and guidance for the challenges they come across in practicum. In addition, it is a forum in which educational psychologists and allied professionals from the field can share with the students their experience in difficult cases and latest development in intervention.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC6004 Curriculum and instruction (6 credits)**

This course helps students understand and enact the principles of curriculum design, teaching, and assessment of learning, as they apply to the contexts and issues educational psychologists are likely to meet. A systemic view of children's learning problems will be emphasized. Curriculum and instructional issues for both mainstream and special schools in Hong Kong will be reviewed.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC6019 Professional ethics and issues in educational psychology (6 credits)**

This course prepares students for professional practice in educational psychology by examining the organizational, ethical, and legal considerations as well as current issues related to such practice in Hong Kong. Ethical and legal guidelines pertinent to the delivery of school psychological services will be introduced to enable students to make well-informed choices in resolving professional problems and ethical dilemmas when they occur. Students will also engage in discussion and analysis of contemporary issues related to educational psychology practice. Topics covered are broad and diversified and are highly relevant to the local context.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC8007 Applied developmental psychology (6 credits)**

This course focuses on an integrated study of human development across the life span with implications for educational psychology. It aims at familiarizing students with current state of knowledge and major theories of human development with particular emphasis on childhood and adolescence. The interrelationship among biological, cognitive, social, and educational factors that influence human development will be examined. In particular the influence of Chinese culture and context on development during the childhood and adolescence will be discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC8008 Motivation and learning (6 credits)**

This course aims at familiarizing students with theories, research, and practices in the field of motivation and learning. It focuses on how educational psychologists can use existing knowledge in



motivation and learning to enhance teachers' instruction and students' learning. Topics include theories of motivation and learning; their application in educational settings; effects of social cognitions on motivation; instructional environment that fosters motivation; and biological, cultural and contextual factors of learning.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**PSYC6012      Practicum I (18 credits)**  
**PSYC6013      Practicum II (18 credits)**  
**PSYC6014      Practicum III (18 credits)**

The programme considers practicum an important and indispensable part of the training and whenever possible tries to integrate theories discussed at the University with that of fieldwork practice. All students are required to do fieldwork for a total of 180 days in three practicums.

PSYC6012	Practicum I (18 credits)
PSYC6013	Practicum II (18 credits)
PSYC6014	Practicum III (18 credits)

Each credit is equivalent to 27 hours of practical work. The average duration of each practicum is 60 days (486 hours). Adjustment of the length will be made according to the specific requirements of the settings. Each practicum aims at providing the students with:

- (a) exposures to a broad spectrum of work of an EP working in a particular setting;
- (b) adequate hands-on experiences at different levels (such as individual casework, group work, consultations to parents and teachers, in-service training for teachers, etc.) in the development of the necessary practical knowledge and skills;
- (c) knowledge of different types of provisions and systems accessible to children with special educational needs and referral procedures; and
- (d) opportunities for collaborative work with other professionals.

Assessment: 100% practicum

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### **Capstone Experience Course**

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**PSYC7028      Dissertation research (12 credits)**

The dissertation should be a critical study within the field, normally including an empirical element, and should not exceed 20,000 words in length. Where appropriate, studies involving qualitative methodology and other approaches may also be included. The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval on March 31 of the final academic year of study, and the dissertation shall be presented by July 31 of the final academic year of study. The candidate shall submit a statement that the dissertation represents his own work (or in the case of conjoint work, a statement countersigned by his co-worker, which shows his share of the work) undertaken after registration as a candidate for the degree. The examiners may also prescribe an oral examination on the subject of the dissertation.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **GERONTOLOGY**

The Department of Social Work and Social Administration offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Gerontology. This programme is designed for professionals who are interested in developing a career specialized in working with the elderly and who engage in elderly-related policy research. Applicants from a variety of professional backgrounds may apply for the programme which is designed to meet the diverse training needs of different professional

disciplines including social workers, nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and other health related workers who are interested in aged care policies and practices. The programme shall extend over not less than one and not more than two academic years of full-time study; or not less than two and not more than three academic years of part-time study, inclusive of intervening vacations.

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## **EXEMPTION**

Candidates may be granted exemption of up to three compulsory courses in recognition of studies completed in related areas. Exemption will only be considered in special circumstances and each application for exemption will be considered on its own merit. Candidates with exemption granted are required to take an additional elective course to replace the exempted compulsory course to meet the degree requirements.

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## **ASSESSMENTS**

To complete the programme, candidates shall satisfy the examiners in the assessment of courses as prescribed in the programme. Assessments of the courses may be conducted either by course assignments, by presentations, or by written tests, or a combination of both methods. The grading system follows the standard practice in the Faculty of Social Sciences.

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## **CURRICULUM**

Candidates are required to complete 60 credits, including 6 compulsory courses (6 credits each), and 4 elective courses (6 credits each) or 2 elective courses (6 credits each) with a dissertation (12 credits). Candidates can take elective courses from courses in other fields of study under the Master of Social Sciences (Behavioral Health, Mental Health, Social Service Management, Social Work) programmes. Special approval from the respective Programme Directors for the courses in the above-mentioned fields of study is needed.

### **(A) *Compulsory courses***

Candidates shall complete the following courses.

- SOWK6139 Theoretical foundation of human service practices (6 credits)
- SOWK6193 Social gerontology (6 credits)
- SOWK6207 Social policy and ageing (6 credits)
- SOWK6258 Care management (6 credits)
- SOWK6282 Social work intervention with the elderly (6 credits)

### **(B) *Elective courses***

Dissertation option: Candidates shall complete two of the following courses.

Non-dissertation option: Candidates shall complete four of the following courses.

- SOWK6201 Mental health problems in old age (6 credits)
  - SOWK6259 Contemporary perspectives on death, dying and bereavement (6 credits)
  - SOWK6291 Advanced gerontological seminars (6 credits)
  - SOWK6292 Ageing and health (6 credits)
  - SOWK6293 Evidence-based programmes in global ageing contexts (6 credits)
- and any other courses offered under Master of Social Sciences (Behavioral Health, Mental Health, Social Service Management, Social Work) programmes

(Note: not all elective courses will necessarily be offered in a given year.)

### *Capstone Experience Courses*

**(C) *Compulsory course***

Candidates opt for either dissertation or non-dissertation option shall complete the following course.  
SOWK6265 Research methods in human service (6 credits)

**(D) *Dissertation (Elective)***

Candidates opt for dissertation option shall complete the following course.  
SOWK9002 Dissertation (12 credits)

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

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#### ***Compulsory Courses***

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**SOWK6139 Theoretical foundation of human service practices (6 credits)**

The knowledge base of human service practices comes from a wide spectrum of social science disciplines including psychology, sociology and political science. This course will provide the philosophical and conceptual basis for analyzing social problems and issues and translating these theoretical constructs into human service practices.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6193 Social gerontology (6 credits)**

This course provides a comprehensive, holistic view of ageing that considers the implications for an older person's interactions with their social and physical environments, including the immediate environment of family, friends, and home, as well as the larger social structure of community, organizations, and society. It also aims to impart knowledge to students about the most important social theories on ageing and the time dimension in the ageing process and its relation to the evolution of larger society.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6207 Social policy and ageing (6 credits)**

The course is designed to examine the concepts of social policy and ageing, and the various models available for the analysis of social policy. By analyzing local and foreign services and policy regarding the elderly people, students will become familiar with the roles of government and non-government organizations in implementing public policies. This should further the understanding of the development of social services to meet the needs of the elderly in the context of economic and social change. Basic concepts of social planning, problem identification and programme implementation will be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6258 Care management (6 credits)**

Gerontological assessment is the foundation in elder care, whereas care management is one of the major practice strategies to promote effective service delivery to diverse target populations in long term care. Students will be taught to manage and to carry out needs assessment in long term care cases, with reference to the comprehensive assessments developed by international recognized bodies. On top of micro-level direct practice, the course also deals with the establishment of care management

programmes in a macro-level, including programme design, development and evaluation.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6282 Social work intervention with the elderly (6 credits)**

This course focuses on intervention with older people at micro and macro levels. In macro level, it covers both administrative and community intervention strategies to engage older people in their communities, to empower older people and their communities for independent living, to promote choices, quality of care, and quality of life in elderly services. In micro level, it covers intervention strategies for intake, comprehensive assessment, treatment and termination involved in working with older clients and their families. It equips students with skills to reach out, engage reluctant or impaired elders, and work in a multidisciplinary team in elderly settings.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### *Elective Courses*

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### **SOWK6201 Mental health problems in old age (6 credits)**

This course explores the types of mental illnesses among the elderly in Hong Kong. Attention will be put towards the understanding of the causes and treatments of mental illness in the elderly population. A critical review of medical, psychological and social services for the elderly with mental illness will be conducted.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6259 Contemporary perspectives on death, dying and bereavement (6 credits)**

Death is an inevitable life experience for everyone. Death-related problem is one of the commonest issues that clients brought to counseling, but is also rated as the most uncomfortable scenario by beginning counselors. This course is aimed to orientate those in helping profession the updated knowledge and intervention on death, dying and bereavement. Reviewing major theories related to death, including end-of-life situation, suicide, trauma and bereavement, the students are expected to have a better understanding of the universality of impermanence, and the impact of death towards individuals and societies. Updated intervention strategies on end-of-life care and bereavement care will be introduced. It is hoped to equip those who are working with or going to work with clients facing death, dying and bereavement with both the knowledge and practical competence.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6291 Advanced gerontological seminars (6 credits)**

