

## **REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF EDUCATION (MEd)**

*(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.

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### **Ed21 Admission requirements**

To be eligible for admission to the degree of Master of Education, a candidate

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
  - (b) shall hold a Bachelor's degree of this University or a qualification of equivalent standard from this University or another comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
  - (c) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination, if required; and
  - (d) 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).
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### **Ed22 Qualifying examination**

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test candidates' formal academic ability or their ability to follow the curriculum prescribed.
  - (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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### **Ed23 Period of study**

The curriculum shall normally extend over one academic year of full-time study, two consecutive academic years of part-time study, or fourteen consecutive months of blended learning mode of study for the specialism of Content and Language Integrated Learning (blended learning mode). Candidates shall not be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of two consecutive academic years of full-time study, four consecutive academic years of part-time study, or twenty-six consecutive months of blended learning mode of study for the specialism of Content and Language Integrated Learning (blended learning mode), unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of the Faculty. Candidates who have been granted leave of absence are also required to complete their study within the specified maximum period.

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### **Ed24 Curriculum requirements**

To complete the curriculum, candidates shall

- (c) satisfy the requirements prescribed in TPG 6 of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
  - (d) follow instruction in the syllabuses prescribed and complete all specified work as required;
  - (e) satisfy the examiners in all assessment tasks as may be required;
  - (f) complete and present a satisfactory dissertation or project on an approved topic; and
  - (g) satisfy the examiners in an oral examination, if required.
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## **Ed25      Advanced standing and credit transfer**

- (a) Advanced standing may be granted to candidates who have successfully completed one or more courses in the Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Educational Studies curriculum of this University or another qualification of equivalent standard accepted for this purpose.
  - (b) Candidates may be granted advanced standing subject to the following conditions:
    - (i) the course(s) is appropriate for the strand applied for; and
    - (ii) the application for advanced standing is received within five years of successful completion of the relevant courses or graduation from the Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Educational Studies or another qualification of equivalent standard accepted for this purpose, whichever is later.
  - (c) 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:
    - (i) 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
    - (ii) 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.
  - (d) 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.
  - (e) Candidates who are awarded Advanced Standing will not be granted any further credit transfer for those studies for which Advanced Standing has been granted.
  - (f) Application for advanced standing shall be made prior to the commencement of the curriculum, and should be accompanied by copies of academic transcripts to support the application.
  - (g) 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 in accordance with this regulations and syllabuses.
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## **Ed26      Exemption**

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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## **Ed27      Dissertation**

- (a) Candidates who select the dissertation option shall
    - (i) submit the title of their dissertation for approval not later than six months before the formal submission of the dissertation; and
    - (ii) submit a statement that the dissertation represents their own work undertaken after registration as a candidate for the degree.
  - (b) The examiners may also prescribe an oral examination on the dissertation.
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## **Ed28      Assessment**

- (a) Candidates shall be assessed by diverse forms of assessment as prescribed by the examiners during the course of their studies.
- (b) Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat a course for which they have received a passing grade for the purpose of upgrading.

- (c) Courses in which candidates are given an F grade shall be recorded on the transcript of the candidate, together with the new grade if the candidate is re-assessed or repeats the failed course.
  - (d) There shall be no appeal against the results of examinations and all other forms of assessment.
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**Ed29 Re-assessment**

- (a) Candidates who have failed to satisfy the examiners in any part of the assessment at the first attempt may be permitted to present themselves for re-assessment in the failed course(s) as determined by the Board of Examiners.
    - (i) undergoing re-assessment/re-examination in the failed course to be held no later than the end of the following semester (not including the summer semester); or
    - (ii) re-submitting failed coursework, without having to repeat the same course of instruction; or
    - (iii) repeating the failed course by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessments; or
    - (iv) for elective courses, taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements.
  - (b) Candidates who have presented a dissertation which has failed to satisfy the examiners at the first attempt may be permitted to re-present the dissertation within a period of not more than 12 months after it is deemed unsatisfactory.
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**Ed30 Discontinuation**

Unless otherwise permitted by the Board of the Faculty, candidates shall be recommended for discontinuation of their studies, if they have:

- (a) failed to satisfy the examiners upon re-assessment of a course, a project or a dissertation; or
  - (b) exceeded the maximum period of registration specified in Regulation Ed23.
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**Ed31 Grading system**

Individual courses shall be graded according to the following grading system:

<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

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**Ed32 Award of degree**

- (a) To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Education, candidates shall
    - (i) comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula; and
    - (ii) complete the curriculum and satisfy the examiners in accordance with these regulations and the syllabuses.
  - (b) 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 EDUCATION (MEd)

The degree of Master of Education (MEd) is a postgraduate degree awarded for the satisfactory completion of a prescribed programme in one of the following strands:

- I. GENERALIST STRAND:  
Educational Studies
  
- II. SPECIALIST STRAND\* (subject to change):
  1. Chinese Language and Literature
  2. Chinese Language Education
  3. Comparative and Global Studies in Education and Development
  4. Content and Language Integrated Learning
  5. Curriculum and Pedagogy
  6. Education and Society in China
  7. Educational Administration and Management
  8. English Language Education
  9. Gifted Education and Talent Development
  10. Health Professions Education
  11. Higher Education
  12. Psychological Studies in Education
  13. Science Education
  14. STEM Education
  15. Teaching Chinese as a Second Language
  16. Teaching of Science in an International Context

(\* *Not all specialisms may necessarily be offered every year.*)

Candidates are required to complete a total of 60 credits. The total prescribed work includes self-study, library and field research where appropriate, online work such as forum discussion, e-portfolio production, etc.

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### I. GENERALIST STRAND

The **Generalist Strand** consists of a core course in educational studies, a research methods course (12 credits), and *either* 6 general elective course plus a project (6 credits each), *or* 4 general elective courses (6 credits each) plus a dissertation (18 credits).

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#### **MEDD6014 Methods of research and enquiry** (12 credits)

Candidates are provided with a systematic introduction to educational research methods, with a particular emphasis on critical reading and understanding of a variety of approaches to research in education, including methods of data collection and analysis. It is a combination of lectures, workshops and seminars in the aspects of research skills training.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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#### **MEDD6751 Educational studies** (6 credits)

This Educational Studies specialism combines a core course in the foundations of education with a flexible course structure. The core course introduces participants to three overlapping domains of inquiry. The first examines the ways in which education reinforces, reproduces, or challenges educational inequality by exploring a number of key themes: type and organisation of schooling, medium of instruction, private education, special educational needs and inclusive education, language, and student background (by gender, social and economic status and ethnicity). The second investigates, from a comparative perspective, the major

features and current issues in educational systems worldwide, including Hong Kong. The third domain consists of the analysis, clarification, and re-imagining of the central concepts and assumptions upon which our understanding of education is based, drawing on the sociology of education. In this course we draw on a broad range of research and practice to examine the roles of governmental policies supra-national institutions, interested stakeholders (e.g. families), and public and private educational institutions in shaping and/or reproducing patterns of social and economic inequality. The overall objective of the course is to prepare participants for careers as educational entrepreneurs, innovators, and policy reformers and enlighten them about the relevance and understanding of patterns of reproduction of inequalities in education and to search for opportunities to disrupt these patterns. Several cases will be analysed from abroad and in Hong Kong. This course will help those who work within schools and other educational organisations to introduce and sustain positive change.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **MEDD8998 Project (6 credits) (Capstone Experience)**

The project consists of independent study and a negotiated assignment, normally between 4,000 and 5,000 words in length, on an approved topic which builds on the candidate's prior studies in education.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **MEDD8999 Dissertation (18 credits) (Capstone Experience)**

The dissertation is normally between 12,000 and 20,000 words in length depending on the nature of the study, on an approved topic in the specialist area. Candidates are required to participate in a series of dissertation seminars.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **II. SPECIALIST STRAND**

Majority of the specialisms in the **Specialist Strand** consists of a research methods course (12 credits), 4 specialist courses (6 credits each), and *either* 1 elective course (6 credits) plus the dissertation (18 credits), *or* 3 elective courses plus a project (6 credits each).

The exceptions are the specialisms of Chinese Language and Literature and Teaching and Learning Chinese Language, which do not have the dissertation option. Candidates are required to complete a research methods course (12 credits), 4 specialist courses, 3 specialist elective courses and a project (6 credits each). Candidates are required to complete a research methods course (12 credits), 4 specialist courses (6 credits each), 1 specialist elective course (6 credits) and a dissertation (18 credits).

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### **MEDD6014 Methods of research and enquiry (12 credits)**

Candidates are provided with a systematic introduction to educational research methods, with a particular emphasis on critical reading and understanding of a variety of approaches to research in education, including methods of data collection and analysis. It is a combination of lectures, workshops and seminars in the aspects of research skills training.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **MEDD8998 Project (6 credits) (Capstone Experience)**

The project consists of independent study and a negotiated assignment, normally between 4,000 and 5,000 words in length, on an approved topic which builds on the candidate's prior studies in education.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **MEDD8999 Dissertation (18 credits) (Capstone Experience)**

The dissertation is normally between 12,000 and 20,000 words in length depending on the nature of the study, on an approved topic in the specialist area. Candidates are required to participate in a series of dissertation seminars. The dissertation option is not available for the Chinese Language Literature, the English Language Studies and the Teaching and Learning Chinese Language specialisms.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **1. CHINESE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE 中國語言及文學**

The specialism aims to provide teachers of Chinese language and literature with approved subject knowledge training appropriate to the postgraduate level, including studies in Chinese language, literature and culture. The specialism focuses in particular on the development of participants' knowledge about various aspects of both modern and classical Chinese language, including phonology, grammar, lexis and discourse, as well as modern and classical Chinese literature, and Chinese culture, aiming to equip them with the knowledge and expertise necessary for higher-level teaching in the field of Chinese language and literature.

Participants registered for this specialism are required to take the following 4 specialist courses and 3 electives from the list of specialist elective courses for this specialism, or other general electives as approved by the Specialism Coordinator. Those elective courses, however, may not necessarily be offered every year.

