

Part III

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG FACULTY OF ARTS

Master of Arts in Art History

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

The Master of Arts (MA) Programme in Art History consists of three types of courses which are taught using various learning modes. Following HKU guidelines, the normal time requirement for 6-credit courses is 120 hours of student learning activity, including both contact hours and all other forms of learning activity. The normal time requirement for 9-credit courses is 180 hours of student learning activity. And the normal time requirement for 12-credit courses is 240 hours of student learning activity. Our 6-credit courses normally include 24-30 contact hours, while 9-credit courses normally include 30 contact hours. The 12-credit course is an MA thesis requiring extensive independent research and writing, so the number of one-on-one contact hours with the thesis supervisor is 3-6. All courses have 100% coursework assessment. The curriculum has a total study load of 1,200 hours, of which 171 to 186 are contact hours. The three categories of courses may be summarized as follows:

1. *Lecture courses* (6 credits)

These courses are cross-listed with upper-level undergraduate classes open to undergraduate students in their third and fourth years. 3000-level courses combine lecture and seminar discussion, while 4000-level courses are based entirely on seminar discussion. All these courses require assessment in the form of a research essay and class discussion, with other possible assessment including class presentations, short essays, and tests. MA students are expected to write a longer research essay than undergraduate students, with a total output of not more than 6,000 words. The total number of student learning hours is 120.

2. *Seminar courses* (9 credits)

These are MA courses taught in seminar mode, with some including workshop elements or experiential learning elements. Assessment for the two required MA core courses includes class discussion, short essays, tests, and a draft thesis proposal. Assessment for the elective MA courses includes class discussion, an in-depth research essay, and presentations. The total output is not more than 8,000 words and the total number of student learning hours is 180.

3. *Research course: capstone experience* (12 credits)

This is an MA dissertation produced under the supervision of a supervisor, based on original research and argumentation. The length of the dissertation is 10,000 words, presented in accordance with standards of professional art historical writing. Completion of this course will fulfill a student's capstone requirement. The total number of student learning hours is 240.