Globally, aging population leads to both threats and opportunities for social development. New issues relating to gerontology emerge from time to time. This course will bring students one or two emerging gerontological issues each time. For example, social security, housing, health and social care integration, mental health, community empowerment, death, dying and bereavement. Focuses will be put on cutting edge knowledge on selected issues, perspectives from policy, service delivery, and/or program levels.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6292 Ageing and health (6 credits)**

According to the WHO, health is a “complete state of physical, mental, and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.” As people age, they are increasingly facing challenges in

their physical and mental health and in their social wellbeing. A better integrated health and social care system will help older people to better adjust to their aging processes and to minimize the negative impacts of aging to their wellbeing. This course is designed to help students from diverse academic backgrounds to understand the core values, conceptual models, intervention strategies, and service delivery systems of the integrated health and social care model. Building on the foundation values and knowledge of their own disciplines, students will learn how to effectively develop and implement a multi-disciplinary team in geriatric care settings.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6293 Evidence-based programmes in global ageing contexts (6 credits)**

This course aims to help students understand the implications of population ageing and increasing life expectancy in both developed and developing countries although countries in the Asia-Pacific region will be our focus. Cross-national evidence-based programs will be selected from North America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and South America. Specifically, we will illustrate how population ageing varies across the globe and how it affects family support, living arrangements, and intergenerational transfer and relationships. Moreover, the policy and practice implications of population ageing in social, political, and economic dimensions will be discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### ***Capstone Experience Courses***

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### **SOWK6265 Research methods in human service (6 credits)**

This course covers the whole research process from the development of research questions and hypotheses to the analysis of data as well as presentation of findings. Different data collection methods including qualitative data collection such as case study, interviews and focus groups; and quantitative data collection such as survey and experiment will be discussed. Data analysis on various types of data including secondary data will be examined. Students will be expected to integrate and apply the knowledge and skills they acquired through the programme by attending the oral presentation by the end of the first semester of the final academic year of study.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK9002 Dissertation (12 credits)**

The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval not later than three months before the formal submission of the dissertation **or** not later than March 31 of the same academic year of study. The dissertation shall be presented by not later than **August 1** of the same academic year of study. The dissertation shall be a critical study that demonstrates the application of research methodology to the investigation of problems relevant to the field of study, and shall not exceed 20,000 words in length.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **MEDIA, CULTURE AND CREATIVE CITIES**

The Department of Sociology offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences degree in the field of Media, Culture and Creative Cities. The programme shall extend over not less than two and not more than three academic years of part-time study, inclusive of intervening vacations.

## ASSESSMENT

Candidates are assessed by 100% coursework (which may include written tests) in each course, unless stated otherwise.

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## CURRICULUM

To receive the award of Master of Social Sciences degree in the field of Media, Culture and Creative Cities, candidates have to complete 8 courses (6 credits each) and a capstone project (12 credits), with a total of 60 credits. The first year programme provides candidates with a broad, integrated understanding of the social science approach to the study of media, culture, and creative cities. The second year, building upon that foundation, introduces the candidates to a variety of contemporary developments in creative industries and related media and cultural issues.

In the first year candidates are required to satisfy the examiners by written examination and coursework in each of the following compulsory courses:

SOCI7005	Theories of media, culture and creative cities (6 credits)
SOCI7006	Research methods in media, culture and creative cities (6 credits)
SOCI7007	Globalization and the cultural mosaic: an Asian perspective (6 credits)
SOCI7008	Critical issues of media, culture and creative cities (6 credits)

and in the second year candidates are required to satisfy the examiners by coursework in 4 of the following elective courses:

SOCI8011	Media and Crime (6 credits)
SOCI8023	Media and popular culture in Asian cities (6 credits)
SOCI8024	New media and digital culture (6 credits)
SOCI8025	Consumer cultures and everyday life (6 credits)
SOCI8026	Self-identity and late-modern society (6 credits)
SOCI8027	Body, intimacy and sexuality (6 credits)
SOCI8028	Cultural policies and global cities (6 credits)
SOCI8029	Creative industries and creative cities (6 credits)
SOCI8031	Special topics in media, culture and creative cities (6 credits)

and to complete the following capstone experience course:

SOCI8030	Capstone project (12 credits)
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Candidates should consult the Department of Sociology to find out what courses are being offered in any given year.

Candidates may apply to substitute for a listed course or courses in the syllabus of this programme with a course or courses offered by other departments in the University. Candidates may: (a) select courses from a list of pre-approved courses issued by the Department of Sociology; or (b) apply to be granted permission to take other postgraduate courses which are not listed as pre-approved courses. In both cases, the courses will have been approved by the Curriculum Development Committee as being of equivalent standard to that of those listed for the syllabus of this programme. Candidates shall normally be permitted to take not more than two courses from other departments in the University. Permission normally will be granted only to take postgraduate courses, and only for those courses which can be shown to have relevance to the candidates' overall course of study.

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## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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### *Compulsory Courses*

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#### **SOCI7005 Theories of media, culture and creative cities (6 credits)**

This compulsory course introduces the key thinkers, traditions, and current debates in the sociology and cultural studies of media and culture in the world city context. It explores the centrality of the role of media, culture, and creativity in contemporary social life and its intricate relationships with the city at an advanced level. You will comprehend media and culture as an industry or institution with specific modes of production and ownership, consumption patterns and practices, and rules of control and regulation. You will examine media and cultural representations, as well as socially constructed identities. You will explore media and culture as a “way of life” comprised of social reflective practices that entail creativity and pleasure, as well as politics and resistance. In other words, this course will look into the key issues of political economy, representation, politics, and practices of media and culture, addressing the power dynamics and complexities of the city, and examining the importance of creativity in the context of globalization. This course serves as a roadmap to other courses in this programme. Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **SOCI7006 Research methods in media, culture and creative cities (6 credits)**

This course offers you the chance to look at different ways of researching media, culture, and creative cities through a range of disciplines, most notably sociology, anthropology, and media and cultural studies. It examines the whole research process, starting from research methodology, to research design, sampling and methods used, to data collection, data analysis and report writing. In particular, various methods will be introduced such as survey, content analysis, ethnography, in-depth interview, life history, reception studies, textual analysis, and deconstruction. Key debates in research methodology such as representation, legitimation, and reflexivity will be discussed. Students will learn the methods for analyzing the media, cultural industries and their products, studying audiences and consumers, charting broader cultural trends, and examining the cultural environment of creative cities. The course helps students put theory “to work” and trains students to become independent researchers who are well-informed at both the theoretical and methodological level. Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **SOCI7007 Globalization and the cultural mosaic: an Asian perspective (6 credits)**

Globalization refers to the increasing flow of people, goods, commodities, economic activity, technologies, media, values, and belief systems on a global scale. People are becoming more aware of the global connectivity of economic, cultural, political, and social activities in different parts of the world. Recent studies focus on the dynamics of this global flow in shaping the emerging world order. This course aims to provide students with a broader and deeper understanding of the issues related to globalization from an Asian perspective. It takes a serious look at this emerging global map by examining the social, cultural, and creative interface of global, domestic, and trans-border cultures in Asia. The discussions are arranged under three major themes, which included (1) city and state; (2) new communities and cultural exchanges; and (3) globalization vs. regionalization. Specific Asian cities such as Hong Kong, Beijing, Taipei, Seoul, Tokyo, and Singapore will be investigated. Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOCI7008      Critical issues of media, culture and creative cities (6 credits)**

This course examines critical issues of media, culture, and creative cities, with a particular focus on Hong Kong city. The purpose is to shed light on relevant issues of modern life by drawing on some of the key concepts and findings in the related fields. While the issues to be discussed will vary from year to year, they will all touch upon important facets of media operation, cultural dynamics, city regeneration, and creative development. In particular, the course will look at media regulation and freedom of speech, heritage and urban planning, time and collective memory, post-colonial identity and nationalist imaginations, youth cultures and lifestyles, global consumption and local community, new forms of intimacy, the beauty myth and diet culture, creative industries, city branding, the West Kowloon Cultural District, and Disneyland. Selected topics will be taught by different instructors with relevant special expertise. Students will form small groups to work on the presentation of a chosen topic. Emphasis will be put on using contemporary media, cultural, and urban theories to interpret and understand social and cultural phenomena in Hong Kong, and extend discussions to other Asian cities such as Beijing, Taipei, Seoul, Tokyo, and Singapore.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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***Elective Courses***

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**SOCI8011      Media and crime (6 credits)**

The media plays an extremely influential role in the public's conceptions of crime and order. This course aims to provide students with a better understanding of theories about the media's impact on crime, the news making process in relation to crime, and how the media shapes our ideas and responses to crime. The course also focuses on the relationship between crime and cultural dynamics with a focus on representations of crime in popular culture, particularly in films and novels.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOCI8023      Media and popular culture in Asian cities (6 credits)**

This course addresses the social, political, cultural, and creative dynamics of the modern communication media – TV, film, music, radio, the press, and other new media technologies – and their impacts on popular culture in Hong Kong and other Asian cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Taipei, Seoul, Tokyo, and Singapore. It enables you to critically examine how media and popular culture construct our identities, shape everyday life, and generate public debates. Topics include the media; sex and violence; consumption and youth cultures, romance and gender identity; regimes of body management; desire and social identities; lifestyle distinctions and social hierarchy; on-line communication and cyber personas; media events and imagined communities; new media and technologies; and the commercialization of arts.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOCI8024      New media and digital culture (6 credits)**

