

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG****Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Social Sciences**Programme in China StudiesCREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

The joint China Studies programme offered by the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Social Sciences is an interdisciplinary major/minor that offers students a broad-based education in China Studies that includes courses in history, politics, language, society, economy, culture and people. The programme combines the perspectives and curricular strengths of a variety of disciplines across both Faculties.

Most China Studies courses bear 6 credits and, unless specified, involve 120-180 hours of student learning activities, including lectures, tutorials, seminars, and various forms of self-directed study. The 12-credit dissertation course involves ~~120 to~~ 300 hours of student learning activities. 6-credit courses normally have 24-36 hours of contact. However, some may have different learning modes and, consequently, fewer contact hours. Exceptions include Research courses and Dissertation courses, where contact hours are minimal (12-24 hours for a 6-credit course, or 6-24 hours for a 12-credit course). All courses are assessed by 100% continuous assessment unless specified. As a general guide, regardless of the teaching method used, the total output should be not more than 7,500 words for a 6-credit course and not more than 9,000 words for a 12-credit course. Students are assessed through a variety of mechanisms as described below.

*1. Introductory courses (6 credits)*

Introductory courses in China Studies offered by both Faculties are interdisciplinary and showcase the best contemporary international scholarship on China in the arts and social sciences. Each course normally takes the form of 150 hours of student learning activities, including lectures and tutorials. Assessments include essays, projects, presentations and tests. A particular course's evaluation scheme may include a writing assignment based on original research (from 3,000 to 5,000 words) and/or a final test given in class at the end of the semester (100% coursework).

*2. Seminar courses (6 credits)*

Seminar courses introduce students to a variety of specialized topics about China's political, economic, social and cultural development from the early modern era to present day. The seminars in both Faculties emphasize methodological issues and disciplinary dialogues and encourage innovative and boundary-crossing modes in intellectual inquiry. These courses involve 150 hours of student learning activities, including some lectures. Students are assessed based on essays, presentations, weekly assignments, and in-class performance (totaling 5,000-7,000 words) and/or a final examination (60-100% coursework, 0-40% exam).

*3. Research methodology courses (6 credits)*

Students may take research methodology courses in arts and social sciences. These courses

are designed to equip students with basic concepts and principles relevant to arts and social sciences research. Students will learn how to conduct arts and social sciences research and how to perform quantitative and qualitative data analysis in their studies. These courses involve 150 hours of student learning activities, including lectures and tutorials. Students are assessed based on essays, projects, presentations (totaling 5,000 words) and/or a final examination (60-100% coursework, 0-40% exam).

#### 4. *Internship* (6 credits)

These courses enable undergraduates to work and learn in the professional world and local community. Students must apply what they have learned in the classroom to real and practical situations in social organizations and/or workplaces. Students participating in these courses have an opportunity to reflect on how concepts learned in the classroom can help to solve social problems, analyzing social and policy issues, and promoting social innovation in Hong Kong and beyond. Students are assessed based on their work place performance (120-180 hours of internship), a reflective journal and literature review that links academic work to their internship experience, and an integrative essay (totaling not more than 7,500 words) and/or presentation (100% coursework).

#### 5. *Summer institutes* (6 credits)

Summer institutes are designed to provide students with platforms to engage in cross-cultural learning and enhance their ability to engage with the places and human communities that they study. Students participating in these 4-week summer programmes (150 hours of study load) will be heavily involved in intensive learning activities such as academic lectures and seminars, professional and site visits and cultural activities with a China studies focus. Students are assessed based on an essay (3,000 words), a final research project (4,000 words) and/or performance in group and class discussions (100% coursework).

#### 6. *Research courses: Capstone* (6 credits)

These research courses are designed to integrate what students have learned in the China Studies programme and focus on honing research and analytical skills. The courses entail in-depth research by the student on a pertinent topic related to China Studies, which must be approved and supervised by a staff member of the China Studies programme. Students are required to participate in an induction workshop and to schedule and attend regular meetings with their supervisors, and supervision will be carried out through in-person meetings supplemented by written correspondence. Students are assessed based on their performance during the preparation as well as the actual final draft of their research papers (each will be 3,000 to 5,000 words, and must be supported with an extensive bibliography), which will be considered equivalent to totaling 100% coursework.

#### 7. *Dissertation* (12 credits)

Students in this course, which involves 300 hours of learning activities, will be expected to submit a written dissertation (approximately 9,000 words) based on research about an aspect of modern China's development, for which they are expected to conduct fieldwork in either China or Taiwan as part of the course. The course involves mandatory participation in an induction workshop, as well as regular supervision, which may be given through in-person

meetings or written correspondence. The dissertation must demonstrate the student's capacity to formulate a research problem and answer this research problem using interdisciplinary methods. Students are assessed by their performance during the preparation of rough drafts and the quality of the final drafts of their dissertations, totaling 100% coursework.

8. Field trips (6 credits)

Field trips supplement the programme's home-campus based curriculum by enhancing students' experiential knowledge of various parts of Mainland China and Taiwan. Each field trip will generally be structured to include study and residence in one urban area and an adjoining rural area to show the symbiotic relationship between "city" and "countryside." Students participating in field trips must attend preparatory seminars to learn about the sites they are visiting and the skills they need to perform their instructor-guided independent research, be fully engaged in all the activities that they undertake during the 7-10-day field trip (120 hours in total), and then present their research in oral and written forms after they return to HKU. Assessment will include a final research project (2,500-3,000 words), performance in group and class discussions and during the field trip, and/or a presentation (100% coursework).

August 2017