

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

Bachelor of Social Sciences – Urban Governance (major and minor)

The Urban Governance programme adopts a wide variety of teaching and assessment methods across its course offering. Courses in the programme can be categorised into four types, each characterised by a distinctive learning mode. All courses are of 6-credit weighting. The programme uses 120 hours of student learning activities (including both contact hours and other forms of learning activities) as the norm for a 6-credit course. The contact hours and output requirements for different types of courses vary according to the learning modes employed. However, the minimum contact hours for the introductory and thematic courses will be at least 24 hours of lectures and 6 hours of tutorials/seminars/field work. Assessment methods include written work (e.g. critical reviews, individual and group reports, essays), presentation (poster, web, group), tests and examination (multiple-choice, short answer, essay). Normally, the written work for the introductory and thematic courses will have a requirement of not more than 2,500 and 3,500 words respectively. The four types of courses are summarised as follows:

1. Introductory courses (6 credits)

These courses shall be taken in Year 1 and/or Year 2. They provide students with an introduction to some basic aspects and features of Geography and other social sciences disciplines. Teaching consists of lectures (2 hours per week) and coursework. Assessment is generally by means of end-of-semester examination, a variety of coursework assignments and/or term tests (40-60% exam, 40-60% coursework).

2. Thematic courses (6 credits)

These courses focus on thematic contents and introduce subject-specific skills. They are taught by a combination of lectures (24 hours), tutorials, seminars, and fieldwork-based practicals. Assessment is generally by means of end-of-semester examination, a variety of coursework assignments and/or term tests (0-60% exam, 40-100% coursework).

3. Workshop/Laboratory courses (6 credits)

These courses aim at introducing and enriching the students' discipline-specific skills. They are taught by laboratory-based practicals, supplemented by lectures and field visits. Assessment is generally by means of end-of-semester examination, a variety of coursework assignments and/or term tests (40% exam, 60% coursework).

4. Research course (6 credits)

This course aims at providing students with an opportunity to pursue their own research interests under the supervision of a teacher. Contact hours are minimal (6-12 hours) as students are actively engaged in individual research. Assessment is by means of a written report (3,500 words) and oral presentation.