This course explores the nature and impact of new media in the era of digital culture. Special attention is paid to the interactivity of media, particularly in regard to how the internet and mobile technology has changed the visions and practices of commerce, entertainment, work, social interactions, news-making, artistic creation and distribution, group formation, the spread of knowledge, identity building, political participation, legal regulation, and global social movements. We shall examine questions such as: How do new media facilitate new creative ventures and cultural expressions? How do social media interact with political power? In what ways are activities on the Internet – social networking, bookmarking, crowdsourcing, (micro)blogging, media sharing, online journalism, and open source movements – building a new form of “social self” and “public sphere”? In what ways does “cyberspace” function as a



source of knowledge and wisdom, a network of connectivity and community, a new civil society, and a form of “trans-local” “globalization from below”? And what are the implications of this new digital world in terms of individualized entertainment, segregated communication, and current and potential power centers such as the state and multi-media corporations? The related conceptual debates will be assessed with reference to empirical findings from a burgeoning body of evidence-based studies in this field. Experiences from different global cities will be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOCI8025      Consumer cultures and everyday life (6 credits)**

Consumption is an important part of modern life. This course examines the role of consumer culture in the modern commodity economy. It offers you a chance to revisit classical theorists in the context of consumption (e.g., Marx, Weber, Campbell, Veblen, Simmel), as well as some more contemporary thinkers (e.g., Marcuse, Bourdieu, Baudrillard). It will look at the changing roles of street culture, department stores and shopping malls, theme parks, and urban and suburban ways of life in the context of recent discussions regarding the interactive media and global consumption politics. In particular, the course will show how consumption in everyday life generates a fascinating mix of homogeneity, difference, hybridity, commerce, and democratization for modern people in major creative cities.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOCI8026      Self-identity and late-modern society (6 credits)**

This course traces the rise of the notion of self-identity in the modern era and follows it through to contemporary times. Various notions of identity and their relationships will be discussed: personal identity, social identity, cultural identity, collective identity, national identity, etc. We will explore the changing experiences and meanings of collective and personal identities in late modern culture in domains such as work, family, religion, society, and the nation. We pay particular attention to the emergence of various contemporary identities in relation to the formation of creative class and creative culture. This will enable us to rethink the distinction between the public and the private, explore the social construction of the life course, the notion of cultural identity, the relationship between identity and creativity, and the dynamics of identity politics and new social movements in terms of age, body, class, religion, gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, and more. The focus is on contemporary Hong Kong and Chinese experiences as well as other cities in the Asia/Pacific region, such as Singapore, Seoul, and Tokyo.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOCI8027      Body, intimacy and sexuality (6 credits)**

This course aims to investigate the significant changes happening in the private sphere of intimacy in late-modern times, paying particular attention to Chinese cities such as Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, and other Asian cities such as Seoul, Taipei, Tokyo, Bangkok, and Singapore. Drawn from various disciplines such as feminism, gay and lesbian studies, queer theory, and contemporary theory of body, this course critically reviews a number of key issues: the debate of biological drive/social force in shaping sexual identity, gender difference and intimate behavior; the dynamics of agency/structure in understanding sexual performances and body practices; the development of sexual politics and movements; mainstreaming of sexuality and media representation; and commercialization of desires. This course also pays more attention to the newly emerging scripts that seem to shape femininity/masculinity, romantic love, intimate relationship, and family patterns.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOCI8028 Cultural policies and global cities (6 credits)**

This course covers three different scopes of cultural policy, beginning with government supports for the arts, then the invention of creative industry policies and finally cultural citizenship. There has been an international trend of introducing entrepreneurialism into cultural policies in recent decades. Policies, involving both the government and civic organizations thus are formulated in order to enhance the competitiveness of nations and cities through various cultural projects. Global cities such as London, New York, Paris, Brussels, and Tokyo are seen to be capable of assuming a leading role in the cultural development and promotion of urban entrepreneurialism. This course examines comparatively how different policies evolve under different social and historical conditions, and how global cities redevelop their urban and cultural resources in order to sharpen their competitiveness in the context of the inter-city competition of a global economy, and explores how such experiences could be applied to Hong Kong. Topics to be covered in this course include entrepreneurialism, strategies of urban redevelopment, urban culture, and urban competitiveness. Students will also reflect on the problems associated with cultural, urban and creative development.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOCI8029 Creative industries and creative cities (6 credits)**

This course explores the structures, processes, and cultural artifacts of the creative industries (performing arts, film and television, publishing, art and antique markets, music, architecture, digital entertainment, computer software development, animation production, fashion, and product design) and how they figure in the strategic repositioning of the city. It offers students a chance to critically examine the political economy and spatial organization of these industries of culture in different creative cities of the world. It also opens up debates generated by the intersection between culture, economy, and the city, such as high and low culture, innovation and standardization, capitalist dominance and democratic pluralism, authenticity and mechanical reproduction, power and resistance, the role of the creative class in city growth and regeneration, engineering and imagineering creative cities, cultural planning, and the city as a marketplace, sustaining the livable city.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOCI8031 Special topics in media, culture and creative cities (6 credits)**

This course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of current or newly emerging topics in media, culture and creative city. The course enables new subject or sub-specialist areas to be offered. It also facilitates innovative modes of teaching and learning. Subjects may inter alia, include:

Visual sociology and anthropology  
Sensory cultures  
Emotion and affect  
Posthumanities and ethics  
Biomedicine and biotechnology  
New media, subjectivity and performativity  
New thinkers in cultural studies  
Risk, reflexivity and sustainable development  
Critical pedagogy in media and culture  
Body, place and flow – new directions in cultural studies  
Private self and public sphere  
Workshops in presenting and representing culture

Assessment: 100% coursework

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## ***Capstone Experience Course (Compulsory)***

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### **SOCI8030 Capstone project (12 credits)**

This course aims to teach students how to integrate and apply the knowledge and skills they acquired through the programme. Students will conduct a research project in close collaboration with community partners in the field of media, culture, and creative cities. Students select a topic from the list suggested by community partners and work on it over two semesters. The topics will relate to a variety of analytical, practical, and policy issues in the field. Sample topics may include: assessing the use of the web platform for preserving local history, the role of public engagement in cultural conservation projects, funding an international film festival, independent film making in the age of media convergence, radio broadcast after digitalization, gender identity and consumer culture in South China, the application of new media art in commercial settings, cultural clusters and art districts in Asia, a proposal for setting up a crafts museum in Hong Kong, and cultural policy after the West Kowloon Cultural District.

Students will work under the guidance of a manager in the community, as well as a designated academic supervisor from the Department. Students can work individually or in groups, depending on the nature and scale of the project. Assessment will be based on a final written report and an oral presentation. The capstone project shall be submitted and presented not later than July 31 of the final academic year of study.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **MENTAL HEALTH**

The Department of Social Work and Social Administration offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Mental Health for social workers, nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and other health related workers who are interested in mental health issues and practices. The programme shall extend over not less than two and not more than three academic years of part-time study, inclusive of intervening vacations.

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### **EXEMPTION**

Candidates may be granted exemption of up to three compulsory courses in recognition of studies completed in related areas. Exemption will only be considered in special circumstances and each application for exemption will be considered on its own merit. Candidates with exemption granted are required to take an additional elective course to replace the exempted compulsory course to meet the degree requirements.

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### **ASSESSMENTS**

To complete the programme, candidates shall satisfy the examiners in the assessment of courses as prescribed in the programme. Assessments of the courses may be conducted either by course assignments, or by presentations, or written tests, or a combination of both methods. The grading system follows the standard practice in the Faculty of Social Sciences.

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### **CURRICULUM**

Candidates are required to complete 60 credits, including 6 compulsory courses (6 credits each), and 4 elective courses (6 credits each) or 2 elective courses (6 credits each) with a dissertation (12 credits). In the first year of study, students will acquire most current knowledge about the contexts, policies and

practices in mental health. They will also be introduced to advanced and practical knowledge and skills in psychiatric assessment and mental health counselling. In the second year, students can choose to specialize in **three areas** in mental health (i.e. Integrative Mental Health, Psychogeriatric Care and Cognitive-Behaviour Therapy). Candidates must complete 4 courses, with some recommended courses that are offered under the Mental Health syllabus and elective courses from courses in other fields of study under the Master of Social Sciences (Behavioral Health, Gerontology, Social Service Management, Social Work) programmes. Special approval from the respective Programme Directors for the courses in the above-mentioned fields of study is needed.

**(A) *Compulsory courses***

Candidates shall complete the following courses.

- SOWK6084 Intervention in health care settings (6 credits)
- SOWK6139 Theoretical foundation of human service practices (6 credits)
- SOWK6199 Assessment and interventions in mental health: A clinical case management approach (6 credits)
- SOWK6309 Mental health: policies and practices (6 credits)
- SOWK6310 Psychosocial approaches in mental health care (6 credits)

**(B) *Elective courses***

Dissertation option: Candidates shall complete two of the following courses.

Non-dissertation option: Candidates shall complete four courses. If interested, candidates can choose courses to make up one of the three areas of concentration: (1) Integrative Mental Health (2) Psychogeriatric Care and (3) Cognitive-Behaviour Therapy.