### **MEDD6682 Modern Chinese literature [現代文學] (6 credits)**

This course examines in depth high-quality modern Chinese poetry, prose, drama, and fiction of the twentieth century. It aims to explore the meaning of modernity of Chinese literature from literary, social, and political perspectives. It also addresses the development of different genres and literary schools. Participants will read representative works of modern Chinese writers from Mainland China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. Selected topics related to styles and structures of texts, social and political circumstances, literary theories and thoughts will also be discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD6684 Chinese culture [中國文化] (6 credits)**

This course provides an in-depth view of the essence of Chinese culture and focuses on its value systems. Topics include the core concepts in Chinese philosophy, ethics, religion, rituals, fine art, folk art, literature, science, technology, and social structure. Objectives of this course are: (1) Helping students acquire essential cultural knowledge; (2) Acquainting students with the traditional thinking and wisdom of the Chinese people, especially those revealing Confucianism and Taoism; and (3) Facilitating students to reflect on the value systems of Chinese culture.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD6686 Classical Chinese literature [古典文學] (6 credits)**

This course provides an in-depth view of the essence of classical Chinese literature. Special emphasis is placed on major classical Chinese genres and their salient styles and schools, including poetry, prose, fiction, and drama. Students will participate in learning through interactive discussions. Objectives of this course are: (1) Helping students achieve a deep understanding of various classical Chinese genres; (2) acquainting students with the latest trend of study in classical Chinese literature; and (3) developing students' capability of analyzing classical Chinese literature.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD6689 Chinese fiction and creative writing [小說與創意寫作] (6 credits)**

This course integrates the study of fiction with creative writing. Selected works of modern Chinese fiction will be analyzed in terms of narrative theories and techniques such as structure, character, voice, and point of

view. More importantly, this course helps students develop their capacity to produce insightful interpretations of what they read. The learning is then reinforced by creative writing. Based on the selected works, students will write their own exercises in various genres to respond to their reading of fiction. Accordingly, students can have thorough understanding of the literary works and can apply this model to their teaching of Chinese. Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **Specialist Elective Courses**

#### **MEDD6691 Translation literature [翻譯文學] (6 credits)**

This course aims at helping students to read systemically literary pieces, which were translated into Chinese. Those works include European, American, and Russian poetry, fiction, and drama. By reading classics of world literature, students are able to: (1) understand the deep meaning of literature, especially the exploration of human nature; (2) appreciate different literary styles, genres, and techniques; (3) learn cultures and values of different countries from various perspectives. The course will introduce the general development of Western literature and help students select appropriate translation versions. Students will discuss the themes, language, and cultural characteristics of the translations through reading aloud, creative drama, and literary journals. Similarities and differences between the translated literary texts and relevant Chinese literary works as well as adapted films will also be analyzed. Students will therefore better understand the nature of literature and develop their critical thinking through comparison.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

#### **MEDD8101 Modern Chinese language and text appreciation [現代漢語與文本賞析] (6 credits)**

This course provides an innovative approach to studying language arts and appreciating texts. Topics include Chinese phonology, lexis, semantics, grammar, rhetoric, modern genre of Standard Modern Chinese (SMC), and practical applications of linguistics. Students can employ their knowledge of modern Chinese language in literature, e.g. linguistic stylistics, music in meter of poetry, speech act theory, and lexical cohesion in modern literary texts. This approach of discourse analysis will also be applied to the reading of non-literary texts such as newspaper articles, advertisements, and all kinds of discursive prose.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

#### **MEDD7117 Drama appreciation and teaching (6 credits)**

The course provides students with the opportunity to appreciate classic Western drama and modern Chinese plays. It aims to familiarize students with the key concepts of drama such as themes, characters, actions, the art of language, and the underlying cultural meaning. Students will compare related works and seek to understand the main schools in dramatic history. The course also explores theories of drama developed from the West, for example, imitation, the concept behind tragedy and comedy, dramatic structure, and the art of the theatre as an aesthetic experience. Another crucial element of this course is the teaching of drama. This course encourages critical engagement and creation in drama learning. Students will enhance their learning and pedagogy by practicing useful skills such as table-read, stage performance, dramatic strategies, monologue, comparative reading, playwriting, and adaptation. By taking this course, learners will be equipped with the knowledge to teach electives “Appreciation of Drama Literature” and “Drama Workshop” in the NSS Chinese curriculum, as well as language and literature classes in primary schools. Learners can also transfer the approaches to educational drama into their teaching and learning of other subject areas, such as History, Liberal Studies, and Civic Education, for greater learning motivation and more in-depth understanding of the topics. Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## 2. CHINESE LANGUAGE EDUCATION 中國語文教育

This specialism provides teachers, language educators and teacher educators with theoretical knowledge and the latest research developments in Chinese linguistics and language education and enhances their pedagogical skills. This specialism also aims to promote research relevant to language in education in Hong Kong.

### **MEDD8853 The Chinese language curriculum and its School-based application [中國語文課程與校本課程的應用] (6 credits)**

This course introduces the development, implementation, dissemination and evaluation of the Chinese Language curriculum with reference to classical and new curriculum models. This course will provide case studies of school-based Chinese Language curriculum in Hong Kong primary and secondary schools to navigate the new curriculum landscape. The students will learn what it really takes to structure, align, integrate, and evaluate quality Chinese language curriculum for savvy curriculum leadership in the 21st century.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD8854 Assessment in Chinese language education [中國語文教育: 評估] (6 credits)**

This course introduces important concepts of assessments including norm-referenced and criterion-referenced tests, formative assessment, and summative assessment, adaptive assessment, assessment of learning, assessment for learning, and assessment as learning. Students are encouraged to adopt inquiry modes to investigate the relationship between these concepts in the field of Chinese language education. The course also provides practical modes and strategies, including constructing and evaluating Chinese language tests, interpretation and applications of test scores, peer and self-assessment, portfolio building, rubrics design, etc. This course gives practices school-based assessment and qualitative feedback system to focus more on individual students' development progress in learning Chinese language.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD8855 Psycholinguistic and the Chinese language learning process [心理語言學及中國語文學習過程] (6 credits)**

This course aims at preparing students and professionals with the conceptual ground of psycholinguistics in understanding the acquisition, comprehension and production of Chinese language. It examines children's ability to learn language, Chinese character recognition, the processes of reading, composing processes, creativity and second language acquisition. This course combines empirical data and a synthesis of recent research in Chinese psycholinguistics to deliver cutting-edge instructions to students. Students are encouraged to critically analyze research and theory from a psycholinguistics perspective.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD88856 Chinese Reading Comprehension Instruction: Theories and Practices [中文閱讀理解教學理論與實踐] (6 credits)**

Reading comprehension is a crucial part of Chinese language and literature instruction. This course provides students' pedagogical context knowledge for enhancing Chinese students' reading comprehension ability in their classrooms. The course introduces various theories and practices on reading processes, reading motivation and reading strategies. Students also learn techniques for examining, promoting and teaching Chinese reading comprehension. In this course, students will be given the opportunity to apply reading theories to classroom context and learn how to motivate students to read and how to enhance students' higher order reading ability.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## 3. COMPARATIVE AND GLOBAL STUDIES IN EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Comparison is a fundamental tool for all forms of enquiry. When applied to education in an international setting, it assists in identification of factors which shape education systems, processes and outcomes, and



instruments for improvement. The comparisons in this specialism will be framed by theories and understandings of the forces of globalisation. These forces bring benefits for many people, but can also have negative dimensions. The specialism will examine forces of continuity and change and the implications for educators. It will also focus on the nature of development in an international context and on the role of education in the processes of development. This will include analysis of all levels of formal education (early childhood to higher education), and various types of non-formal education. It will include particular reference to UNESCO's work in the context of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**MEDD6095 Addressing the global-local nexus in education (6 credits)**

This course will develop students' understandings of both local and global education policies and practices. Adopting a 'glocalisation' perspective, it will stress a new localism that stands as an act of resistance against globalisation and rootlessness to reclaim the significance of the local in the global age. Drawing on local experiences and phenomena as a source of learning, this course will introduce students to an understanding of education that is conscious of local places to enable them to be inducted into the knowledge and patterns of behaviour associated with responsible community engagement.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD6097 Themes and approaches in the field of comparative education (6 credits)**

This course will introduce students to the history and nature of comparative education as a field of enquiry. It will note the principal dimensions of the field as conventionally defined in the literature on the topic, and will consider some variations in emphasis in scholarly communities and other actors in different parts of the world. The course will also consider the nature and contents of some key vehicles for publishing comparative education research, including journals, books and reports by international agencies. The course will conclude with an overview of the nature and directions of the field.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD6098 Critical issues in educational reform (6 credits)**

This course examines different themes, contexts, and theories regarding educational reform from an international comparative and historical perspective. The course begins with an exploration of the concepts of policy and reform, aligned with their emergence vis à vis the development of schooling and education. This will be associated to what knowledge is, what knowledge is taught, and where and how it is taught. The main idea underlines that knowledge is not a taken-for-granted matter, but rather an interpreted and constructed phenomenon. A discussion on knowledge as a public and private good emerges to better articulate the discussion on globalization, privatization and choice, which have been at the forefront of educational policy and reform in the past two decades. This sets the foundations to discuss policy design and implementation, and the role of agents in both processes. Issues of educational quality, equity, efficiency, accountability, and planning will be discussed, focusing on many realities across the world.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD6099 Education for sustainable development (6 credits)**

This course examines education and sustainable development (ESD) from a comparative perspective. The course raises the question what sustainable development means in practice within economic, environmental, political and cultural domains, and traces the history of the concept. Additionally, the course considers education in relation to sustainable development in a variety of geographical contexts. In Hong Kong and many other high-income societies, education for sustainable development is often related to environmental education. However, in low-income contexts (especially in Africa and Asia) it commonly refers to education that helps to meet local social, political, and economic needs and empowers local people and communities. A gap can be identified in these latter contexts, between "education for sustainable development" as a global concept, versus "sustainable educational development" from a local perspective. Students will analyse a variety of approaches to education for sustainable development, to understand the ways in which concepts can be developed and applied in practice in a range of contexts.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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#### **4. CONTENT AND LANGUAGE INTEGRATED LEARNING**

The CLIL specialism aims to cater for more content and language in-service and pre-service teachers in Hong Kong, Mainland China as well as overseas. It is designed for subject teachers who are directly involved in English medium instruction (EMI) and English language teachers who have a role to play in supporting EMI content teaching. It equips participants with the linguistic principles and knowledge of practice to develop and implement language-across-the-curriculum initiatives in schools to improve both English academic literacy and EMI content instruction.

