FACULTY OF EDUCATION

BSIM0001. Information management foundations (6 credits)

This course introduces the literature of librarianship and information management and to provide an overview of the historical, current, and potential roles of libraries and information agencies. Approaches to needs analysis will be explored.

BSIM0002. Information literacy (3 credits)

This course provides a framework for an examination of information literacy issues. The central concerns are the nature of information, the nature of the autonomous learner and user needs, enquiry based learning, and information seeking behaviour.

BSIM0003. Information policy (6 credits)

The course examines the need for information policy at the macro and micro levels. Emphasis is given to the technological, political and ethical issues about information policy in the information management contexts. Topics include the role of the government in production and dissemination of information, the tension between privacy and freedom of access to information, and issues of potential conflicts in values and priorities in information policy. Models of policy development will also be examined.

BSIM0004. Information retrieval (6 credits)

This course investigates information retrieval principles, techniques and strategies from electronic information sources. It evaluates commercial and Internet databases and search engines. Data analysis, end-user products and services will also be explored.

BSIM0005. Information society issues (6 credits)

The course examines entrenched and emerging technological, political, economic, social, legal and ethical issues in the information based global society. Specific topics include intellectual property rights and copyright, information rich and poor, information and culture, technology and culture, societal needs and demands of information, and sociology of knowledge.

BSIM0006. Knowledge management (6 credits)

This course provides an introduction to KM theory, issues and developments. Human elements relating to organizational culture and learning are the focus for examining models for knowledge creation, taxonomies and sharing. Change management, communities of practice and decision-making are explored. Technical elements relating to electronic tools and platforms such as groupware, document management, intranets, customer relationship management and the use of information and communication technologies will be examined.

BSIM0007. Metadata (6 credits)

This course will examine metadata schemas and standards in the digital environment with emphasis on the development and implementation of metadata and its technological applications used in libraries and information centers to create machine understandable metadata. XML, with its ability to define formal structure and semantic definitions for metadata and models, will be introduced.

BSIM0008. Networks and telecommunications (6 credits)

This course aims to cover basic computer networks concepts and telecommunications applications. Topics include network planning, implementation, management and security as well as their application in organizations. Network configuration issues and telecommunications applications are also examined.

BSIM0010. Digital libraries: principles and applications (6 credits)

This course focuses on research and development issues in digital libraries; access strategies and interfaces; metadata and interoperability; economic and social policies and management and evaluation.

BSIM0011. Project management (6 credits)

This course introduces the project life cycle and the techniques and change management aspects of managing and planning successful projects in organizations. Conceptual foundations are the focus so students can use project management software effectively.

BSIM0012. Records management (6 credits)

This course explores the philosophy of records management and presents the basic techniques and standards for managing records. It describes the application of these techniques both to existing situations and to the creation of new records management programs. The course investigates methods for improving active, inactive and permanent records management, and the retention and disposal of records.

BSIM0013. Web services & digital publishing (6 credits)

This course focuses on the theories and techniques in using the Internet as a medium for information, research, education, communication, and multimedia resources. This course also introduces the basic standards and design that enable web services and digital publishing.

BSIM0014. User-based systems analysis (6 credits)

This subject introduces students to the evaluation and design of information systems in the context of information agencies. Technologies of networking and databases will be examined with an emphasis on usability and internal and external human factors. Mapping technology planning to organizational functions and goals as well as human-computer interactions will be discussed.

BSIM0016. Social and organizational issues of information management (6 credits)

This subject introduces the relationship between information and information systems, technology, practices, and artifacts on how people organize their work, interact, and understand experience. Individual, group, organizational, and social issues in information production and use as well as information systems design and management are discussed.

BSIM0017. Database systems (6 credits)

This course aims to introduce fundamental concepts of database management systems, with an emphasis on the relational database model and applications in information agencies. Topics include the motivation for database systems, conceptual and implementation data models, data modeling, principles of database design, data definition and manipulation languages. This course also introduces the concepts of information warehousing and data mining in the context of organizations and information management. Support for procedural database objects and object relational concepts in SQL is also introduced.

BSIM0018. Data warehousing and data mining (6 credits)

This course aims to introduce the challenges and solutions of discovering and extracting organizational information from heterogeneous sources through the use of data warehousing and data mining techniques. Topics include the motivation for and the processes of data warehousing, data warehouse architecture and design, online analytical processing, as well as concepts and techniques of data mining. Ethics and personal privacy issues in data mining are also addressed.

BSIM0019. Electronic commerce (3 credits)

This course emphasizes organizational and technological issues related to electronic commerce, such as business models for B2B or B2C e-commerce, technology infrastructure for electronic payment mechanisms, information privacy, and competitive advantage. It investigates the business concepts, skills and tools that surround the emergence of electronic commerce and the consequences of applying information technologies to different commercial processes from both operational and strategic perspectives.