- SOWK6022 Emotion-focused interventions: theory and practice (6 credits)
- SOWK6127 Cognitive-behavioral interventions (6 credits)
- SOWK6201 Mental health problems in old age (6 credits)
- SOWK6214 Children and youth mental health (6 credits)
- SOWK6311 Cognitive-behaviour therapy skills training (6 credits)
- SOWK6312 Cognitive-behaviour therapy supervised practice (6 credits)

and any other courses offered under Master of Social Sciences (Behavioral Health, Gerontology, Social Service Management, Social Work) programmes

(Note: not all elective courses will necessarily be offered in a given year.)

***Capstone Experience Courses***

**(C) *Compulsory course***

Candidates opt for either dissertation or non-dissertation option shall complete the following course.

- SOWK6265 Research methods in human service (6 credits)

**(D) *Dissertation (Elective)***

Candidates opt for dissertation option shall complete the following course.

- SOWK9003 Dissertation (12 credits)
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## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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### *Compulsory Courses*

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#### **SOWK6084 Intervention in health care settings (6 credits)**

This course introduces students to a variety of current intervention approaches that are effective for working with people with health and mental health problems. These may include narrative therapy, solution focused therapy, art and music therapies, mindfulness-based intervention, body-mind-spirit approach, Satir family therapy and etc. Candidates will be provided with experiential training on skills/techniques in working with patients in hospitals and in the community.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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#### **SOWK6139 Theoretical foundation of human service practices (6 credits)**

The knowledge base of human service practices comes from a wide spectrum of social science disciplines including psychology, sociology and political science. This course will provide the philosophical and conceptual basis for analyzing social problems and issues and translating these theoretical constructs into human service practices.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **SOWK6199 Assessment and interventions in mental health: A clinical case management approach (6 credits)**

Students will be given the opportunity to examine various clinical issues regarding the assessment and interventions on persons with mental health problems such as Depression, Anxiety Disorders, Schizophrenia and Personality Disorders. Students are expected to actively participate in role plays and case discussions. A clinical case management approach will be adopted for this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **SOWK6309 Mental health: policies and practices (6 credits)**

As part of practice competence, mental health workers should be able to take a critical stance in understanding and analyzing the policy contexts that affect their practice. The first half of the course will provide a general understanding of selected social policies in Hong Kong. It will also offer students an understanding of certain policy analysis frameworks. The second half of the course focuses on critically examining policy issues relating to mental health care. Topics such as policy trends in mental health care, legal contexts of mental health care, stigma and discrimination, rights of persons with mental illness and etc. will be explored. Overseas examples in mental health policies will be used for comparison.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6310 Psychosocial approaches in mental health care (6 credits)**

This course critically examines current models of prevention, rehabilitation and treatments for people with mental illness. Topics such as prevention and rehabilitation, hospital and community care, models of social and vocational rehabilitation, models of psychological intervention, culture and mental health, multidisciplinary teamwork in mental health service, core competences of mental health workers/social workers and etc. By comparing these to overseas models of psychosocial approaches in mental health care, students can appreciate the strengths and weaknesses of the models that are at work in Hong Kong. Assessment: 100% coursework

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***Elective Courses***

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**SOWK6022 Emotion-focused interventions: theory and practice (6 credits)**

Social work practice recognizes the importance of the role of emotions in therapeutic change. This course will begin with a review of current theories and research on emotion-focused interventions before focusing on the application of these theories in the local setting. This is followed by an examination of the awareness, the arousal, and reorganization of the emotions in counselling and psychotherapy. Commonly encountered emotions in casework and groupwork practice like anger, fear, guilt, shame, sadness and grief will be examined. Moreover, the course aims to enhance students' self-awareness and competence in handling critical incidents in clinical practice. Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6127 Cognitive-behavioral interventions (6 credits)**

The course introduces students to the Beck's cognitive-behaviour therapy model in working with people with depression and anxieties. A case process approach will be adopted to provide a stage-by-stage and step-by-step understanding of the theory and practice of Beck's CBT. Other CBT models for working with people with psychosis, OCD, pathological gambling, substance abuse and etc. will also be discussed in class. Invited speakers will share their local experiences in using CBT for working with Chinese clients in Hong Kong. Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6201 Mental health problems in old age (6 credits)**

This course explores the types of mental illnesses among the elderly in Hong Kong. Attention will be put towards the understanding of the causes and treatments of mental illness in the elderly population. A critical review of medical, psychological and social services for the elderly with mental illness will be conducted. Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6214 Children and youth mental health (6 credits)**

This course focuses on an understanding of the mental health issues found among children and youth in Hong Kong. While it will introduce the developmental perspectives on child and adolescent development, it will also provide an overview of the prevalence and general features of different childhood and adolescent mental health problems. The course will also bear a practice focus and introduce to students the assessment, treatment and skills in engaging children and youth suffering from various mental health problems. Assessment: 100% coursework

### **SOWK6311 Cognitive-behaviour therapy skills training (6 credits)**

This course adopts a CBT case process model and provides step-by-step intensive and hands-on training of cognitive-behaviour therapy skills for students who are interested in practicing CBT. Cognitive-oriented techniques such as thought stopping, cognitive restructuring, cognitive continuum and pie chart will be taught, while behavioural techniques such as activity ruler, activity chart, behavioural experiment and exposure will also be introduced to the students. It is expected that students would actively participate by practicing the various skills, engaging in role plays and other activities in class. Students who intend to enroll in this course must have taken SOWK6127 Cognitive-behavioral interventions or an equivalent. As it is an intensive skill-oriented training, the optimum class size is 12 students.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6312 Cognitive-behaviour therapy supervised practice (6 credits)**

The course adopts a “case-study” format in which students are required to work with up to two clients using cognitive-behavior interventions. Students will have to report in class the progress of their treatment sessions. Through case discussions and group supervision, students will learn the process and techniques of cognitive-behavior interventions. Students who intend to enroll in this course must have taken SOWK6127 Cognitive-behavioral interventions or an equivalent, and SOWK6311. Cognitive-behaviour therapy skills training. As it is an intensive skills oriented training, the optimum class size is 12 students.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### ***Capstone Experience Courses***

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### **SOWK6265 Research methods in human service (6 credits)**

This course covers the whole research process from the development of research questions and hypotheses to the analysis of data as well as presentation of findings. Different data collection methods including qualitative data collection such as case study, interviews and focus groups; and quantitative data collection such as survey and experiment will be discussed. Data analysis on various types of data including secondary data will be examined. Students will be expected to integrate and apply the knowledge and skills they acquired through the programme by attending the oral presentation by the end of the first semester of the final academic year of study.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK9003 Dissertation (12 credits)**

The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval not later than five months before the formal submission of the dissertation **or** not later than March 31 of the same academic year of study. The dissertation shall be presented by not later than **August 1** of the same academic year of study. The dissertation shall be a critical study that demonstrates the application of research methodology to the investigation of problems relevant to the field of study, and shall not exceed 20,000 words in length.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT**

This programme provides an opportunity for leaders in the nonprofit sector in the Greater China and the world to develop enhanced capacity to lead the future development in civil society and the nonprofits sector. Our comprehensive and rigorous programme situates nonprofit management in a broader arena

to include social, political and economic dimensions that will enable graduates to act as agents of change through policy advocacy, innovation, and other strategic actions as well as allow graduates to take on leadership positions in the sector. Through this programme, we will:

- extend students' knowledge of current critical issues in governance and leadership in the nonprofit sector, across sectors, as well as within relevant social services and public policy areas;
- enhance the capacity of the students in navigating the complex and dynamic social-economic-policy context to create positive changes in the sector;
- empower students with the state of art of innovations in the government, private and the nonprofits sectors, and create innovative competence in the sector;
- prepare students to integrate academic and professional knowledge to enhance their intellectual abilities and professional practice in order to achieve more effective and efficient leadership in the nonprofit sector; and
- create value for organisations as their staff members who join this programme can reflect on challenges and issues facing their organisations as well as apply newly developed competencies to mobilize resources and build new networks to transform their organisation.

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## ASSESSMENT

To complete the programme, candidates shall satisfy the examiners in the assessments of courses. Candidates may be assessed by continual coursework assessment, written examinations, or a combination of both. The grading system with fine grades ( i.e. A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C- ,D+, D and F) will be adopted for this programme.

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## CURRICULUM

Candidates are required to complete 60 credits, including 8 courses (6 credits each) and one capstone project (12 credits) in order to receive the Master of Social Sciences in the field of Nonprofit Management degree. Of the 8 courses needed to complete this degree, candidates are required to take 4 core courses then may choose the remaining four courses from a list of pre-approved electives.

### Compulsory courses

Candidates shall complete the following courses.

- MNPM7001 Public governance, structure and dynamics of the nonprofit sector in Greater China (6 credits)
- MNPM7002 Foundations of the nonprofit sector in comparative perspective (6 credits)
- MNPM7003 Managing nonprofit organisations: issues, tools and challenges (6 credits)
- MNPM7004 Performance measurement, assessment and programme evaluation (6 credits)

### Capstone experience course

Candidates shall complete the following course.

- MNPM7013 Capstone in nonprofit management (12 credits)

### Elective courses

Candidates shall complete four courses from the following list.

