THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Master of Architecture (Design) Curriculum [MArch(Design)]

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

Overview

Candidates entering the MArch (Design) curriculum in the 2021-22 academic year will take a total of 204 credits for the three year full time curriculum. All curriculum courses are 6 credit courses with the exception of the Design courses which are 6, 12 or 18 credits each. A range of 120-180 hours of student learning activity (including both contact hours and all other forms of student learning activity) is the norm for a 6-credit course. Candidates must complete 120-180, 240-360 or 360-540 hours of student learning activity (including both contact hours and all other forms of student learning activity) respectively for a 6, 12 or 18-credit design course. Contact hours for each course vary depending on the diversity of modes of learning and assessment. The total student learning hours for the MArch (Design) curriculum is 4080 – 6120 hours, including contact hours, study time, assignment and assessment. The total contact hours for the MArch(Design) curriculum are around 1164 hours.

The MArch (Design) curriculum requires 204 credits, including 90 credits of Design courses and 66 credits of Core Seminar courses in key topics of the discipline and profession. The 18 Core Courses consist of 7 Design courses and 11 Core Seminar courses. In addition, candidates are required to take 48 credits of elective courses, in the categories of History and Theory, Urbanisation and Habitation, Technology and Sustainability, Digital Media and Fabrication, and Practice and Management.

All design, core and elective courses are semester long courses with the First and Second academic year comprising of three semesters, and the Third year comprising of two semesters. Courses utilize a variety of modes of assessment including design presentations, portfolios, case studies, reading analyses, written assignments, research papers, visual projects, integrated coursework, and examinations. Most courses are assessed 100% by continuous assessment, though examinations may comprise up to 60% of assessment in some courses.

Design Courses

Each 6, 12 or 18-credit design course requires approximately 120-180, 240-360 or 360-540 hours of student learning activities respectively in one semester. Design courses are assessed through design reviews and portfolios that evaluate the coursework through quality of analysis, quality of design, comprehensiveness of design process, clarity of ideas, and the effectiveness of communication and presentation. Within the total student learning hours, approximately 32, 64 or 96 contact hours of instruction are required respectively for each 6, 12 or 18-credit design course in order to achieve the stated learning outcomes within the curriculum. Assessment is by 100% continuous assessment. The total written output varies among different courses and ranges from 0 to 10,000 words for each 6, 12 or 18-credit design course.

Core Courses

Each 6-credit core seminar course requires approximately 120-180 hours of student learning activities in one semester. Core courses are assessed through a variety of modes including class presentations, case studies, reading analysis, written assignments, research papers, visual projects and integrated coursework. Approximately 36 contact hours of instruction are required in order to achieve stated learning outcomes within the curriculum. Assessment is by 100% continuous assessment. The total written output varies among different courses and ranges from 200 to 5,000 words.

Elective Courses

Each 6-credit elective course requires approximately 120-180 hours of student learning activities in one semester. Elective courses are assessed through a variety of modes including class presentations, case studies, reading analysis, written assignments, research papers, visual projects, integrated coursework, and examinations. Approximately 36 contact hours of instruction are required in order to achieve stated learning outcomes within the curriculum. Candidates shall be guided in selecting these courses. Candidates shall pass eight elective courses, with required electives courses listed in the syllabus, and enroll in no more than two elective courses in any of the categories, unless otherwise permitted by the Head of Department. Assessment is by 100% continuous assessment, except for ARCH7561 Principles and Practices of Building Codes which is comprised of 40-60% continuous assessment and 40-60% written examination. The total written output varies among different courses and ranges from 0 to 5,000 words.

Categories:

I. History and Theory

6 Credits Each Course

II. Urbanisation and Habitation

6 Credits Each Course

III. Technology and Sustainability

IV. Digital Media and Fabrication

6 Credits Each Course

6 Credits Each Course

V. Practice and Management

6 Credits Each Course

Total Eight Elective Courses Required

Subtotal: 48 Credits

9 October 2023