##### **MEDD8843 Textual analysis I: Academic literacies in science and mathematics (6 credits)**

This course focuses on raising both content teachers' and English teachers' academic language awareness. Specifically it aims to introduce course participants to different kinds of academic genres characteristic of the disciplines of science and mathematics. The genre patterns as well as grammatical and lexical features specific to different kinds of academic genres in science and mathematics are systematically analysed. The ultimate aim is to equip course participants with the knowledge and skills needed to identify and describe the various language demands of academic texts and tasks in the disciplines of sciences and mathematics and to develop and enhance language support to better scaffold learners' understanding of academic content in English. Assessment: 100% coursework.

##### **MEDD8844 Textual analysis II: Academic literacies in the social sciences and humanities (6 credits)**

This course focuses on raising both content teachers' and English teachers' academic language awareness. Specifically it aims to introduce course participants to different kinds of academic genres characteristic of the disciplines of the social sciences and humanities. The genre patterns as well as grammatical and lexical features specific to different kinds of academic genres in the social sciences and humanities are systematically analysed. The ultimate aim is to equip course participants with the knowledge and skills needed to identify and describe the various language demands of academic texts and tasks in the disciplines of the social sciences and humanities, and to develop and strengthen language support to better scaffold learners' understanding of academic content in English. Assessment: 100% coursework.

##### **MEDD8845 Principles and practice: Bridging pedagogy in content and language integrated learning (6 credits)**

This course focuses on introducing the principles and practice of bridging pedagogical approaches that are designed to assist ESL/EFL learners to develop the kind of academic literacies required in different subject disciplines. Specifically, it aims to introduce to both content and language teachers the principles and practice of socio-cultural scaffolding by making use of multi-media and multimodal resources and a range of linguistic bridging strategies. Assessment: 100% coursework.

##### **MEDD8846 Principles and practice: Course design in content and language integrated learning (6 credits)**

This course focuses on introducing the principles and practice of CLIL. It covers the historical development of the field by discussing the theories and practice of different related approaches including: content-based instruction (CBI), and content and language integrated learning (CLIL). Established research traditions of genre theories (e.g., the 'Genre Egg') and pedagogical theories (e.g., the 'Teaching and Learning Cycles', the 'Detailed Reading' approach) informing the work of CLIL are given emphasis. The different contexts in which these approaches have developed are also examined with a view to adapting/re-designing them to suit the local or new pedagogical contexts. Course participants are guided in expanding their capacity to adapt and design CLIL/LAC materials. Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## 5. CURRICULUM AND PEDAGOGY

The specialism aims to develop an advanced understanding (appropriate to the Master's level) and leadership in the field of curriculum studies. Specifically, students will follow specialist courses that explore ideas and theories in the areas of curriculum concepts and design, learning, assessment and pedagogy, curriculum policy and practice, curriculum implementation and evaluation.

### **MEDD6128 Curriculum conceptions and design (6 credits)**

This course aims to familiarise students with the field of curriculum studies and to identify some of its main theoretical perspectives and enduring issues. It introduces students to the main conceptions of curriculum and to the various ways these conceptions are categorised. It examines critically the basic tenets of these conceptions and explores their implications for curriculum design and analysis at systemic and school levels. Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD6131 Comparative perspectives on curriculum (6 credits)**

This course offers a comparative study of different approaches to curriculum around the world. It examines the question of how globalisation is impacting curriculum worldwide via curriculum reforms and assessment regimes versus localisation in different regional/country/system contexts. Critical historical and comparative perspectives on curriculum are developed through understanding the interdisciplinary perspectives shaping curriculum policy decisions in different systems. The question of globalisation will also be considered with reference to the students' experiences and background including Hong Kong. Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD8819 Linking curriculum to learning and pedagogy (6 credits)**

The course shows how more powerful ideas, more powerful educational practices and more powerful research methods can be developed by means of underlining the mutual dependence between learning and teaching, theory and practice, collective and individual, ideas and acts. It then critically reviews the role of learning, assessment and pedagogy and evaluates trends that are occurring in these areas globally and in Hong Kong. Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD8820 Curriculum implementation: Issues and challenges (6 credits)**

This course aims at developing the understanding of education professionals in the area of curriculum implementation and evaluation through a critical examination of the processes and stages of curriculum implementation as well as evaluation models. It specifically provides a critical analysis of the factors influencing curriculum implementation, the application of evaluation, the issues and challenges involved from multiple perspectives such as organisational, cultural, technological, ethical perspectives by connecting theory and practice. Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## 6. EDUCATION AND SOCIETY IN CHINA

This specialism aims to provide participants with sociological theories, contextual knowledge, and analytical skills to understand and analyse educational issues in China. The goal of the specialism is to cultivate in the participants the ability to critically analyse the influence of social, cultural, political, and economic forces on education in China. Specifically, participants will learn classical and contemporary sociological traditions, acquire a comprehensive knowledge about education in China, and engage in in-depth analysis of one or more focus issues. The specialism will help students to understand China in the global context and to distinguish the unique Chinese character of its educational development.

### **MEDD8802 Sociology of education: Classic and contemporary theories (6 credits)**

This course examines sociological theories, both classic and contemporary, in Western and Chinese contexts for the study of educational institutions and systems. The main objective of this course is to provide a

disciplinary grounding to students in the sociology of education. The course includes an examination and application of the main sociological concepts in various cultural and social contexts. The ultimate aim is to employ the sociology of education to strengthen conceptual skills for research development of students. Case studies from Hong Kong, Mainland China, and other countries in Asia will be used to discuss how to adapt both concepts and methods to sociological research in education. In sum, this course offers an overview of the fundamental sociological concepts that can guide the analysis of specific educational issues in China. Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD8803 Contemporary issues in education in China (6 credits)**

The course seeks to critically examine contemporary, critical issues in education in China by using theories of sociology and development situating the analysis in both Chinese and international contexts. Topics can include: educational access and equity; quality of education and curriculum reform in a global age; economy, migration and education; citizenship education for creating obedient citizens or free and autonomous persons; multiculturalism, ethnic diversity and national solidarity; and the pursuit of world class universities, institutional autonomy, and academic freedom. Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD8821 China's universities: Balancing domestic demands and global aspirations (6 credits)**

The course examines how higher education is shaped by a shifting market of demands from three sectors of the population. First, there is the demand for knowledge and skills for jobs, not only by Chinese households, but also by employers who demand talented hires to drive innovation for competition in goods and services. Second, there is the demand for status culture by an expanding urban middle class that uses higher education to transmit their social position to their children. Third, there is the demand by the state for political stability. The course examines how each of these three demands takes precedence in different circumstances and at different times in the evolution of higher education in China. This market of demands approach is used to better explain the unintended consequences -- a growing dissatisfaction with widening inequalities and a serious concern about the quality of university teaching and research for upgrading the economy and stabilizing society, during the transition from elite to mass higher education. Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD8822 Chinese educational traditions and their modern transformation (6 credits)**

China's educational heritage is rich. Yet, few people from Chinese societies can articulate the relevance of Chinese classical educational values. Since the West came to China with immense prestige during the late Qing dynasty, China's educational traditions have been packaged poorly in light of Westernization. This becomes increasingly inappropriate against a backdrop of a rising China. Integrating Chinese and Western ideas is urgently needed. Based on the vast range of literature in classical and contemporary Chinese and English across historical periods, this course explores how China's rich educational heritage has been interpreted differently in the Western and Chinese literature. It attempts to sort out what are the fundamental features of Chinese traditional education, and investigates whether or not and how such traditions inform China's contemporary educational policy and practice. It aims to equip students to position themselves at the interface of Chinese and Western traditions in education. Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **7. EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT**

This specialism provides educators with related theoretical background, cultivates their research interests and abilities to understand and analyse the effective practice of administration and management in education, as well as in other relevant contexts as appropriate. Topics including organisation theories; management theories; theories and strategies for decision-making; sociological perspectives of educational institutions; educational policy-making and planning; organisational performance; accountability and law in education, and research methodology in educational administration, will be discussed.

### **MEDD6192 Educational leadership and school management (6 credits)**

This course traces the recent development of leadership theory in education in order to explore what it really means to build an effective school of tomorrow, and what types of leadership would be most adequate for this enormous task. The course has integrated a comparative perspective, and looks into case-studies and findings from Asia Pacific, Australia, Europe and North America. The participants will explore the latest themes in leadership theories and will examine differentials in cultures, values, intelligences, and styles. The course will focus on approaches to school leadership that promote high quality learning environment and student learning achievement. However, the course will draw on examples from both educational and non-educational settings to relate theories to practice. There will be an opportunity for students to share their own experiences by contributing to group discussions and presentations.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD6193 Concepts and issues in school based management (6 credits)**

This course provides a systematic study of the theory and practice of School-Based Management (SBM), its background and its major features. Within the SBM framework, topics to be covered will include organizational structures, proposed leadership models and leadership training, data on learning outcomes, preferred funding models, models of school planning, implementation and evaluation, and quality assurance. Particular emphases will be placed in the area of staff development and appraisal. Related theories, concepts, skills and strategies will be studied and the relationship between staff development and appraisal, with special reference to the implications for school effectiveness and educational change, will be closely examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD6195 Administrative and organizational theory for educational institutions (6 credits)**

This course will trace the evolution of administrative and organizational theories, from classical to contemporary schools of thought, in the context of educational institutions. It will enable students to conceptualize and analyze organizational phenomena from various perspectives, including classical, human resource, systems, political, cultural, critical and postmodern schools of thought. Particular attention will be given to the application of these ideas to leadership and organizational learning, change and effectiveness.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD7100 Legal aspects of educational administration (6 credits)**

The course aims to better equip students with legal literacy, concepts and reasoning so that they would be able to understand legal aspects of educational administration, examine the implications for effective operation of the school, make sensible administrative decisions effectively and legally. The content covers basic legal concepts and system of laws. Issues such as employment, student rights and discipline, school liabilities, insurance matters, copyright and intellectual properties, collaboration with law enforcement bodies will be explored, etc.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **8. ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION**

The specialism aims to provide experienced teachers and language specialists with an appropriate theory-based framework within which to understand and investigate issues involved in English language education, in order that they can develop leadership roles in the profession. The specialism focuses on the development of participants' language awareness, with a view to equipping them with the expertise necessary for a critical understanding of approaches to research and development in English language teaching and learning. The specialism also develops the practical skills needed for school-based classroom research, curriculum development, and the implementation of innovations.