- MNPM7005 Strategic management of nonprofit organisations (6 credits)
- MNPM7006 The law, nonprofit and philanthropy (6 credits)
- MNPM7007 Talent management and strategic leadership for nonprofit organisations (6 credits)
- MNPM7008 NGO Board governance and development (6 credits)
- MNPM7009 Contemporary issues in effective philanthropy (6 credits)
- MNPM7010 Fund development and financial management for nonprofit organisations (6 credits)



MNPM7011 Social entrepreneurship and innovation (6 credits)

MNPM7012 Brand building and social marketing (6 credits)

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

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### *Compulsory Courses*

#### **MNPM7001 Public governance, structure and dynamics of the nonprofit Sector in Greater China (6 credits)**

This course provides an overview of the major issues in public governance, structure and dynamics of civil society and nonprofit sector in Greater China. The different modes of public governance and public-private interface through the development of civil society in Hong Kong, Mainland China and Taiwan will be reviewed. The existence, functions and contributions of nonprofit organisations to public governance will be examined. Students will gain a broader understanding of the nature of current social issues in Greater China, such as the widening income disparity gap, aging, poverty and migrant workers, in the context of recent reforms. The course also provides an analysis of how civil society and nonprofit organisations shape the social and public policy agenda under different regimes.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **MNPM7002 Foundations of the nonprofit sector in comparative perspective (6 credits)**

This course examines the theories and concepts, roles and development of nonprofit organisations, voluntary associations, philanthropic organisations and social enterprises from an historical, political, social and economic perspective. It also examines the distinct scope, theories and functions of such organisations, and how they operate and impact on society, to equip students with a deep understanding of the complexity of the sector and its relationship to public governance.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **MNPM7003 Managing nonprofit organisations: issues, tools and challenges (6 credits)**

A major challenge facing the nonprofit sector today is to attain effective management in a complex, rapidly changing environment. This course provides an overview of the broad range of management tools, principles and practices on which nonprofit organisations rely as they seek to meet mission objectives, frame messages to attract public support, motivate volunteers, plan effectively, develop strong board leadership, connect with the other sectors, and set and meet performance objectives. The course also looks toward future trends and developments in the management of nonprofit organisations. Topics covered range from developing organisational capacity to leveraging stakeholder and community engagement.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **MNPM7004 Performance measurement, assessment and programme evaluation (6 credits)**

This course introduces on data collection, assessment, impact and performance appraisal systems that nonprofit can implement to measure and assess efficacy of policies and programmes. Performance measurement and programme evaluation are critical to improving the overall quality of programmes and services, gaining credibility with donors and demonstrating accountability and transparency to stakeholders. Topics also include: Social impact assessment (SIA) process, models and social variables for measuring social returns or social outputs especially in the fields of impact investing and social

entrepreneurship, setting key performance indicators (KPIs); performance evaluation from a human capital perspective; and developing appropriate methods for communicating assessment results.  
Assessment: 100% coursework

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### *Elective Courses*

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#### **MNPM7005 Strategic management of nonprofit organisations (6 credits)**

This course focuses on leadership and management of nonprofit organisations in the current context of resource scarcity and the blurring of boundaries between the private, public and nonprofit sectors. As there is increasing emphasis on corporate social responsibilities and collective share holding in for-profit businesses, case studies of effective businesses and witnessing transformation of corporations will empower students to appreciate Change Management in an ever changing socio-economic environment. The course aims to provide the necessary perspectives and tools for executing high-impact strategy, including the conceptual frameworks for understanding high-impact organisations and the role of strategic leadership; analytical tools for developing and evaluating strategy; issues around succession planning; risk assessment; systems thinking and sustainability; approaches to working with stakeholders to mobilise commitment; and methods for leading change and achieving goals.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **MNPM7006 The law, nonprofit and philanthropy (6 credits)**

This course covers the range of legal issues affecting civic engagement, volunteerism, human rights, international standards, nonprofit organisations and philanthropy. It examines and compares the evolution of the legal systems pertaining to those underlying policies and regulatory issues contained in constitutional, tax, contract, and trust laws that affect the set up and operation of charities, foundations, social enterprises and other philanthropic endeavours in Greater China with a comparison to Western legal frameworks. International best practices in policies, legal framework and systems on civil society, philanthropy, fund management, impact investing and NPOs will be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **MNPM7007 Talent management and strategic leadership for nonprofit organisations (6 credits)**

Talent management has emerged in the field of human resources as a key strategy for improving how an organisation functions. It is a set of processes designed to manage, recruit, develop, motivate and retain a workforce with the goal of creating a sustainable, highly responsive and performance driven organisation. Topics covered include identifying a competency-based, integrated talent management system, volunteer recruitment and management, and promoting organisational values-based behavioral themes. Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **MNPM7008 NGO Board governance and development (6 credits)**

This course presents an overview of nonprofit governance and issues of accountability that affect organisational performance from the structure, functions and composition of Boards to the individual fiduciary responsibility of each member. Topics covered include best practices on Board selection based on competency modelling; Board training and development, including working with cross-sectoral partners; collaboration and consensus building, how to assess Board performance and transformation of Boards.

Assessment: 100% coursework

### **MNPM7009 Contemporary issues in effective philanthropy (6 credits)**

With international trends of establishing individual, corporate, family and community foundations, nonprofit and philanthropic organisations mushroom, especially in the Asia-Pacific area which share a culture of communal altruism and enjoy a steady economic development. The core values of modern philanthropy are examined along with the effects of ecological, historical, and social processes that influence traditions of giving in contemporary societies. The course delves into current issues and tensions around accountability, legitimacy, and the effectiveness of philanthropic institutions with consideration towards future trends. Effective philanthropy looks for impactful investments with a desire for genuine social change. This course examines the ways in which donors can distribute money through the analysis of different strategies, concepts and frameworks, along with implications for grantees and ultimately those funding recipients. Topics covered include high-impact philanthropy; developing metrics for measuring impact; strategic philanthropy; and the ethics of giving.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **MNPM7010 Fund development and financial management for nonprofit organisations (6 credits)**

A major priority for nonprofit organisations is securing funds in support of noble goals and programmes. This course covers the fundamentals of fund development and diversifying sources of income as part of an organisation's strategy to build up capacity for sustainable, long-term growth. The use of financial information in organisational planning, implementation, control, reporting, and analysis are essential to the smooth operation of nonprofit organisations. Topics to be covered include techniques for developing successful fundraising strategies and campaigns; examination of donor behaviour and giving methodologies; assessing various potential sources and types of support; prospecting and building relationships; ethics and fund stewardship; and understanding external issues with potential to impact fund development and organisational performance; as well as accounting, budgeting, preparing and analysing financial statements, and using analytical tools in financial-decision making to improve organisational performance.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **MNPM7011 Social entrepreneurship and innovation (6 credits)**

Social entrepreneurship is about advancing long-term social change through technological innovative solutions and is a rapidly developing and changing field that constitutes different activities and goals depending on whether one is from the private, nonprofit or public sector. This course analyses the strengths and limitations of social entrepreneurship and social businesses, from a comparative perspective, as a tool for achieving significant lasting social change within nonprofit organisations. It explores the different theories, concepts, frameworks, guidelines and measurement tools, such as impact investing and SORI for effective social entrepreneurship and innovation with an eye towards sustainability of such solutions.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **MNPM7012 Brand building and social marketing (6 credits)**

Nonprofit organisations rely heavily on community good-will and public engagement to attain desirable social goals. Brand building and public relations can attract financial support, consumer and organisation loyalty, as well as creditability and talents. Social marketing is the application of marketing concepts and techniques to influence specific behaviors for social good. This course adopts a mode of professional practicum to cover the concepts and tools for nonprofit to design, implement and manage marketing strategies consistent with the social values and positioning of the organisation and supporting brand building. Students will learn how to conduct competitive analyses and market segmentation;

understand target audience needs; develop and launch new offerings; explore opportunities for social entrepreneurship and product development; and understand and adapt marketing philosophies to threats and opportunities in the current environment. Assessment: 100% coursework

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### ***Capstone Experience Course***

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#### **MNPM7013 Capstone in nonprofit management (12 credits)**

The capstone project enables students to integrate what they have learned from the programme and demonstrate their ability to analyse critical issues, mobilise resources and build creative synergy in strategic nonprofit management. Students will attend a workshop as part of capstone and through active participation with distinguished academics, entrepreneurs and practitioners in the field, will develop expertise in those skills, tools and competencies essential to leading effective and efficient nonprofit organisations. Topics covered in the workshop include managing interpersonal and group conflicts; advocating for social change; information strategy in the digital age; and the art of networking and forming strategic alliances. Students will then work in small groups or on individual basis to complete a professional project. A topic is selected in consultation with relevant teaching staff by the end of the first month of the final academic year of study. The project is then researched, written and submitted for examination by the end of the final academic year.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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## **PSYCHOLOGY**

The Department of Psychology offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Psychology. The programme is primarily designed for candidates with an honours degree in a discipline other than psychology.

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## **CURRICULUM**

### **For candidates admitted in or after 2016-2017**

1. Candidates are required to complete 60 credits including eight courses (6 credits each) and a dissertation (12 credits) as listed below:

#### Research methods and core psychology courses

- PSYC7301 Introduction to research methods in psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC7302 Research and quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC7303 Biological psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC7304 Cognitive psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC7305 Developmental psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC7306 Personality psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC7307 Social psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC7309 Abnormal psychology (6 credits)

#### Research dissertation (Capstone Experience course)

- PSYC7308 Dissertation in psychology (12 credits)

2. Full-time candidates are required to take four courses in each of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semesters, in addition to a full-year dissertation course. Part-time candidates are required to take five courses in the 1<sup>st</sup> year and, in addition to the dissertation course, three courses in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of study. Any variations from this pattern are subject to the approval of the Programme Director.

