

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**  
**FACULTY OF ARTS**

**Master of Arts in the field of Hong Kong History**

**CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT**

*(Applicable to students admitted in the academic year 2023-24 and thereafter)*

The Master of Arts (MA) Programme in the field of Hong Kong History consists of two types of courses which are taught using various learning modes. Following HKU guidelines, the normal time requirement for 9-credit courses is 180 hours of student learning activity including contact hours and all other learning activities. 9-credit courses normally include 30 contact hours. Students are expected to take six seminar courses in this programme, which have a total study load of 1,080 hours (6 x 180 hours). Contact hours are minimal for 12-credit courses, because students do independent research work for their dissertations or research projects under the guidance of a supervisor. The total number of study hours for a research course (capstone experience) is 240 study hours. The programme has a total study load of 1,320 hours (1,080 + 240 hours), of which around 190-210 are contact hours. All courses have 100% coursework assessment. The two categories of History courses may be summarised as follows:

1. *Seminar Courses (9 credits)*

All are taught as seminars, though there may be workshops or experiential learning components. Assessments may include participation, essays, reports, draft proposals, reflective exercises, and presentations. The total output is not more than 8,000 words and the total number of student learning hours is 180.

2. *Research Courses: Capstone Experience (12 credits)*

Students have two options. The MA dissertation course provides students with an opportunity to pursue their own research interests and to produce a dissertation based upon original research, analysis and argument under the supervision of a teacher. Contact hours are minimal (10-15 hours across the semester) because students spend much of their time on individual research and writing. Assessment is through the dissertation (not more than 10,000 words). The Public History Project course also provides students with the opportunity to pursue their own research interests. Unlike the MA dissertation, this communication-intensive course involves a combination of writing (a research-based output of around 5,000 words), seminars, and presentation of research findings with the general public. The Public History Project course has around 30 contact hours across the semester. For both research courses, the total number of student learning hours is 240.