**MEDD6311 English language curriculum and assessment (6 credits)**

This course is concerned with developments in the English Language curriculum, both in the Hong Kong context and also in relation to regional and global trends. The course focuses on processes of curriculum renewal and the implementation of curriculum innovations, and examines assessment as an integral part of the curriculum, along with syllabus and methodology. The main topics covered include: trends in ELT methodology (communicative language teaching, task-based language teaching, the incorporation of language arts, IT in language learning); relations between assessment and curriculum, (feedback, washback, formative assessment and school-based assessment). These developments are analysed within a framework of curriculum innovation and educational change. All of these are considered in relation to Hong Kong curriculum reforms, such as the New Senior Secondary English curriculum. The course aims to develop participants' understanding of the key developments and innovations in the English Language curriculum, and their criticality in evaluating the implementation of ELT innovations in their own context.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD6702 Language awareness: Grammar and lexis (6 credits)**

This course focuses on the interface between teachers' knowledge about language (specifically grammar and lexis) and their pedagogical practice. It is concerned with descriptions of English grammar and lexis and their close interrelationship. Rather than attempting an overview of English grammar and lexis, the course highlights certain key areas for in-depth exploration. The course aims to act as a catalyst to promote improvement in participants' knowledge about grammar and lexis, since this is seen as essential to their work as English language educators. At the same time, it invites participants to consider the impact of their knowledge about grammar and lexis on the decisions they make and the strategies they employ in their teaching.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD6703 Second language acquisition (6 credits)**

This course aims to develop participants' critical understanding of the key issues in second language acquisition. It seeks to engage them in understanding and reviewing these issues from the cognitive and sociocultural perspectives. Participants are also required to apply these theoretical perspectives to their own experiences as second language learners and teachers. Both theoretical and pedagogical issues will be addressed through an analysis of authentic evidence of second language learning reported locally and internationally. Participants will also be introduced to current debates in the field, in particular the relationship between language and cognition, as well as the roles of input, interaction, output, form-focused instruction, motivation and learner strategies in second and bilingual language development. The course will also address the broader socio-political context of second language learning and language policy development.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD6709 An introduction to sociolinguistics (6 credits)**

This course provides opportunities for candidates to explore the relationships between language, education and society. It addresses a variety of topics including social and regional diversity within a language, multilingualism, language shift and maintenance, the rise of English as a global lingua franca, language planning, choice of a language as medium of instruction, as well as language and identity. The course aims to help candidates to develop an understanding of basic concepts in sociolinguistics; a critical understanding of the roles of language in society and education; a critical awareness of professional challenges resulting from shifting sociolinguistic conditions.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **9. GIFTED EDUCATION AND TALENT DEVELOPMENT**

The specialism is a graduate professional course designed for administrators, teachers, enrichment specialists, student affairs professionals, and guidance personnel concerned with various aspects of gifted education and talent development in schools and similar settings. The course is based upon the belief that talent development is essential for all school students. The course provides not only the theoretical framework but also practical strategies for organising and implementing gifted education and talent development activities that foster students' creativity, social and emotional learning, career and talent development. This specialism addresses participants' development of key competencies necessary for implementing school-wide gifted education and talent development programmes. The participants in this specialism will be encouraged to reflect on their own practices and strategies in gifted education and talent development, which in turn can contribute to the building of a school-wide talent development system. The aim is to develop their ability to find creative solutions to various critical issues in gifted education in Asian cultural contexts. Attention will be given to designing and implementing gifted education curriculum, the provision of creativity, social and emotive learning, talent development and career-related activities, and the development of policy and support related to gifted education. For those working in schools, the course places emphasis on the delivery of gifted education as a whole-school approach, with strategies and skills pertinent to enhancement of creativity and talent development.

Candidates are required to complete all 4 specialist courses and a compulsory elective course MEDD8878 "Practicum in gifted education and talent development" plus a dissertation (18 credits), or an option of two additional elective courses and a project (6 credits each).

### **MEDD8876 Psychology and education of gifted and talented individuals (6 credits)**

The course examines gifted education and the psychology of gifted and talented individuals. Content will include the following topics: understanding gifted and talented individuals, gifted education in Hong Kong and other parts of the world, gifted education and education reform, identification of gifted and talented students, multiple intelligences, psychological adjustment, guidance and counselling for the gifted, school-wide enrichment and provisions for talent development, curriculum models and instruction strategies for gifted learners, parenting gifted and talented children, teaching for creativity, programme development and evaluation, gifted underachievers, gifted girls, social development and moral leadership. Selected case studies and critical issues in implementing gifted programmes will be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD8877 Social and emotional needs of gifted individuals (6 credits)**

This course provides an overview of the theory, research, and practice related to working with gifted children, specifically focusing on their social and emotional needs. It explores the theoretical underpinnings of psychosocial variables of gifted individuals; introduces models of different instructional approaches to facilitate the affective learning for gifted individuals and curriculum development that is essential for talent development; and covers special populations like underachievement and twice-exceptionality. The role of the teacher in empowering parents on advocacy will also be examined. The course focuses on best practices from theories and research as well as application of these theories in authentic settings, using cases and everyday examples.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD8831 Nurturing creativity: Theories and practices (6 credits)**

This course will introduce participants to creativity from both theoretical and practical perspectives. There will be an overview of the key concepts and theories of creativity, as well as discussions on topics such as creativity research, creativity assessment, and the relationship between creativity and other psychological constructs. In addition, participants will explore how creativity can be nurtured in young children and primary and secondary school students. Participants will be equipped with creativity-fostering strategies and techniques to be applied to individuals as well as educational settings. The course is relevant to all teachers and educators who wish to know more about creativity and how it can be nurtured among others. Participants are expected to engage actively in experiential learning activities and reflection.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD7038 Counselling, career education and talent development in schools (6 credits)**

This course will compare theories and practices of counselling, career education and talent development programmes in schools in Hong Kong and other parts of the world. Topics will include: life career perspective; comprehensive school guidance and counselling program; identification of students for talent development programmes; assessment of life career and talent development; individual development planning; student advisory and mentorship schemes; theories of career development; career awareness among children; career exploration among adolescents; career decision making among senior secondary school students and college students; career development of talented students and students with special needs; talent development in schools; theories of talent development; curriculum models and instruction strategies for talent development; career counselling of the exceptionally gifted; family influences; multicultural perspective; gender issues; life-wide learning; career-related experiences; services learning; programme evaluation and enhancement. The course is relevant to all teachers and guidance personnel who wish to enhance students' career and talent development through subject teaching and co-curricular activities. Case studies of good practice in Hong Kong and elsewhere will be introduced. Course participants are expected to work in collaborative learning groups to integrate practices and theories.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

#### **Specialist Elective Course**

### **MEDD8878 Practicum in gifted education and talent development (6 credits)**

All students are required to complete an individualized practicum in gifted education and talent development in a school or at an approved agency/organisation. The supervised practicum provides students with the opportunity to develop professional competencies in applying methods and strategies for gifted and talented learners in a real-life setting. Students will receive group and individual supervision and feedback. To pass this course, students must demonstrate competency in supporting high-ability learners, and also demonstrate critical reflection on their own practices. Evidence of the ability to translate theory into practice will be expected.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

Pre-requisite: Completed MEDD8876 "Psychology and education of gifted and talented individuals"

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## **10. HEALTH PROFESSIONS EDUCATION**

This specialism is for educators in the health sciences disciplines who are looking to enhance clinical supervision, lead educational change and transform students' lives. It will support innovation in educational design and delivery in light of the latest research on learning and teaching. Graduates will also have the capacity to develop and evaluate educational quality in healthcare organisations. The MEd (HPE) will also provide a recognised platform from which graduates could pursue research at doctoral levels (EdD or PhD).

### **MEDD8870 Foundations of health professions education (6 credits)**

This course is foundational to the specialism and will be informed by research from the field of the learning sciences with a central focus on learning in health professions education. We will discuss a variety of approaches to curriculum (e.g. outcomes and competency-based education) and the design of courses and learning activities (from large class to small group pedagogies).

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD8871 Assessment and evaluation in health professions education (6 credits)**

In this course participants will be introduced to key concepts in assessment as they apply to health professions education including continuous assessment, formative and summative assessments, validity and reliability, and calibration and moderation. Participants will critique the relative strengths and weaknesses of a wide range of common written and practical assessment methods used in health professions education and appraise how quality assurance and quality enhancement are considered in curriculum design.

Assessment: 100% coursework.



### **MEDD8872 Clinical teaching and supervision (6 credits)**

This course is aimed at developing healthcare professionals' knowledge of clinical supervision models and practice and the key role supervision plays in training healthcare professionals. The course will survey historical and contemporary approaches to clinical supervision, including the increasingly important role of simulation in clinical training. The course is also aimed at helping clinical educators to facilitate students' use of evidence-based practice and development of reflective practice skills.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD8873 Effective student-supervisor relationships in health professions education (6 credits)**

Whether teaching in a large lecture theatre, a small tutorial group or one-on-one in a clinical setting, there is potential for the supervisor-student relationship to transcend beyond the acquisition of clinical skills and knowledge. This course will take a case-based approach to explore the modern roles of the teacher as a supervisor, mentor and role model. It will also introduce useful skills to enable participants to facilitate better inter-professional and inter-personal communication, give and receive feedback, and implement effective strategies to help support learner wellbeing.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **11. HIGHER EDUCATION**

This specialism helps university and college managers navigate the cutting-edge ideas and the best practices of integrating strategies of internationalization, academic freedom, institutional autonomy, problem-based learning, and quality assurance. The courses draw on interdisciplinary perspectives contributed by sociology, economics, political science, administrative studies, and comparative education. The learning process is driven by practical insights from experienced professionals of international agencies, national governments, funding bodies, academic associations, universities, polytechnics, community colleges, liberal arts colleges, research centers, academic health science centers, branch campuses, and joint educational ventures.