3. For the research methods and core psychology courses, candidates are required to participate in the problem-based inquiry for each course. In preparation, they should complete the required assigned readings and are encouraged to engage in self-directed learning by reading additional self-selected relevant materials.
4. In addition to the eight courses, each candidate is required to write a dissertation on an approved topic under the supervision of a faculty member in his/her final year of study. The dissertation shall be presented not later than June 30 of the final academic year of study.
5. Candidates who had taken similar courses at the postgraduate level within the last three years may apply for course exemption (except for the dissertation). If approved, they are required to take one of the postgraduate seminar courses (PSYC7021, PSYC7022, PSYC7023, PSYC6025) in lieu of each exempted course.

**For candidates admitted in 2015-2016**

1. Candidates are required to complete seven courses and a dissertation as listed below:

Research methods and core psychology courses

- PSYC7301 Introduction to research methods in psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC7302 Research and quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC7303 Biological psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC7304 Cognitive psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC7305 Developmental psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC7306 Personality psychology (6 credits)
- PSYC7307 Social psychology (6 credits)

Research dissertation (Capstone Experience course)

- PSYC7308 Dissertation in psychology (18 credits)

2. Full-time candidates are required to take four courses in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester, and three courses in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, in addition to a full-year dissertation course. Part-time candidates are required to take five courses in the 1<sup>st</sup> year and, in addition to the dissertation course, two courses in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of study. Any variations from this pattern are subject to the approval of the Programme Director.
3. For the research methods and core psychology courses, candidates are required to participate in the problem-based inquiry for each course. In preparation, they should complete the required assigned readings and are encouraged to engage in self-directed learning by reading additional self-selected relevant materials.
4. In addition to the seven courses, each candidate is required to write a dissertation on an approved topic under the supervision of a faculty member in his/her final year of study. The dissertation shall be presented not later than June 30 of the final academic year of study.

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

*Compulsory Courses*

**PSYC7301 Introduction to research methods in psychology (6 credits)**

This course adopts a practical approach to teaching the analytical aspects of research techniques in psychology. It is designed to provide students with the basic background in research design and data analysis. The logic of statistical inference and scientific explanation, the merits and limitations of

quantitative approaches to the study of psychological phenomena, and research ethics will be discussed.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **PSYC7302 Research and quantitative methods in psychology (6 credits)**

This course is designed to extend students' quantitative and research skills so that they are prepared to conduct their own independent empirical research. It will build on what students already learned in PSYC7301 to cover more advanced quantitative methods commonly used in Psychology.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Prerequisites: PSYC7301.

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### **PSYC7303 Biological psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction to biological aspects of behaviour. The topics include: biological bases of behaviour, development, learning, memory, and abnormal psychology; the nervous system; processes of brain maturation; psychophysiology.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **PSYC7304 Cognitive psychology (6 credits)**

This course covers how humans learn to deal with information from the environment in everyday life. Topics include various aspects of perception, attention, memory, and language. Students will be involved in conducting experiments on cognitive functioning as part of the coursework.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **PSYC7305 Developmental psychology (6 credits)**

This course covers current issues in developmental psychology and their applied implications. Students will actively solve problems and conduct mini projects related to selected topics in human development. There will be an emphasis on understanding basic concepts and theories of human development, research methodology and issues in developmental change, as well as biological, environmental and cognitive influences on development.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **PSYC7306 Personality psychology (6 credits)**

This course will critically examine a number of theories. The relationship of specific theories to practical applications, personality assessment and psychotherapeutic techniques may be included. The major aims of the course are to provide a survey of the breadth and complexity of this field and to provide a perspective from which to examine assumptions about human nature and the evaluation of behaviour.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **PSYC7307 Social psychology (6 credits)**

This course gives an overview of the field which studies the behaviour of individuals in social contexts. It covers topics in social thinking (e.g., social perception, social judgement, relationship between attitude and behaviour), social influence (e.g., cultural influence, conformity and obedience, persuasion, and group dynamics), and social relations (e.g., prejudice, aggression, interpersonal attraction, and altruistic behaviour). Current research issues in social psychology will form part of the discussion, and

students will be guided to apply the knowledge in real-life situations.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**PSYC7309 Abnormal psychology (6 credits)**

This course provides an introduction to the modern concepts of psychopathology. It covers topics on the core features, conceptualization, and treatment of major groups of mental disorders. Relevance in everyday life, cultural issues and ethical dilemmas will form part of the discussion.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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***Dissertation (Capstone Experience course)***

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**PSYC7308 Dissertation in psychology (12 credits)**

A candidate should conduct an independent empirical investigation of a psychological problem under the supervision of a faculty member. A successful dissertation should represent the result of the candidate's research which displays some originality and demonstrates a sound understanding of the field of study and the appropriate research methods. The dissertation should not exceed 15,000 words in length (excluding tables, figures, bibliographies, and appendices). The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval not later than March 31 of the final academic year of study, and the dissertation shall be presented not later than June 30 of the final academic year of study. Candidates shall submit a statement that the dissertation represents their own work undertaken after registration as candidates for the degree.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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***Replacement Courses (as replacement for the exempted courses only)***

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**PSYC7021 Postgraduate seminar in cognitive psychology (6 credits)**

This seminar course will cover recent developments in the field of Cognitive Psychology, concentrating particularly on theoretical debates and empirical results that are likely to have considerable impact on the field. Theoretical and empirical articles will be read each week, and discussed in class. Discussions will be led by both the instructor and students in the class.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**PSYC7022 Postgraduate seminar in social psychology (6 credits)**

This seminar course will cover recent developments in the field of Social Psychology, concentrating particularly on theoretical debates and empirical results that are likely to have considerable impact on the field. Theoretical and empirical articles will be read each week, and discussed in class. Discussions will be led by both the instructor and students in the class.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**PSYC7023 Postgraduate seminar in developmental psychology (6 credits)**

This seminar course will cover recent developments in the field of Developmental Psychology, concentrating particularly on theoretical debates and empirical results that are likely to have considerable impact on the field. Theoretical and empirical articles will be read each week, and

discussed in class. Discussions will be led by both the instructor and students in the class.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **PSYC6025 Postgraduate seminar in scientific writing for psychology (6 credits)**

This seminar course addresses writing skills in relation to Psychological research. Students will engage in a series of assignments designed to improve the fluency and quality of their writing. Particular efforts will be focused on improving the conceptual clarity of writing. Regular feedback will help students improve upon their writing skills.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **SOCIAL SERVICE MANAGEMENT**

The Department of Social Work and Social Administration offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Social Service Management. The programme shall extend over not less than two and not more than three academic years of part-time study, inclusive of intervening vacations.

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## **EXEMPTION**

Candidates may be granted exemption of up to three compulsory courses in recognition of studies completed in related areas. Exemption will only be considered in special circumstances and each application for exemption will be considered on its own merit. Candidates with exemption granted are required to take an additional elective course to replace the exempted compulsory course to meet the degree requirements.

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## **ASSESSMENTS**

To complete the programme, candidates shall satisfy the examiners in the assessment of courses as prescribed in the programme. Assessments of the courses may be conducted either by course assignments, or by presentation, or written tests, or a combination of both methods. The grading system follows the standard practice in the Faculty of Social Sciences.

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## **CURRICULUM**

Candidates are required to complete 60 credits, including 6 compulsory courses (6 credits each), and 4 elective courses (6 credits each) or 2 elective courses (6 credits each) with a dissertation (12 credits). Candidates can take elective courses from courses in other fields of study under the Master of Social Sciences (Behavioral Health, Gerontology, Mental Health, Social Work) programmes. Special approval from the respective Programme Directors for the courses in the above-mentioned fields of study is needed.

### **(A) *Compulsory courses***

Candidates shall complete the following courses.

SOWK6087 Managing people in human services (6 credits)

SOWK6139 Theoretical foundation of human service practices (6 credits)

SOWK6156 Financial planning and management for social service organizations (6 credits)

SOWK6217 Current social welfare policy issues (6 credits)

SOWK6289 Organizational analysis and strategic organizational management (6 credits)



**(B) *Elective courses***

Candidates shall complete four of the following courses.

- SOWK6132 Economics for social welfare (6 credits)
- SOWK6154 Marketing social welfare programmes and promoting community relations (6 credits)
- SOWK6185 Qualitative research methods (6 credits)
- SOWK6218 Fund raising and proposal development (6 credits)
- SOWK6256 Civil society organizations and social development (6 credits)
- SOWK6263 Quantitative research methods and statistical analysis (6 credits)
- SOWK6290 Social innovation and enterprise (6 credits)

and any other courses offered under Master of Social Sciences (Behavioral Health, Gerontology, Mental Health, Social Work) programmes

(Note: not all elective courses will necessarily be offered in a given year.)

***Capstone Experience Courses***

**(C) *Compulsory course***

Candidates opt for either dissertation or non-dissertation option shall complete the following course.

- SOWK6265 Research methods in human service (6 credits)

**(D) *Dissertation (Elective)***

Candidates opt for dissertation option shall complete the following course.

