

## **THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT**

### **Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood and Special Education [BEd(ECE&SE)]**

The Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood Education and Special Education consists of three main types of courses, including Core and Elective courses (162 credits), an Independent Project (18 credits), and Professional Practicum (66 credits). Each 6-credit course will involve 24 contact hours and approximately 150 hours of student learning activity (including lectures, tutorials, online interaction, class participation, school/site visits, teaching preparation, classroom teaching, and self-study). Most courses will use a variety of methods for assessing attainment of learning objectives. The types of courses within the curriculum are elaborated below:

#### 1. Core and Elective courses (6 credits)

These courses help students build up fundamental knowledge of child development; early childhood education; skills for teaching all children from birth to age six in both inclusive, mainstream settings and special educational settings; commitment to ethical practice; and a global outlook to become leaders in the fields of Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Special Education. Assessment methods will be aligned with the stated learning outcomes of the courses. A range of assessment tasks will be used in core and elective courses, which may include the following: group work, individual essays, in-class presentations, participation in online tasks, teaching portfolios, reflective assignments, etc. Written work will not typically exceed 4,000 words for each 6-credit course.

Assessment is by 100% coursework.

#### 2. Independent project (18 credits)

The independent project provides students with an opportunity to apply and extend their knowledge and skills developed through the curriculum in an independent research project. This project will be completed under the supervision of a Faculty mentor in a self-selected area of interest. The project will entail approximately 300 hours of student learning activities, including 20 contact hours with supervisor, literature review, reading, data collection, data analysis and project writing. Assessment will be in the form of a written report of about 12,000 to 15,000 words. Assessment is by 100% coursework.

#### 3. Professional Practicum\* (12, 24 or 30 credits)

Students are required to complete 66 credits of professional practicum for the capstone experience. Professional practicum is a professional requirement that enables candidates to develop teaching competencies within the childhood care and kindergarten environment. It gives students the opportunity to apply theoretical knowledge to practice in multiple early childhood settings that cater to children, ranging in age from birth to six years of age, with typical and atypical development. Professional practicum sites include childcare centres, special childcare centres, and integrated kindergartens. Students will prepare for their teaching and spend a total of 16 weeks in various practicum sites. Contact hours are about 264 hours with supervisors and mentor teachers

which occur mainly during the practicum preparation and reporting phrases, onsite teaching supervision visits and individual consultations. Assessment tasks will normally include teaching performances, teaching portfolios, curriculum outlines, lesson plans, observation tasks, self-reflections and oral presentations, with a total written output of about 38,000 words.

For 12-credit professional practicum course, the total study load is 205 hours, including 80 hours of practicum and 125 hours of self-study/practicum preparation. The written output requirement is around 7,000 words. For 24-credit professional practicum course, the total study load is 620 hours, including 240 hours of practicum and 380 hours of self-study/practicum preparation. The written output requirement is around 14,000 words. For 30-credit professional practicum course, the total study load is 825 hours, including 320 hours of practicum and 505 hours of self-study/practicum preparation. The written output requirement is around 17,000 words.

Assessment is 100% based upon performance in Professional Practicum and coursework.

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Note:

\*Calculation of Contact Hours and Student Learning Activity Hours

66 credits = 264 Contact Hours

Contact hours occur during the preparation and reporting phrases, onsite teaching supervision visits and individual consultations.

66 credits = 1,650 hours of Student Learning Activity

Teaching Practicum: 640 hours (16 weeks x 5 days x 8 hours)

Teaching preparation: 1,010 hours (1 hour of teaching practicum entails approximately 1.5 hours of preparation)

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