### **MEDD6341 Globalization and higher education (6 credits)**

The concept of globalization has been taken as a salient feature of our times. Within a context of intensified globalization, universities worldwide now encounter far greater challenges, and are subjected to an unprecedented level of external scrutiny. The change in governance ideology in the higher education sector has altered the way in which universities are managed. Higher education institutions everywhere are subject to global trends that link higher education systems globally, with the potential for creating severe problems for higher education in smaller or poorer nations in a world divided into centers and peripheries, and leading to exacerbated dramatic inequalities among the world's universities. This course will provide critical analysis of major policy issues including the growing commercialization of higher education and the values of the marketplace, the increasingly freely traded 'knowledge products' in the international marketplace, and the erosion of the university as an intellectual institution. This course aims to assist students to discuss these issues in an international and historical context, with particular foci on policy, governance and management in China and Asia. It examines how universities are responding to globalization in their cultural complexity and social contexts, using examples from a variety of social, cultural, economic and political backgrounds

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD6346 Organizational theories and strategies in higher education (6 credits)**

Organizational frameworks in higher education are different from those in businesses, governmental institutions or civic organizations. Strategic planning, key performance indicators and funding schemes differ across academic divisions. University governance is driven by multi-layered coordination of executive, legislative, consultative and evaluative structures and mechanisms that are increasingly challenged by competition for resources and scientific impact. This course examines how the organizational structures emerge and transform in the process of moving from elite to mass higher education. Students will learn to discern the organizational theories that explain the growing interdependencies among governance, finance, infrastructures, epistemic norms and organizational culture in universities and colleges. The course aims at: (1) fostering strategic thinking for organizational development; (2) conducting critical analysis of management

and planning approaches in public and private higher education institutions; (3) shaping skills in facilitative and integrative transformative frameworks. By drawing on institutional case studies, students will examine key tensions between centralized and decentralized approaches, open and closed systems, structuralism and creativity, contingency and sustainability, diffusion and connectivity.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD6347 Comparative higher education policy studies (6 credits)**

This course focuses on eight policy themes: (1) system design; (2) access and equity, (3) quality assurance and accountability, (4) privatization and financing, (5) student experience and employability; (6) critical inquiry and innovation; (7) ITC and distance learning; (8) autonomy, governance and management. Students develop policy analysis skills by examining trends and problems in higher education systems of Canada, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan, the EU, UK, USA, and other jurisdictions. With the help of comparative research, students acquire a multi-stakeholder worldview about similarities and differences in the policy contexts of global higher education.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD6348 Higher education leadership (6 credits)**

This course traces the recent development of leadership theories and practices in universities and colleges. The course examines differences in leadership styles, and compares roles of intellectual leadership, administrative leadership, and strategic leadership among others. The participants will explore differentials in cultures, values, intelligences, and styles of leadership across the field of international higher education. The course will help emerging leaders understand how a knowledge-driven institution interprets and engages the concepts of public good, social responsibility, cross-cultural respect and tolerance, gender equity, and learner empowerment. This course draws on local and international case-studies. Students will have a chance to develop their own leadership profile and map their future career trajectories in the field of higher education.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **12. PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES IN EDUCATION**

This specialism is designed to familiarize teachers/educators/individuals interested in psychological studies in education with the basic concepts and principles of developmental, educational, and social psychology and their application in educational contexts. Strong emphasis will be placed on topics and issues in contemporary research and on relevance to schools and higher educational institutions in Hong Kong, mainland China, and the rest of the world. Sample topics covered are (i) learner characteristics (e.g., cognitive development, language development, moral development, psychosocial development, interpersonal development, and factors influencing student development such as individual differences in learning approaches, motivation, and learning styles); (ii) teacher characteristics (e.g., conceptions of teaching and learning, emotions in teaching, teacher self-efficacy, teaching styles, and teaching approaches); and (iii) the process, context, and culture of learning (e.g., theories of learning and teaching, curriculum, pedagogy, learning how to learn, designing effective learning, classroom talk, assessment, computer-supported collaborative learning, and the Chinese Learner).

**MEDD6441 Developmental psychology for educators (6 credits)**

This course will familiarize educators with the major theories, concepts and research findings of developmental psychology as well as some of the skills and techniques of gathering information on children and adolescents. The application of developmental research to educational practice and policy will also be considered. By the end of this course, students should gain an understanding of (i) major developmental theories; (ii) the sequence of child and adolescent development and the processes that underlie them; (iii) the interdependence of all aspects of development, i.e., physical, cognitive, emotional and social; and (iv) the impact of context and culture on development.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD6442 Cognition, learning and instruction (6 credits)**

This course will be based on theories in Educational Psychology and Learning Sciences focusing on the interfaces of cognition, design and context to examine how students learn. The course will start with an overall framework introducing contemporary theories of learning and models of classroom instruction. The first component introduces research in student cognition and learning including conceptions and approaches to learning, epistemological beliefs, self-regulated learning and motivation. The second component addresses the question of design and examines how learning for 21st century education can be promoted. Theories, principles and practice related to higher order thinking, assessment for learning, and technology-supported learning will be introduced. This course also examines the influences of psychological factors and socio-cultural context and research on the Chinese Learner will be discussed. Throughout the course, students will be provided with learning experience that mirrors the theories discussed in the course.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD6443 Student development: Theory, research and practice (6 credits)**

Student development concerns the holistic development of a student — his/her development of psychological characteristics, physical development, career interest development, emotional development, identity development, moral development, social development, as well as intellectual development. This course examines student development not only from a theoretical perspective but also from a practical perspective. It studies the main theories of and research on student development. Emphasis is further placed on how these theories and research findings can be applied to schools and universities in Hong Kong, mainland China, and elsewhere in the world. Potential learners (e.g., in-service and pre-service teachers, counselors, school senior managers, government officials in education sector, and individuals who wish to understand themselves better) should be interested in this course because it will equip the learners with knowledge and skills needed not only for promoting the development of their students but also for achieving a deeper understanding of themselves.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **MEDD6444 Effective talk in the classroom (6 credits)**

Effective talk in the classroom is fundamental to student learning. In this course, students will learn: (1) The state-of-the-art theories of effective talk. Students will learn from a growing body of research how effective classroom talk, particularly discussion participants' elaboration of their own ideas and thinking with each other, is related to their engagement and achievement. (2) The application of effective talk. Students will learn how to construct talk situations that promote learning and how to use a list of proven effective talk moves to position the participants as active learners. (3) Analysis and reflection of classroom talk. Students will learn how to analyze and reflect on classroom conversations in a rigorous way. Samples of classroom conversation transcripts and video/audio clips will be annotated using well-selected tools. Upon completion of this course, students are expected to develop knowledge and skills in facilitating effective talk in the classroom and to increase the awareness of continuing professional development in discussion-based teaching.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **13. SCIENCE EDUCATION**

This specialism aims to develop teachers' understanding of various issues and global trends in science education (e.g. STEM education) to enable them to contribute more effectively towards initiating, designing and implementing innovative teaching in science education in Hong Kong or worldwide.

Candidates are required to complete all 4 specialist courses and at least one of the specialist elective courses for this specialism. Those elective courses, however, may not necessarily be offered every year.

### **MEDD6466 Science curriculum and assessment (6 credits)**

This course discusses the history of the science curriculum and the long-running debate between science education as preparation for professional practice and science education for all. Current science curriculum initiatives overseas and forces shaping the science curriculum in Hong Kong will be examined. Consideration

relating to a smooth transition within science education through different learning stages and the move towards greater integration between various science disciplines will be discussed. Philosophies underpinning movements such as STSE, and Scientific Literacy will be examined. Assessment in science education will also be examined in the contexts of assessing learning in public examinations and international comparative studies such as the TIMSS and PISA.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

#### **MEDD6467 Teaching and learning in science (6 credits)**

This course gives an overview of theories and research on the teaching and learning of science. It begins with an overview of students' common difficulties in learning science. Findings in children's understanding of science over the school years will be considered in light of a range of learning theories. Issues relating to approaches to teaching science including use of analogies, diagrams, modelling and mental visualisation will be discussed. In addition, examples of investigation of teachers' pedagogical content knowledge, beliefs, professional noticing, and assessment related to the teaching and learning of science will be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

#### **MEDD6469 Trends and issues of science education (6 credits)**

This course looks at major trends and issues in science education with particular reference to the following: gender, socio-cultural perspectives, language (teaching science to second language learners, language across the curriculum), nature of talk through different theoretical perspectives (between teacher and students, between students and students), learning progression of key scientific ideas at different levels of study, attitudes towards science and school science, transition between primary and secondary school science (in terms of, e.g., language and conceptual demands). It also examines the role of mobile digital technology in shaping the goals and means of developing science instruction and building learning environments.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

#### **MEDD8644 Assessment in science education (6 credits)**

This course considers the importance of assessment for learning and quality assessment of learning in science. A wide range of strategies, such as questioning, practical work, scientific inquiry, probing and building student conceptual understanding, skills and attitudes in doing science, will be examined. Assessment literacy related to setting of assessment items and assessment rubrics will be discussed.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **Specialist Elective Courses**

#### **MEDD8862 Classroom practice of STEM education (6 credits)**

This course adopts the integration of scientific inquiry and engineering practice model (Weber and Sansone, 2016) and aims to introduce a variety of cross disciplinary hands-on and mind-on STEM exemplars activities/projects (e.g., monocular telescope making, conducting dough inquiry learning project, molecular gastronomy menu) which not only enhance students' generic skills, such as problem-solving skills, critical thinking skills and creativity etc., but also facilitate students' innovative designs through practical solutions. Besides, how Micro:bit, Arduino and other e-learning tools can be introduced and integrated into existing science and STEM curriculum pragmatically so as to enhance students' learning and teachers' teaching will be discussed. The course aims to promote teachers' capacity to promote STEM education both within and beyond the classroom.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

#### **MEDD8863 Implementing STEM-rich making: Opportunities and challenges (6 credits)**

This course aims to develop students' knowledge of constructionism and making in STEM education to enhance their understanding of the theory and practice behind STEM-Rich Making. Student will explore different approaches (e.g. assembly form of making, tinkering) in conducting STEM-Rich Making through some hands-on activities. The course also critically examines the opportunities and challenges for implementing STEM-Rich Making through SWOT analysis and proposal writing, as well as develops students'

leadership in promoting and implementing STEM education.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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#### **14. STEM EDUCATION**

This specialism aims to equip education students with an in-depth understanding of theoretical and practical issues surrounding STEM education. The specialism will explore philosophy, theories, learning design, technologies and policy at local and international level in respect to STEM. Specific theoretical constructs will be examined in the specialism with focus on developing further research agenda at graduate level, e.g., STEM literacies, learning design, levels of integration, computational thinking, and design thinking.

Candidates are required to complete all 4 specialist courses and a compulsory elective course MEDD8861 “Computational and design thinking for STEM literacy in 21<sup>st</sup> century” plus a dissertation (18 credits), or an option of two additional elective courses and a project (6 credits each).

