

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF ARTS

Master of Arts in the field of Music Studies

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

The Master of Arts (MA) Programme in the field of Music Studies consists of four 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 requirement in terms of hours for 9-credit courses is 180 hours of student learning activity including contact hours and all other learning activities. 6-credit courses normally include 24-30 contact hours, while 9-credit courses normally include 30 contact hours. Contact hours will be a minimum of 5 hours for 12-credit courses, in which students will pursue independent research work for their Capstone projects under the guidance of a supervisor. The total number of student learning hours for Capstone courses is 240. The programme has a total study load of 1,200 hours, of which 171 to 186 are contact hours. All courses have 100% coursework assessment. The four categories of Music Studies courses may be summarised as follows:

1. *Survey courses* (6 credits)

These courses are cross-listed with undergraduate courses open to undergraduate students in their third and fourth years. These courses may combine seminar and lecture discussion. Assessment methods are left up to individual teachers but will normally include essays, reports and in-class tests totaling not more than 6,000 words.

2. *Seminar courses* (Ug) (6 credits)

These courses are cross-listed with 3000-level and 4000-level undergraduate courses. These courses may include workshop and experiential learning activities. Assessment methods vary but may include essays, seminar reports, journals, portfolios, and seminar presentations totaling not more than 6,000 words.

3. *Seminar courses* (MA) (9 credits)

These MA courses are taught as seminars, which may include workshop or experiential learning activities. Assessment may include participation, research essays, short written assignments, reflective exercises, and presentations. The total output is not more than 8,000 words.

4. *Research courses: capstone experience* (12 credits)

The capstone courses require students to complete advanced research projects under the guidance of a supervisor. Students will have a minimum of 5 contact hours, as the projects mostly entail independent research and self-study.

Part III

There are three options for the capstone component of the programme. The first option is a dissertation. Students will develop a research project based on original research, analysis, and argumentation, which will take the form of an extended essay of approximately 10,000 words.

The second option is to conduct portfolio work. Portfolio work entails revising at least two previous MA papers into a final paper of approximately 10,000 words.

The third option is an individual project. Students may choose to pursue a project based on creative work or a performance lecture/demonstration, in which case they will submit a written report of around 5,000 words based on original research.