

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**Bachelor of Arts Programme in Philosophy****CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT**

The Philosophy programme consists of 6-credit courses, offered at both introductory and advanced levels, and a small number of 12-credit courses. A range of 120 – 180 hours of student learning activity (including both contact hours and all other forms of student learning activity) is the norm for a 6-credit course. Students must complete 240-360 hours of student learning activity (including both contact hours and all other forms of student learning activity) for a 12-credit course.

Contact hours are normally in a range of 24-36 hours for a 6-credit course. However, some may have different learning modes and, consequently, fewer contact hours. Contact hours are in a range of 0-12 for the online course because learning mainly takes place online. Contact hours are also minimal (6-24 hours) for the 12-credit Research course because students do independent research work under the guidance of a supervisor. As a general guide, regardless of the teaching method used, the total output should be not more than 10,000 words for all courses. The courses may be summarised as follows:

1. *Introductory courses* (6 credits)

Introductory courses introduce students to particular areas of philosophy and help them develop skills essential to critical thinking and writing. There are lectures and tutorials. Assessable outputs include written assignments, projects, presentations, course participation, and/or tests.

2. *Lecture courses* (6 credits)

These courses, suitable for students in their second year or beyond, survey a particular area of philosophy, the work of selected philosophers, or a certain period of philosophical history. The courses comprise lectures and tutorials or seminars as determined by the teacher. Assessment is by written assignments, projects, presentations, course participation, and/or tests.

3. *Seminar courses* (6 credits)

These advanced courses are taught seminar-style, focusing particularly on in-depth reading and class discussion. There might also be tutorials. Assessable outputs include written assignments, presentations, course participation, and/or tests. The course “Senior Seminar” is a capstone experience course.

4. *Online courses* (6 credits)

These courses usually have no lectures and students study online material on their own. They can interact with teachers and other students through online channels and in some cases tutorials. Assessment is by written assignments including for example problem sets, course participation, and/or tests.

5. *Research courses: capstone* (6 credits or 12 credits)

Students write a Senior Essay, which is a 6-credit individual capstone research project written under the supervision of one member of staff. Alternatively, final-year students may opt to write a 12-credit Senior Thesis. The Senior Essay has a total written output of not more than 5,000 words, the Senior Thesis 10,000.

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