##### **MEDD8857 STEM education in an evolving social context (6 credits)**

This course examines the nature of STEM as a curriculum and pedagogical innovation from a socio-historical perspective. Topics addressed include: the historical development of cross-disciplinary integration in STEM education; the role of STEM in modern society; central ideas cutting across the disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics; the relationship between STEM education and science literacy, technology literacy and mathematics literacy, social responsibility and moral reasoning, as well as 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills; STEM as a curriculum and pedagogical approach to foster inquiry and problem solving of authentic problems through the application of conceptual knowledge and skills from diverse disciplines.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

##### **MEDD8858 STEM education theory, practice and application (6 credits)**

This course discusses different theories, models and trends in STEM education underpinning international and local STEM policies and initiatives. Particular focus will be given to different models of STEM integration (e.g., discipline-focused, theme-based, interdisciplinary, etc.) This course will also examine policies and strategies at system, network and school levels employed in the implementation of STEM, and the challenges encountered. Students will be able to adopt appropriate theories, models and approaches for planning, organizing and evaluating STEM education related practices to strengthen the coherence and collaboration among teachers of different KLAS. The students will also appreciate the other developments and enhancements of STEM education, such as STEAM and STREAM with the incorporation of Arts elements too.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

##### **MEDD8859 Learning, teaching and assessment in STEM education (6 credits)**

This course focuses on STEM implementation at the classroom level. It takes as its starting point a focus on developing students’ self-directed learning and collaborative problem-solving capacity as a central goal for STEM education. It examines the curriculum and assessment designs and the role of teachers and learners in different models of classroom implementation. This course will also examine different models of teacher learning and leadership support for STEM implementation at the classroom and school levels.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

##### **MEDD8860 Emerging technologies in STEM education (6 credits)**

This course explores a broad range of current and emerging tools, practices and themes in STEM education. Also, the course will review current and future research trends in emerging tools, practices and themes in STEM Education. The course begins by exploring the historical development of cross-disciplinary integration in STEM education, in order to equip students with an overall picture on the types and trends of digital technology used for delivering STEM education in the past, present and future classrooms. Furthermore, the course explores uses of robotics as a mean of integration (e.g., Micro:bit, MakeBlock, Arduino, Lego Mindstorms). Also, attention will be given to product design and 3D printing as a special form of engineering

design in integrated STEM. Finally, emerging tools such as mobile, wearable, VR, Augmented VR technology, etc., will be explored in context of STEM integration.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **Specialist Elective Course**

#### **MEDD8861 Computational and design thinking for STEM literacy in 21<sup>st</sup> century (6 credits)**

This course explores the computational thinking, design thinking, and 21<sup>st</sup> century literacies developed in the context of STEM education. Computational and design thinking, which originated and populated in MIT (Grimson, 2017) and Stanford University (Plattner, 2010), represents a new and emerging digital literacy, and becomes a core literacy in solving computational and engineering design problems in real-world contexts. In this course, the role of “E” (Engineering) in STEM education integrated with computational and design thinking will be discussed, and how to link these to other disciplines within STEM will be investigated. The course helps novice educational researchers and practitioner with background in science and mathematics to develop a comprehensive understanding of where the origin, motives for cognitive development and educational impacts are in the theory and application of STEM learning. Through collaborative learning environment and interactive seminars, students will identify instructional and pedagogical approaches to implement the thinking methods in school-based STEM curriculum. Research agenda and educational policy of this emerging field of transdisciplinary education can be developed with computational thinking and design thinking in this course.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **15. TEACHING CHINESE AS A SECOND LANGUAGE 中文第二語言教學**

This specialism is designed for pre-service or in-service Chinese language teachers in primary or secondary schools, who want to excel themselves to research and teach Chinese in various global contexts, including teaching Chinese as a second or foreign language. The programme connects theory and practice, and focuses on the issues related to Chinese as a second language pedagogy, curriculum design, assessment and classroom research. The programme aims at developing qualified TCSL teachers who are versed in various international curricular, with a particular focus on the IB curriculum.

Candidates are required to complete all 4 specialist courses and a compulsory elective course MEDD7104 “Integrating the IB philosophy into Chinese language teaching” plus a dissertation (18 credits), or an option of two additional elective courses and a project (6 credits each). Those elective courses, however, may not necessarily be offered every year.

#### **MEDD6051 Teaching Chinese language in international contexts [對外漢語教學] (6 credits)**

The course provides a general overview of the major topics relating to second/foreign language education, focusing on the theory and pedagogy of teaching Chinese as a second/foreign language in the international contexts. It presents an overview of second language acquisition theories and second language pedagogy, and explores the issues around designing and supporting second language and culture learning experience in the classroom. Moreover, the course provides an overview of various levels of local curriculum in Hong Kong and international standards such as ACTFL standards and CEFR frameworks, making reference to the teaching of other curriculum, such as IB, AP, GCSE curriculum, including an analysis of the curriculum design, teaching methodologies, learners and learning resources, course assessment guidelines required for those curricula. It aims to help teachers make Chinese language teaching and learning maximally effective in Hong Kong and international contexts through an understanding of sound principles of language teaching and learning. In this course, we will begin with a brief overview of how people learn and how people learn a language grounded in cognitive and sociocultural approaches. Language teaching methods will be followed by focusing on specific skills such as oral and written communication modalities, as well as how to create learner-centered environments to foster independent and collaborative learning. We will then look at language teaching specifically from aspects of learning environment design, instruction, assessment and classroom management. The course aims to provide students with an understanding of issues related to teaching Chinese in the international context through: (1) Exploring second language acquisition theories and pedagogies; (2) Examining international curriculums such as IB, GCSE, AP; and (3) Discussing issues related to designing

and managing Chinese language learning and teaching experience.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD6052 Chinese (L2) assessment and reporting [中文第二語言教學評估與報告] (6 credits)**

This course focuses on the integral role of assessment and reporting for L2 Chinese learning and teaching in the international/IB school context. It will provide an overview of norm and criterion-based assessment and referencing, formative and summative assessment and the relationship between reporting, feedback and improved student learning. It will also introduce a range of assessment mechanisms, tools, reporting strategies and analyse their role in promoting assessment for learning. The course aims to develop participants' theoretical and practical understanding of the principles of assessment of L2 Chinese learning, with an emphasis on assessment as a tool to promote student learning and support diverse learning needs. The course is expected to achieve the following objectives: (1) To enhance students' understanding of the integral role of assessment and reporting for L2 Chinese learning and teaching; (2) To understand the key assessment and reporting requirements of the IB Programme; (3) To keep students up to date with the latest development of assessment and reporting in the field of teaching Chinese as a second language; (4) To enable students to develop effective assessment strategies and reporting mechanisms for learners of different age groups and learning objectives.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD6054 Chinese (L2) school-based curriculum design [中文第二語言校本課程設計] (6 credits)**

This course will provides you with a systematic understanding of school curriculum design and lesson planning. In this course, we will explore IB curriculum at different programmes, and discuss the core of IB curriculum design -- concept-based curriculum. We will also discuss the various issues related to lesson planning. The course is very hands-on, where you will work in groups with your classmates to design curriculum together and critique each other's unit and lesson design. Students are expected to (1) understand concept-based curriculum design and be able to apply the understanding to design school-based curriculum; (2) work in groups to design and critique unit and lesson design. It is expected that students will engage in collaborative learning experience through actively contributing their opinions and helping each other along the learning process. The course has the following objectives in mind: (1) To equip students with the theoretical background about curriculum design and implementation; (2) To familiarize students with current foreign language curriculum design frameworks and models; (3) To familiarize students with IB curriculums and concept-based curriculum design; (4) To engage students in discussions about issues related to curriculum design and implementation.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD6055 Research and teaching practice in second language classrooms [中文第二語言教學研究與實踐] (6 credits)**

In order to integrate knowledge with real school experience, this course provides opportunity for students with experience in the real second language classroom aside from getting to understand the theories on second language teaching and learning. The aim is to familiarize students with day-to-day teaching practice at international schools in Hong Kong, by engaging students in actual teaching at international schools in Hong Kong, to identify and tackle students' learning difficulties. This course will be a strong theoretical and practical emphasis on the development of students' research and teaching ability on Chinese L2 teaching and learning in classrooms. During their school experience, student-teachers are required to identify their students' learning difficulty; using appropriate theories to analyze it; design and conduct a small-scale action research with the application of suitable teaching strategies to deal with the identified learning difficulties. The student-teachers will conduct classroom observation, and compile a self-directed portfolio based on data collected and experience encountered in their action research. This portfolio contains a journal, lesson plans and teaching materials developed by the student-teachers during the practicum, self-reflections on lessons taught and feedback from the students. The module aims to provide students with an understanding of research methodology, and how to use educational research to support day-to-day teaching practice of Chinese as a second language: (1) Identify major issues and problems in day-to-day teaching practice of Chinese as a second language classrooms; (2) Demonstrate the ability to write a small-scale action research proposal with

theoretical basis and application of pedagogies, to resolve identified major issues and problems in teaching of Chinese as a second language classrooms; (3) Demonstrate the ability to conduct research project, self-reflective practice and to report the research findings.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **Specialist Elective Courses**

#### **MEDD7104 Integrating the IB philosophy into Chinese language teaching [融合國際文憑課程理念的中文教學] (6 credits)**

This elective includes an in-depth exploration into how to integrate IB Diploma Programme philosophy in curriculum design, teaching and learning, assessment and research. This course provides an overview of the principles underpinning the IB's four programmes, such as inquiry-based learning, concept-driven curriculum, disciplinary, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to teaching and learning. Students will also be engaged in exploring various pedagogies and technological tools to integrate IB philosophy and learner profiles in language and culture instruction. Students will explore Theory of Knowledge, Creativity, Activity and Service, Extended Essay and Chinese language education. Furthermore, the module will also enhance students' understanding on how to reflect IB philosophy and learner profile in assessment design and how to design assessments that reflect IB subject matter specific assessment criteria. In this module, students will not only understand the integration of IB philosophy in various aspects of instruction, but also generate a series of research questions around the integration of IB philosophy in instruction.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

#### **MEDD8833 Teaching Chinese language and literature in IB Language A curriculum [國際文憑課程(語言 A): 中國語言和文學教學] (6 credits)**

The course reads texts in the International Baccalaureate language A curriculum. It explores the theories and pedagogies of teaching Chinese language and literature to school learners who are native Chinese speakers. The course encourages students to analyze and appreciate literary works from multiple perspectives such as language-based approach, comparative reading of texts, and stylistics. The topics include (a) Introduction of the IB language A curriculum; (b) Pedagogic issues on Chinese language and literature teaching; (c) Theories of assessing students' learning of literature. Students will be able to acquire the skills of designing school-based curriculum, which demonstrates the philosophy of IB Chinese language and literature. They are also expected to have a deep understanding of the criteria in IB assessments.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

#### **MEDD8834 World literature and new textualities in the IB Chinese A curriculum [國際文憑中文課程的世界文學與新興文本] (6 credits)**

In a new era that the world is interconnected both by globalization and technology, the International Baccalaureate programmes are committed to foster intercultural understanding and new literacies. The IB Chinese A course introduces students a range of texts in order to develop their social, aesthetic, and cultural literacy, as well as communication skills. This course aims to study the theories and practice of teaching translated literary works, literary genres, and new textualities to school learners who are native Chinese speakers. The course prepares students to make independent literary judgements, appreciate literary works from different cultural perspectives, and consider the role that culture plays in making sense of the literary works. With the rapidly evolving text forms, students will also be exploring the learning and teaching of graphic writing or film and literature, to create better understanding and deeper appreciation in their learners.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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## **16. TEACHING OF SCIENCE IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT**

This specialism is designed for researchers, educators and pre-service or in-service Science teachers in primary or secondary schools, especially those from Direct Subsidy Scheme schools, mainstream schools and international schools, who want to excel in research and the teaching of Science in local and global contexts.