- SOWK9004 Dissertation (12 credits)

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**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

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***Compulsory Courses***

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**SOWK6087 Managing people in human services (6 credits)**

This course introduces concepts for the understanding of organization behaviour and emphasizes on the application of these concepts and the skills in managing people in non-profit making organizations. This course is particularly suitable for candidates who have not taken any management courses before but will be soon required to take up people management responsibility as a team leader or supervisor in the course of their own professional career development. The topics will include basic concepts on management functions, purposes of a managerial position and the roles of a manager; and skills in managing subordinates including motivation, morale, leadership, coaching, performance management and disciplinary actions.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**SOWK6139 Theoretical foundation of human service practices (6 credits)**

The knowledge base of human service practice comes from a wide spectrum of social science disciplines including psychology, sociology and political science. This course will provide the philosophical and conceptual basis for analyzing social problems and issues and translating these theoretical constructs into human service practice.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6156 Financial planning and management for human service organizations (6 credits)**

The course introduces and examines concepts and practices critical to good financial planning and management. The objective is to enable students to learn skills and strategies for budgeting. Emphasis will be given to the understanding of the financial activities and reports essential to management, as well as analysis and use of financial information in planning, budgeting and measuring results to promote the organization's mission and goals.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6217 Current social welfare policy issues (6 credits)**

This course provides a framework of analyzing and formulating social policy in the current social, political and economic environment. Current social welfare policy issues including social welfare planning mechanisms, welfare blue print, strategic framework for social welfare, district planning, and other relevant issues will be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6289 Organizational analysis and strategic organizational management (6 credits)**

This course aims at helping managers of human service organizations to be equipped with the knowledge in strategic management to deal with the current challenges arising from the rapidly changing public and social service scene. Topics may include strategic planning, quality management, risk management, change management, business process re-engineering, etc.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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***Elective Courses***

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**SOWK6132 Economics for social welfare (6 credits)**

This course aims to help students examine the use of concepts and theories from the economics discipline in analyzing social policies. As working knowledge of economic concepts and theories is essential for most professional roles in social administration, this course seeks both to convey the framework and concepts with which economists approach issues and to increase the likelihood that students will incorporate these in their own thinking about policy. Topics discussed will include the relationship between economic growth and social development, the role of the public sector in human service, the financing of social services, and the economic effects of social spending. Current topics such as the economics of ageing will also be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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**SOWK6154 Marketing social welfare programmes and promoting community relations (6 credits)**

As social welfare organizations increasingly adopt the business model of practice, they have to significantly promote their relationship and communication with their "customers" or service users through marketing their "products" and improving the community relations. This course provides students with some basic techniques in marketing and community relations with special emphasis on the social service sector.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6185 Qualitative research methods (6 credits)**

This course is designed for students with an interest in understanding all aspects of social life and social relations especially those who will undertake a dissertation study. Starting with the question what is reality, the course begins with an introduction to different perspectives on approaching reality, followed by an assessment of the general strengths and weaknesses of qualitative research in comparison with other conventions such as quantitative surveys. The lectures will focus on introducing the general process of ethnographic research and the variety of methods for data collection and analysis including ethnography, grounded theory, observation, interviewing, focus groups and narrative analysis, etc. Various cases will be used to demonstrate how qualitative research helps make meaningful policy and social work practice. Seminars will be organized around practical methodological issues with the objective of helping students proceed with their own research projects. Hands-on experience of a range of research techniques will also be provided.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6218 Fund raising and proposal development (6 credits)**

Securing funds for social services have become more and more competitive. Reducing reliance on any single source of income, NGOs have attempted to diversify sources of funding. Raising funds and writing proposals have been regular activities of NGOs. This course covers topics such as the concepts of philanthropy, the understanding of giving behavior (including annual giving and capital giving), cost-effectiveness of various fund raising activities, use of volunteers, building prospect relationships, stewardship (accountability and reporting), ethical issues of fund raising, making a business case for new initiatives, obtaining grant and project support, etc.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6256 Civil society organizations and social development (6 credits)**

The course examines theories and concepts related to the development of civil society. The important role of civic society organizations (CSOs) in developing civil society in Hong Kong and internationally will be examined. CSOs that work upon relevant public policy areas, including urban development, housing, social welfare, home affairs, sustainable development, etc., would be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6263 Quantitative research methods and statistical analysis (6 credits)**

This course covers various statistical analyses include single variable, bivariate, and multivariate analyses. Appropriate analyses for different types of data will be discussed and various techniques in scale development including reliability and factor analysis will be introduced. Apart from various multivariate linear modeling and path analysis, non-parametric analyses will also be introduced.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6290 Social innovation and enterprise (6 credits)**

The Hong Kong society and the world at large have unfolded multifarious new social phenomena that pose new challenges to professional social work practice. The social work professional community has to develop new insights in understanding the nature of such problems and challenges, and to accordingly devise timely and appropriate intervention to address these issues. This course aims at introducing the concept of social entrepreneurship and how it creates social change. We will examine the current global development of social entrepreneurship as well as local development and its development in Greater China and South East Asian countries. We will inspire our students to become an active agent in addressing the pressing social issues and making social change.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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## *Capstone Experience Courses*

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### **SOWK6265 Research methods in human service (6 credits)**

This course covers the whole research process from the development of research questions and hypotheses to the analysis of data as well as presentation of findings. Different data collection methods including qualitative data collection such as case study, interviews and focus groups; and quantitative data collection such as survey and experiment will be discussed. Data analysis on various types of data including secondary data will be examined. Students will be expected to integrate and apply the knowledge and skills they acquired through the programme by attending the oral presentation by the end of the first semester of the final academic year of study.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK9004 Dissertation (12 credits)**

The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval not later than five months before the formal submission of the dissertation **or** not later than March 31 of the same academic year of study. The dissertation shall be presented by not later than **August 1** of the same academic year of study. The dissertation shall be a critical study that demonstrates the application of research methodology to the investigation of problems relevant to the field of study, and shall not exceed 20,000 words in length.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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## **SOCIAL WORK**

The Department of Social Work and Social Administration offers a postgraduate programme leading to the degree of Master of Social Sciences in the field of Social Work. The programme offers two specialist streams, namely: Family work; and Integrated practice with young people. Candidates shall take relevant core courses under the stream. The programme shall extend over not less than two and not more than three academic years of part-time study, inclusive of intervening vacations.

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## **EXEMPTION**

Candidates may be granted exemption of up to three compulsory/core courses in recognition of studies completed in related areas. Exemption will only be considered in special circumstances and each application for exemption will be considered on its own merit. Candidates with exemption granted are required to take an additional elective course to replace the exempted compulsory/core course to meet the degree requirements.

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## **ASSESSMENTS**

To complete the programme, candidates shall satisfy the examiners in the assessment of courses as prescribed in the programme. Assessments of the courses may be conducted either by course assignments, or by presentations, or written tests, or a combination of both methods. The grading system follows the standard practice in the Faculty of Social Sciences.

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## **CURRICULUM**

Candidates are required to complete 60 credits, including 2 compulsory courses (6 credits each) and 3-4 core courses, plus 4 elective courses (6 credits each) or 2 elective courses (6 credits each) with a

dissertation (12 credits). Candidates can take elective courses from courses in other fields of study under the Master of Social Sciences (Behavioral Health, Gerontology, Mental Health, Social Service Management) programmes. Special approval from the respective Programme Directors for the courses in the above-mentioned fields of study is needed.

**(A) *Compulsory courses***

Candidates shall complete the following course.

SOWK6139 Theoretical foundation of human service practices (6 credits)

**(B) *Core courses***

Candidates shall complete courses from one of the following streams.

Family work stream

SOWK6216 Professional supervision in human service practices (6 credits)

SOWK6219 Family policy and service planning (6 credits)

SOWK6277 Family systems and family therapy I & II (12 credits)

Integrated practice with young people stream

SOWK6164 Counselling in the educational setting (6 credits)

SOWK6214 Children and youth mental health (6 credits)

SOWK6285 Advanced social work practice with children and youth (6 credits)

SOWK6287 Children and youth services and social policies (6 credits)

**(C) *Elective courses***

Dissertation option:

Candidates shall complete two of the following courses.

Non-dissertation option:

Candidates shall complete four of the following courses.

SOWK6022 Emotion-focused interventions: theory and practice (6 credits)

SOWK6062 The Satir model and family reconstruction (6 credits)

SOWK6102 Violence in intimate relationships (6 credits)

SOWK6127 Cognitive-behavioral interventions (6 credits)

SOWK6136 Adventure-Based Counselling: theory and practice (6 credits)

SOWK6145 Marital counseling (6 credits)

SOWK6261 Social work in school settings (6 credits)

SOWK6269 Child maltreatment and protection (6 credits)

SOWK6274 Theory and practice of positive psychology and strength-based interventions (6 credits)

SOWK6294 Use of expressive arts therapy in human services (6 credits)

SOWK6313 Knowledge and intervention for SEN children (6 credits)

and any other courses offered under Master of Social Sciences (Behavioral Health, Gerontology, Mental Health, Social Service Management) programmes

(Note: not all elective courses will necessarily be offered in a given year.)

***Capstone Experience Courses***

**(D) *Compulsory courses***

Candidates opt for either dissertation or non-dissertation option shall complete the following course.

SOWK6265 Research methods in human service (6 credits)

**(E) *Dissertation (Elective)***

Candidates opt for a dissertation option shall complete one of the following course.

