

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Credit Unit Statement (CUS) of Taught Programmes

Faculty / Offering Unit: Faculty of Social Sciences

Programme title: Computational Social Science (Major)

Applicable student cohort(s): Admitted in the academic year 2025-26 and thereafter

The Major in Computational Social Science programme consists of four different categories of courses which are taught using distinctive learning modes. All courses are 6-credit courses. Each 6-credit course involves 120-150 hours of student learning activity (including both contact hours of around 36 hours and all other forms of student learning activity). The contact hours and output requirements for different types of courses vary according to the learning modes employed. The total number of student learning hours is 1920-2400 hours, and the total number of contact hours is no less than 428 hours.

1. Introductory courses (6 credits)

The introductory courses provide students with an overview of the fundamental concepts and features of computational social science, including the ethical use and safety. Teaching normally takes from the form of one 2-hour lecture and 1-hour tutorial or seminar each week throughout a regular 13-week semester. Assessments are conducted by way of essays, projects and presentations (100% coursework).

2. Core disciplinary courses (6 credits)

The Major in Computational Social Science programme requires three 6-credit courses as core courses. Teaching normally takes from the form of one 2-hour lecture and 1-hour tutorial or seminar each week throughout a regular 13-week semester. Assessments are conducted by way of essays, projects and presentations (100% coursework).

3. Elective disciplinary courses (6 credits)

The Major in Computational Social Science programme requires different kinds of standard 6-credit courses as electives. Students should take five elective courses from a designated course list, or one elective course from the designated course list with other four elective courses from the syllabuses of their chosen concentration. Teaching normally takes from the form of one 2-hour lecture and 1-hour tutorial or seminar each week throughout a regular 13-week semester. Assessments are conducted by way of essays, projects, presentations and/or a final examination (0-50% exam, 50-100% coursework).

4. Capstone project (6 credits)

The capstone project course is a compulsory component of the Major in Computational Social Science programme. It integrates and applies the knowledge and skills that students have acquired through the programme under the supervision of a teacher. Students will be in regular one-to-one consultation or small group meetings with their teacher (about 12 supervision hours), but are expected to spend much of their time on research and writing. Assessment takes the form of a presentation and a written project of a reasonable length, about 10,000 words. (100% coursework).