The specialism caters for practitioners in the teaching of the science curriculum in Hong Kong, making reference to the teaching of other curricula, such as the International Baccalaureate (IB), GCSE etc.

Candidates are required to complete all 4 specialist courses and at least one of the specialist elective courses for this specialism. Those elective courses, however, may not necessarily be offered every year.

**MEDD6381 Integrating IB philosophy into the teaching of Chinese language, mathematics and science (6 credits)**

This course includes an in-depth exploration into how to integrate International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB DP) philosophy in curriculum design, teaching and learning, assessment and research. Students will be guided as to designing and refining Chinese language/Mathematics/Science curriculum to reflect the overall IB DP philosophy and learner profile and at the same time to align with the Chinese language/Mathematics/Science curriculum guides. Students will also be engaged in exploring various pedagogies and technological tools to integrate IB philosophy and learner profiles in language and culture instruction. Students will explore Theory of knowledge (TOK), Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) and the Extended Essay and Chinese language/Mathematics/Science education. Furthermore, the course will enhance students' understanding about how to reflect IB philosophy, cross-disciplinary application and learner profile in assessment design and how to design assessments that reflect IB subject matter specific assessment criteria. In this course, students will not only understand the integration of IB philosophy in various aspects of instruction, but also generate a series of research questions around the integration of IB philosophy in instruction.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD6467 Teaching and learning in science (6 credits)**

This course gives an overview of theories and research on the teaching and learning of science. It begins with an overview of students' common difficulties in learning science. Findings in children's understanding of science over the school years will be considered in light of a range of learning theories. Issues relating to approaches to teaching science including the use of analogies, diagrams, modelling and mental visualization will be discussed. In addition, examples of investigation of teachers' pedagogical content knowledge, beliefs, professional noticing, and assessment related to the teaching and learning of science will be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD8806 Research and science teaching practice in classrooms (6 credits)**

The aim of this course is to familiarise students with day-to-day teaching practice at internationally minded schools in Hong Kong, by engaging them in actual teaching in international schools in Hong Kong, to identify and tackle students' learning difficulties. This course will have a strong theoretical and practical emphasis on the development of students' research and teaching ability concerning science teaching and learning in classrooms. During their school experience, student-teachers will be required to identify their students' learning difficulties; using appropriate theories to analyse it; design and conduct a small-scale piece of action research with the application of suitable teaching strategies to deal with the identified learning difficulties. The student-teachers will conduct classroom observation, and compile a self-directed portfolio based on data collected and experience encountered in their action research. This portfolio will contain a journal, lesson plans and teaching materials developed by the student-teachers during the practicum, self-reflections on lessons taught and feedback from the students.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD8807 The philosophical, social and cultural aspects of science education (6 credits)**

This course addresses various epistemological perspectives of science, the intricate relationships between science, technology and society, and the roles of representations in conceptual development. It explores the relationship between these features that characterise science as a distinctive discipline, the aims of science education, and the nature of science teaching and learning. This course also investigates students' learning of scientific content in out-of-school settings, and their different approaches to dealing with socio-scientific issues.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

### **Specialist Elective Courses**

#### **MEDD6466 Science curriculum and assessment (6 credits)**

This course discusses the history of the science curriculum and the long-running debate between science education as preparation for professional practice and science education for all. Current science curriculum initiatives overseas and forces shaping the science curriculum in Hong Kong will be examined. Consideration relating to a smooth transition within science education through different learning stages and the move towards greater integration between various science disciplines will be discussed. Philosophies underpinning movements such as STSE, and Scientific Literacy will be examined. Assessment in science education will also be examined in the contexts of assessing learning in public examinations and international comparative studies such as the TIMSS and PISA.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

#### **MEDD6469 Trends and issues of science education (6 credits)**

This course examines major trends and issues in science education with particular reference to the following issues: gender, sociocultural perspective, language issues (teaching science to second language learners, language across the curriculum), nature of talk through different theoretical perspectives (between teacher and students, between students and students), learning progression of key scientific ideas at different levels of study, attitude towards science and school science, transition between primary and secondary school science (in terms of, e.g., language and conceptual demands). It also examines the role of mobile digital technology in shaping the goals and means of developing science instructions and building learning environments.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **GENERAL ELECTIVE COURSES**

Candidates, who are required to take general elective courses, can choose from a list of general elective courses which may not necessarily be offered every year:

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#### **MEDD6248 Theories and practices in counselling and group guidance (6 credits)**

This course will examine theories and practices in counselling and group guidance in schools. The content will include the following topics: counselling in a school setting; helping process and skills; theoretical approaches to counselling; beginning and developing a counselling relationship; career counselling; assessment, measurement and appraisal in counselling; ethical issues in counselling; theories of group guidance and their implementation in schools; group leadership skills; peer counselling; life skills and leadership training; skills in large-group guidance in the classroom and beyond. Selected case studies of counselling and group guidance in local educational settings will be examined. The course can be relevant to all administrators, teachers and guidance personnel who would like to apply counselling skills in their coaching, teaching and guidance activities.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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#### **MEDD6704 Literature and language arts in English (6 credits)**

This course focuses on the role of literature in the English Language/Language Arts curriculum and the issues related to using literature in the language classroom, including stories for children and adolescents. It also examines different literary genres (poetry, prose and drama) and the literary techniques associated with them and address the texts of mass media, film, hypertexts and hypermedia. It uses stylistic techniques to examine the way language is used creatively in literary texts and considers appropriate methodologies and strategies for teaching language through literature. The course aims to help students to develop an awareness of importance of creativity in English language learning and teaching and an understanding of the role of literature and the language arts in the language curriculum in different learning contexts. It also seeks to

develop students' understanding and appreciation of different literary genres (poetry, prose and drama) and the literary techniques associated with these as well as developing their understanding of issues relating to teaching language through literature including the design and evaluation of teaching materials, and cross cultural issues.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD6705    Written discourse (6 credits)**

This course draws upon text-linguistic and genre-based approaches to inform the analysis, teaching and learning of written discourse in English language education. A range of topics will be covered, including: grammatical and lexical cohesion, coherence, text structure awareness, the analysis and teaching of various genres (narrative, informational, and promotional), genre-based pedagogy, and critical reading of written texts. Through discussion of assigned readings, hands-on analysis of written texts, and other learning activities, students are expected to develop analytical and practical skills which will inform their teaching of English reading and writing in schools.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD7098    School policy and curriculum for sex education (6 credits)**

The course aims to help participants critically examine theories, models, practices, and issues of sex education policy and curriculum in Hong Kong and elsewhere. It also discusses important issues confronting teens and young people, including sexual identity and attitudes toward sexuality and sex, dating and breakup, concerns about sexual behaviors, and sexual harassment and abuse. The course finally examines controversial issues such as pre-marital sex, homosexuality, the psychology of displaying naked images, teacher-student attraction and professional integrity, and compensated dating and materialism. Real school cases from Hong Kong would be discussed in class.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD7102    Pedagogical frameworks for mathematics, science and related subjects (6 credits)**

There are a variety of pedagogy and theories employed in studies for teaching and learning. This course aims to introduce frameworks, namely visualisation, multiple representations and SOLO taxonomy to teachers so that they can appreciate pedagogical frameworks, apply them to their practice and enhance their critical evaluation of classroom teaching. During the course, examples from mathematics and science subjects will be used for illustration. It will cover: (1) Visualisation in science and mathematics; (2) Understanding via the framework of dynamic multiple representations; (3) Structure of Observed Learning Outcomes (SOLO) taxonomy for assessment, design of tasks and analysis of outcomes; and (4) Analysis of lessons from a researcher's perspective.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD7124    Individual and home predictors of students' academic achievement (6 credits)**

This course examines the research to-date on key student and home influences on academic achievement. The design of the course is premised on the philosophy that educators should be conversant with the state-of-the-art scientific knowledge on what really matters in affecting student learning and achievement, and be able to critically evaluate and leverage on the different sources of influences to complement their teaching in the school. The student-level psychological predictors that will be discussed in the course include intelligence, prior achievement, attitudes and dispositions. The home-level predictors to be examined will include socioeconomic status, family structure, home environment, and parental involvement. Throughout the course, course participants will be acquainted with results of published meta-analyses interrogating how these variables predicted student achievement.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

**MEDD8666 Abnormal psychology and positive psychology (6 credits)**

The course will focus on the theory and research about abnormal psychology and positive psychology. Participants will learn about some common mental disorders in the student populations and how positive psychology can help individuals improve their mental well-being. Participants will be encouraged to explore how the current research may be applicable to their own lives and support the positive development of students. Topics will include “anxiety disorder”, “depression”, “attention deficit/ hyperactivity disorder”, “optimism”, “gratitude”, “forgiveness”, etc. Positive interventions to improve well-being will be examined.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD8669 Teacher and classroom predictors of students’ academic achievement (6 credits)**

This course examines the research to-date on key teacher and classroom predictors of students’ academic achievement. The design of the course is premised on the philosophy that first, educators should be aware of the importance of classroom compositional and within-class socio-emotional factors that may appear to be distally related to, but have been found to have a substantive impact on student achievement. The course is also designed with the belief that empowered educators should be conversant with the state-of-the-art scientific knowledge on what really matters in affecting student learning and achievement, and be able to critically evaluate and leverage on the different sources of influences (academic and non-academic) to complement their teaching in the school. The predictors that will be discussed in the course include teachers’ expectations and relationships with students; student peer influences and school socioeconomic status; ability grouping and class size; and computer-enabled teaching-learning in schools. Throughout the course, course participants will be acquainted with results of published meta-analyses interrogating how these variables predicted student achievement.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD8671 Learning and teaching English as a second language for young learners (6 credits)**