BSIM4999. Project (6 credits)

Candidates are required to complete a project on an approved topic in their final year of study.

EDUC1001 Language and learning (6 credits)

This course considers the nature, organization and functioning of language itself, as our primary meaning-making resource. It covers language development in children, the role of language in learning, at home and in school, the challenges of mastering literacy, the linguistic component in educational knowledge, language across the curriculum, the language and genres of specific school subjects, and academic genres at tertiary level and beyond.

EDUC1002 Hong Kong education: systemic features and social approaches * (6 credits)

After studying the course, students will be able to identify, understand and analyse major features underlying the Hong Kong educational system, their trends of development and the social factors contributing to the formation of these systemic features.

* *This course is a prerequisite for teaching methods courses: EDUC8301, EDUC8302 and EDUC8303.*

EDUC2001 Psychology of teaching and learning * (6 credits)

This course explores a broad range of issues that affect teaching and learning. It provides opportunities for reflecting on and understanding educational practice. Emphasis will be given to the impact of the interplay between personological characteristics and learning environments upon both teaching effectiveness and learning outcome. Upon completing this course, learners will achieve an enhanced ability to create learning environments that are more conducive to student learning and development.

* *This course is a prerequisite for teaching methods courses: EDUC8301, EDUC8302 and EDUC8303.*

EDUC3001 Children with learning difficulties (3 credits)

This course considers the definition, the characteristics and the different strategies of helping children with learning difficulties. It addresses the origins of learning difficulties in children, in schools and in systems; referral procedures and means of identifying children with special needs; and the provision of services for these children.

EDUC3005 Guidance and counselling (3 credits)

This course provides an introduction to guidance and counselling. It examines the rationale underlying the provision of guidance and counselling services in schools. It is also offered as an introduction to the knowledge and skills that are basic to counselling and guidance.

EDUC4002 Curriculum concepts and issues (3 credits)

This course examines the key elements or components of school curricula and the critical questions which need to be asked about those components. The influence of social, political and economic factors on the design and implementation of the curriculum are also analysed.

EDUC4003 Concepts and values in education (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to conceptual understanding of the nature and process of education as well as its values in society. Topics concerning the nature of education include definitions of education, and aims of education. Topics concerning the values of education in society include the justification of education, educational values, and human nature and potential. Topics concerning the process of education include education and personal relationships, teaching and learning, freedom and authority, and punishment and discipline. Students are asked to discuss these issues in the context of Hong Kong education.

EDUC8001 Understanding and guiding the development of young children (6 credits)

This course will consider theoretical approaches to understanding young children and will provide an overview of physical, cognitive and social/emotional development at the infant, toddler, preschool and early primary levels. It will critically evaluate the different models of teaching, consider various methods of guiding young children's behaviour, and focus on how to create and maintain a positive learning environment. The significance and effects of play in the early childhood curriculum and ways of facilitating play will be emphasized. Methods of fostering social competence, self-esteem and self-control in the preschool environment will also be addressed.
Prerequisite: PSYC0009
(URL: http://www.hku.hk/education/courses/course-ugdyc.htm)

EDUC8002 Planning, managing and assessing services for young children (6 credits)

This course will first consider how theoretical approaches have shaped early childhood education and contemporary curriculum models. It will then address planning and implementing the curriculum/programme. Finally, it will consider assessment and evaluation in early childhood programmes. This part will address ways of assessing, recording and reporting children's progress, and ways of evaluating the different components of early childhood programmes such as the theoretical foundations, goals, physical environment, curriculum, teaching practices, social interaction and parental involvement.
Prerequisite: PSYC0009
(URL: http://www.hku.hk/education/courses/course-pmasyc.htm)

EDUC8301 Teaching science in schools (6 credits)

This course aims to help students to acquire and develop expertise as science teachers. It focuses on how best to promote and organize learning in schools.
Prerequisite: EDUC1002 and EDUC2001

EDUC8302 Teaching computer and information technology in schools (6 credits)

This course aims to help students to develop understanding about the teaching of computer studies and information technology subjects in schools. It focuses on the evolution of the curricula concerned, learning theories that would help the teaching of such subjects, and critical awareness about the power and problems of the technology.
Prerequisite: EDUC1002 and EDUC2001

EDUC8303 Teaching mathematics in schools (6 credits)

This course aims to help students to reflect upon the aims and objectives of mathematics teaching, familiarize themselves with the local school mathematics curriculum, broaden their awareness of mathematics as a subject, gain an understanding of how school students learn mathematics, and be aware of the issues in school mathematics.
Prerequisite: EDUC1002 and EDUC2001

EDUC8304 Project/Individual study (6 credits)

Students may undertake curriculum or school programme related work to develop learning resources or co-curricular programmes in an area of interest which may develop from their educational studies or teaching methods courses. Such a project could extend or be different from assignments written for specific courses.