

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Design+

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

(Applicable to students admitted in the academic year 2025-26 and thereafter)

DESIGN+ COURSES

The Design+ curriculum has two types of courses taught using specifically engineered blended learning pedagogies: Design+ studios (all studio courses are 12 credits with the exception of Design+ Studio 1 and Design+ Studio 2 which are 6 credits); and technical courses (all of which are 6 credits). All Design+ courses are assessed through 100% continuous coursework assessment.

The total student learning hours are between 1920 and 2400 hours and the total contact hours are 672 hours for the 96 credits of Design+ Major courses.

Design+ Studio Courses

(6 credit course requiring 48 contact hours and 120-150 hours of student learning activities overall, and 12 credit courses requiring 96 contact hours and 240-300 hours of student learning activities overall)

Each studio is a semester-long course, engaging students in a series of problem-based design exercises addressing core and related issues essential to the training of a designer. The studio projects, in both group and individual formats, provide opportunities to apply key theories and concepts learned in previous courses. Teaching emphasizes experiential learning and peer-to-peer interaction, and is conducted through research and analytical exercises, field studies, tutorials, design workshops, and one-on-one studio discussions. Work is regularly presented and discussed in critical review sessions. The courses are assessed through a portfolio of project work (including drawings, diagrams, physical models, prototypes, project presentations, sketch books and written work up to 3,000 words for the course) as well as contributions to discussions and activities in the studio sessions.

Technical Courses

(6 credit courses requiring 36 contact hours and 120-150 hours of student learning activities overall)

Technical courses explore fundamental theories, tools, approaches and methods related to interdisciplinary innovation and design. Encompassing the history of design, contemporary issues, interdisciplinary methods, underlying material science and engineering, data and computer applications, media, communication and representation, these courses establish key technical knowledge and skills that underpin students' studio work. Particular emphasis is placed upon overarching

concepts of environmental and cultural sustainability examined from an interdisciplinary perspective. Courses will be taught in combination with design professionals, subject specialists, and practicing professionals. Teaching is predominantly problem-based individual and small group work involving multi-aspect research and analytical exercises, tutorials, and investigative workshops. Assessment is 100% by continuous coursework which may include reading of critical texts, comparative case studies, theoretical and practical exercises, computer modelling and simulations, presentations, short essays and study reports up to 5,000 words for the whole course.

ELECTIVES

Elective Courses

(6 credits requiring approximately 120-150 hours of student learning activities)

Where required, students may take any course within the university as an elective, subject to the prior agreement of the Design+ program director.