This elective provides an opportunity for students to understand how young children learn English as a second language (ESL), as a communicative tool and a vehicle to learn. Students will be guided to consider cognitive approaches, sociocultural and sociolinguistic perspectives on second language learning, as well as their applications to the teaching of ESL in the early years. The psychology, pedagogy, policy and curriculum issues around learning and teaching ESL for young children will be discussed throughout the elective with reference to the local and international context.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD8678 Counselling process, ethics and skills (6 credits)**

This course will introduce students to the basic processes, ethics and skills of counselling applicable in schools or other educational settings. Knowledge and understanding of how a counselling relationship develops over time (process) will be focused on and facilitated within a workshop style delivery. Personal development of the course participants will be encouraged through many opportunities to observe, practice skills and reflect on personal interaction and process. Topics will include skills for engaging student, assessment, goal setting and action planning, ethics in counselling, skills for developing helping relationship, skills in managing crisis, and skills for ending the counselling relationship. The course is relevant to all teachers and guidance personnel who wish to enhance their counselling competencies. Participants are expected to engage actively in experiential learning activities and reflection.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD8679 Counselling assessment and interventions (6 credits)**

This course will introduce students to the basic principles and goals of psychological, educational and career and life planning assessment, as well as evidence-based interventions applicable in schools or other

educational settings. Topics will include: assessment settings, methods, interpretation and use of the assessment results, assessment in programme evaluation, and evidence-based interventions for students at risks (including those with behavioral, social, motivational and career issues). The course is relevant to all teachers and guidance personnel who wish to enhance their counselling competencies. Participants are expected to engage actively in experiential learning activities and reflection.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD8808 Life education for adolescents and young people (6 credits)**

In a changing society, adolescents and young people are increasingly puzzled by the meaning of life. The early 21st century has witnessed four major rising trends among adolescents and young people: bullying and violence, substance misuse, self-harm, and suicide. Society and schools are urged to help adolescents and young people to cope with these life problems. The course examines different theories, approaches and issues of life education for them. With particular reference to Hong Kong, it aims to help participants (1) review life education policy and curriculum; (2) examine phenomena and theories of physical and cyber bullying, self-harm, substance use, and teen and youth suicide; (3) equip their students with knowledge, skills and attitudes to confront these four problems; (4) develop measures to create a safe and caring learning place for adolescents and young people; and (5) promote life education programs to help them foster positive and healthy perspectives and good habits to cope with life. Real school cases in Hong Kong will be discussed in class.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD8811 Classroom research in general studies and liberal studies (6 credits)**

This course provides a step-by-step approach on how to conduct empirical research in General Studies and Liberal Studies. Students will learn from different academic publications (e.g. journal articles) on how to use qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods to do classroom research related to these two subjects. The methods taught in the course include case studies, questionnaire-based surveys, interviews and action research, which are useful in evaluating the effectiveness of Liberal Studies and General Studies in Hong Kong primary and secondary schools. By the end of the course, it is expected that students will understand how to design and conduct a small-scale research project to better understand the nature and/or evaluate their own teaching performance in the subjects.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD8813 Teaching oral communication in Chinese language: A critical discussion perspective (6 credits)**

The courses aims at equipping Chinese language teachers with the knowledge and ability to conduct, design and evaluate student-led critical discussion activity to enhance students' academic Chinese speaking and listening skills and competence. The course is designed to explore the relationship between critical thinking and language learning strategies within Chinese key language area. Topics include framework of speaking and listening processes, construct of speaking and listening competence, Sweetser's model of content, epistemic, speech-act domains, typology of discussion, three approaches of reasoning (deductive, inductive, and abductive), Toulmin model of argument components and its latest development, core basic argument schemes (example, cause and effect, analogy, and information source) and their derivations, pragmatic view of fallacies, and interaction strategies in discussion. The course focuses on applying these topics and concepts to develop interesting critical discussion activities which promote oral skills development and assess effectiveness of discussion for students' further learning. Special attention is given to using of argument visualization software to make thinking visible during discussion for fostering students' analytic skill on argument structure. Integration of oral communication and literacy will also be covered to link oral communication with Chinese language curriculum.

Requirement: Students are required to have specialized teacher qualification training on Chinese language such as PGDE Chinese.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD8815 Introduction to statistical methods (6 credits)**

This course is designed to introduce students to the most commonly used statistical methods in educational and social science research. No prior knowledge of statistics is required, but essentials of arithmetic and basic algebra will be used throughout the course. Topics covered in this course include descriptive statistics, graphical representations, correlation, regression, basic probability, sampling distributions, confidence intervals, one- and two-sample t-tests, chi-square test, and one-way analysis of variance.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD8817 The Learning brain (6 credits)**

This course is designed as a gentle introduction for educators and educational policy makers who wish to become informed by neuroscience findings and to use neuroscience knowledge and skills for solving real world educational problems. Project-based learning is made a key part of this course to enable students to gain a first-hand feel for the nature and limitation of neuroscience. This course will cover four major content areas: (1) the discipline of cognitive neuroscience, which deals with neural mechanisms underlying the functions of perception, action, emotion, memory, language, social engagement, decision-making, etc; (2) fundamentals of learning, which covers basic forms of learning and analysis of neural mechanisms underlying learning at multiple levels; (3) methods of neuroimaging, which covers an overview of a variety of imaging techniques and a more in-depth and hands-on introduction to state of art EEG-based source imaging; and (4) neuroscience research for solving real world educational problems.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD8826 Technology and second language teaching and learning (6 credits)**

This elective provides students with a fundamental understanding of the principles underlying the use of computer technology in second language learning and teaching as well as hands-on activities of designing technology-enhanced second language teaching and learning experience. It helps students to understand how computer technology can be integrated into language learning and teaching, to become aware of the complex issues around the use of technology in supporting language learning, to develop the ability to critically evaluate language learning technological applications and websites, and to develop the capacity to design and produce computer assisted language learning activities. Students are expected to (1) get familiar with the theoretical background and pedagogical application of different technological platforms and tools for second language learning; (2) be able to evaluate the pedagogical affordances and constraints of different technological applications and platforms; (3) understand what technological application to use for what pedagogical purposes; and (4) design and implement technology-enhanced language learning activities, and understand the key issues that need to be paid attention to ensure the effective implementation of technology-enhanced learning activities. It is expected that throughout this module students will engage in a collaborative learning experience, actively contributing their opinions and helping each other along the learning process.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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**MEDD8829 Effective strategies for learning and teaching in small class environment for primary education (6 credits)**

Effective strategies to enhance learning and teaching in a small class environment for teachers in primary schools have been well discussed. In alignment with recent curriculum development and promotion of various strategies, such as, e-learning, catering for diversity, group work, STEM, and self-directed learning; there are a lot of development in effective teaching and learning strategies in primary schools. The course aims to develop an understanding in the issues arise in small class teaching environment and strategies for enhancing student learning. Examples of the teaching of different subjects such as mathematics and general studies will be used to illustrate the implementation of various strategies. The content will cover: (1) Principles and strategies for creating a small class environment: The Six Principles of Small Class Teaching and pedagogical strategies such as concept building, lesson planning, questioning and feedback, group work skills and assessment; (2) The learning theories and exemplary practices of teaching strategies with specific theme(s)

framed around the six broad principles in enhancing learning and teaching in a small class setting; (3) Opportunities to practise and extend their knowledge and teaching skills (e.g. to plan and reflect on a lesson using the strategies learnt, curriculum planning and development, e-learning, catering for diversity, group work, and self-directed learning.).

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **MEDD8830 Innovation in higher education (6 credits)**

This course aims at introducing key concepts and best practices of innovation in advanced higher education systems (e.g., China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Canada, the UK, and the US). The course participants will examine cases of innovation in research, teaching and learning, and service delivery. The challenges will be analysed by engaging Burton Clark's multipronged framework of entrepreneurship, Everett Roger's perspectives on innovation diffusion, Clay Christensen's heuristic on disruptive innovation, and Chan Kim's view on value creation. While exploring frameworks of innovation, the students will work individually and collectively to propose a plan for innovation in Hong Kong's universities and/or their departments of their choice.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **MEDD8835 Writing for academic success (6 credits)**

It is designed to address the perceived difficulties among some MEd students (in particular full-time students from mainland China) in meeting the Master's-level academic writing requirements at an English-dominant university. It is meant to be an extension of the existing Writing Workshops provided by the university's CAES to MEd students. The course subsumes four main topics: (1) learning to read journal articles; (2) tackling strategically important written genres in an MEd programme; (3) writing from sources and citation practices; and (4) publishing from MEd projects/dissertations. The course has a number of features: (i) it adopts an integrated approach by providing guidance on both the reading and the writing of academic texts; (ii) it is evidence-based by drawing upon current research on academic discourse, writing practices, and writing instruction; (iii) it addresses both broader issues (structural and lexico-grammatical dimensions of written genres) and sentence-level issues (e.g., grammar and idiomaticity); and (iv) it aims to foster learning autonomy among MEd students, in particular through the introduction of the use of corpus methods.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **MEDD8836 Personal growth of teachers and guidance personnel (6 credits)**

This course will provide an overview of major theories, concepts and principles in education and psychology that can be applied to the personal growth and development of teachers and guidance personnel. Different issues related to positive self and identity development, childhood and family relationships, emotional competence, body and wellness as well as the meaning in life will be examined. The course will provide opportunities for students to develop a deeper understanding of their lives and goals, particularly in the context of becoming effective teachers and guidance professionals. The course is relevant to all teachers and guidance personnel who wish to enhance their counselling competencies. Participants are expected to engage actively in experiential learning activities and personal reflections.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

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### **MEDD8875 Early Childhood Public Policy (6 credits)**

This course examines public policies in early childhood in the local and global context. Focusing on government policies aimed at children aged between birth and the age of primary education, it uses a comparative perspective by examining and critically evaluating early childhood policy in several different high-income countries or jurisdictions, including Hong Kong, and also considers the differing context and recent policy developments in low- and middle- income countries. The course discusses different models of early childhood service provision, trends and patterns in differences in rates of service participation and

enrolment globally, policies designed to ensure a high quality of service provision, and similarities and differences in child outcomes across the countries studied.  
Assessment: 100% coursework.

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