SOWK9001 Dissertation (12 credits)

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

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### ***Compulsory Courses***

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#### **SOWK6139 Theoretical foundation of human service practices (6 credits)**

The knowledge base of human service practices comes from a wide spectrum of social science disciplines including psychology, sociology and political science. This course will provide the philosophical and conceptual basis for analyzing social problems and issues and translating these theoretical constructs into human service practices.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### ***Core Courses***

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#### **Family work stream**

#### **SOWK6216 Professional supervision in human service practices (6 credits)**

This course offers to students the knowledge and skills for practicing supervision in human services to meet the need of the beginning professionals in developing their knowledge and skills. This course focuses on the supporting and training functions of supervision. Students are expected to participate actively in class using their own experience to integrate the knowledge and skills in class.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **SOWK6219 Family policy and service planning (6 credits)**

This course provides a framework of analyzing and formulating social policy in the current social, political and economic environment. Current issues of family policies and the planning of family services will be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **SOWK6277 Family systems and family therapy I & II (12 credits)**

The practice of family therapy grew out of diverse influences within mental health, marital counseling and social sciences. The movement criticized "traditional mental health as placing too much emphasis on the individual as the site of the problem, too much emphasis on history to explain causality, too much emphasis on pathology to construct treatment strategies, and too much emphasis on objectivity." The history and classic family therapy models will be introduced in the first semester of this course. In addition to the general system theory, the postmodern movement continues to gain momentum within family therapy in early 90s. Solution-oriented brief family therapy and narrative therapy are the two major family therapy approaches deprived from the postmodern shift. In the second part of this course, the assumptions, concepts and hallmark techniques of these social constructionist family therapies will be intensively examined and drilled. The application and conceptual underpinnings of different family therapy approaches relevant to Hong Kong will also be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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## **Integrated practice with young people stream**

### **SOWK6164 Counselling in the educational setting (6 credits)**

This course offers an understanding of the developmental characteristics, needs and struggles of students in schools (children and adolescents). To understand the counselling process and acquire necessary skills in offering counselling to students are the main foci, such that students may be helped to cope better with their school life.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6214 Children and youth mental health (6 credits)**

This course focuses on an understanding of the mental health issues found among children and youth in Hong Kong. While developmental perspectives on child and adolescent development will be introduced, the course will also provide an overview of the prevalence and general features of different childhood and adolescent mental health problems. The course will also bear a practice focus and introduce to students the assessment, treatment and skills in engaging children and youth suffering from various mental health problems.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK6285 Advanced social work practice with children and youth (6 credits)**

This course will focus on the various approaches in working with young people experiencing different issues in their development. To facilitate the skill development, emphasis will be placed on experiential learning through the use of simulated services, games and role-play. Advanced social work practice includes motivational interviewing, debriefing, youth development intervention protocol design, and multi-disciplinary cooperation for various youth problems.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6287 Children and youth services and social policies (6 credits)**

This course will begin with a critical review of the current state of theory and cutting edge research on child development, youth development and delinquency. It will then go on to evaluate existing policies and services directed at child, youth and youth at risk. Finally it will explore current issues in the field of youth policy. Special emphasis will be given to the relevance of these issues and programmes within the Hong Kong context.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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## ***Elective Courses***

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### **SOWK6022 Emotion-focused interventions: theory and practice (6 credits)**

Social work practice recognizes the importance of the role of emotions in therapeutic change. This course will begin with a review of current theories and research on emotion-focused interventions before focusing on the application of these theories in the local setting. This is followed by an examination of the awareness, the arousal, and reorganization of the emotions in counselling and dynamics and personal reflections, students will reexamine the impact of their families on them, to shape and reshape their current and future family life to their greater satisfaction, and to unlock the treasure of this great resource, which has become the first and last emotional refuge in modern living.

Assessment: 100% coursework

### **SOWK6102 Violence in intimate relationships (6 credits)**

The issue of violence in intimate relationships (e.g. domestic violence & violence in dating) is examined through multi-lenses. The course introduces the nature of the different kinds of violence in intimate relationships. The knowledge and skills necessary to understand the dynamics of violent behavior are taught. How to assess violence, how to identify appropriate intervention strategies, and how to apply such related skills are examined. A particular emphasis is given to the relationship between violence and gender issues.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK6127 Cognitive-behavioral interventions (6 credits)**

The course introduces students to the Beck's cognitive-behaviour therapy model in working with people with depression and anxieties. A case process approach will be adopted to provide a stage-by-stage and step-by-step understanding of the theory and practice of Beck's CBT. Other CBT models for working with people with psychosis, OCD, pathological gambling, substance abuse and etc. will also be discussed in class. Invited speakers will share their local experiences in using CBT for working with Chinese clients in Hong Kong.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6136 Adventure-Based Counselling: theory and practice (6 credits)**

Adventure-Based Counselling (ABC) is a popular contemporary approach employed to work with people in order to assist their building and/or promoting of a positive self-concept, improve their interpersonal relationship and enhance their problem-solving abilities. Although it is especially popular among working with young people, it can also be used in working with different age groups, families and couples. This course aims to introduce the basic theories and practices of ABC. Besides introducing the theoretical base of the approach, how to design and run sessions of ABC will also be taught. Some micro skills in conducting ABC sessions will be introduced. Last, but not least, the quality of an ABC facilitator and the ethical considerations in employing ABC to work with people will be discussed in the course. The format of the course includes lectures, seminars and ABC workshops for candidates to participate and experience the process.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK6145 Marital counseling (6 credits)**

This course will examine the various issues brought up by couples as they work towards conciliation or reconciliation in their marriage. The psychodynamic, social learning and system approaches will provide the basic foundation concepts. These will be examined for their assessment and intervention focus and strategies, for their contribution in work with marriage difficulties whether they arise from personal vulnerabilities, reciprocal and intergenerational concerns and clashes, communication impasses or intimacy issues.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6261 Social work in school settings (6 credits)**

The objective of school counselling is to enhance students' whole person development through the provision of remedial, preventive and developmental services in school settings. Phenomena such as students' suicide, physical and sexual abuse, mental health issues, study problems and school violence pose great challenges to a school counsellor. Adopting the ecological perspective, this course will examine: the service provision of school guidance and counselling service in Hong Kong, the multiple roles of a school counsellor, the establishment of collaborative relationship with school personnel, the



application of practice theories and intervention strategies to individual and school-based family counselling, and the implementation of comprehensive school guidance and counselling programmes. By participating in this course, social work students will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to be a competent school counsellor.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK6269 Child maltreatment and protection (6 credits)**

Every child has the right to a life free from violence. Unfortunately, millions of children around the world are the victims of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, as well as global neglect. Child maltreatment is a serious public health problem with a negative impact on the victims, their families and societies as a whole. The prevalence and risk factors of child maltreatment will be examined in the course. Effective prevention and intervention strategies will be investigated.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **SOWK6274 Theory and practice of positive psychology and strength-based interventions (6 credits)**

Traditionally counseling psychology and psychotherapy have focused on the assessment and intervention of problems and disorders. The recent development of positive psychology and strength-based interventions led by prominent psychologists such as Martin Seligman have revoked this prevalent pattern and made a revolutionary turn. Positive psychology emphasizes the discovery and cultivation of human strengths and potential, and strength-based interventions focus on positive goal setting and development of strengths such as resilience, hope, optimism, engagement, gratitude and positive emotions. This course will critically review the theory and practice of positive psychology and strength-based interventions including the constructs of happiness, wellness, optimism, resilience, flow, and hope, etc. Cultural factors in positive psychology and strength-based interventions in the local settings will be examined. Students will have the chance to develop an indigenous project of positive psychology in this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6294 Use of expressive arts therapy in human services (6 credits)**

Art is a natural form of communication that offers a way to expressive feelings and thoughts in a manner that is less inhibiting than solely verbal means. Expressive arts therapy has powerful healing potentials, enabling self-discovery, expression of feelings, stimulating insight, and as a means for relaxation and communication. Expressive arts therapy can be utilized as a viable intervention in the field of social work, developing people holistically and connecting the body, mind and spirit. This course will provide an opportunity for the students to experience the use of expressive arts therapy for personal growth and inner exploration. Theory will be introduced through lectures and integrated within experiential exercises and sharing of reflections. The integration of expressive arts therapy within the practice of individual counselling and group work will be shared through case studies, life demonstrations and video analysis. Various arts media will be introduced in this course e.g. visual art, craft work, music, dramatic exercises, and body movement giving the students firsthand experience in understanding how to use different art forms with potential clients.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### **SOWK6313 Knowledge and intervention for SEN children (6 credits)**

In light of increasing number of special educational needs (SEN) children in school settings, this course provides basic knowledge and intervention strategies for social workers working in family services, schools and integrated youth services settings. Attention is drawn to the assessments and the needs of

these children, the needs of families, and the roles of different professionals with related multi-disciplinary collaboration. Students are expected to understand the social workers' roles in working with SEN children. More importantly, various types of interventions, such as applied behavioral analysis, social story and learning strategies are discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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### *Capstone Experience Courses*

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#### **SOWK6265 Research methods in human service (6 credits)**

This course covers the whole research process from the development of research questions and hypotheses to the analysis of data as well as presentation of findings. Different data collection methods including qualitative data collection such as case study, interviews and focus groups; and quantitative data collection such as survey and experiment will be discussed. Data analysis on various types of data including secondary data will be examined. Students will be expected to integrate and apply the knowledge and skills they acquired through the programme by attending the oral presentation by the end of the first semester of the final academic year of study.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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#### **SOWK9001 Dissertation (12 credits)**

The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval not later than five months before the formal submission of the dissertation **or** not later than March 31 of the same academic year of study. The dissertation shall be presented by not later than **August 1** of the same academic year of study. The dissertation shall be a critical study that demonstrates the application of research methodology to the investigation of problems relevant to the field of study, and shall not exceed 20,000 words in length.

Assessment: 100% coursework

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