

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF SCIENCE**

**Credit Unit Statement
Master of Data Science (MDASC)**

(applicable to students admitted in the academic year 2021-22 and thereafter)

1. General guideline for contact hours requirement in the MDASC Degree Curriculum

- (a) A 6-credit course has around 120-180 total study hours, including contact hours, study time, assignment and assessment.
- (b) A 3-credit course has around 60-90 total study hours, including contact hours, study time, assignment and assessment.
- (c) About 30% of the total study hours are actual contact hours in the form of a class, e.g. lecture and tutorial/discussion hours.
- (d) A 6-credit course has around 24-36 lecture hours.
- (e) A 3-credit course has around 12-18 lecture hours.
- (f) For lecture-based courses, normally there will be tutorial sessions.
- (g) For courses employing a non-lecture or lab-based approach, e.g. IT-based or project-based courses, students are expected to devote about 60-90 hours for a 3-credit course, 120-180 hours for a 6-credit course, and 240-360 hours for a 12-credit course.

2. Credit Unit Statement of the MDASC Degree Curriculum

Total study load of the curriculum: 1800 learning hours

The MDASC degree curriculum consists of three major types of courses based on the learning activities. The majority of courses in the programmes are 6 credits. Examples of the contact hour requirements for the three categories of courses are described as follows.

(a) Lecture-based courses (3 or 6 credits)

Contact hours for 6-credit course: 24-36 hours of lectures and/or tutorials

Contact hours for 3-credit course: 12-18 hours of lectures and/or tutorials

These courses are taught predominantly by lectures and tutorials. Assessment is by a combination of examination (0-75%) and continuous assessment (25-100%). Continuous assessment tasks include written assignments (totalling no more than 8,000 words) such as essays and project reports, and oral presentations. The requirement for a 3-credit lecture-based course will be about one-half of that of a 6-credit lecture-based course. Details of the assessment tasks can be found in the description of individual courses.

(b) Lecture with laboratory component courses (6 credits)

Contact hours: 30-36 hours of lectures and/or tutorials

These courses are taught by a combination of lectures and laboratory/practical sessions. Assessment is by a combination of examination (0-50%) and continuous assessment (50-100%). Continuous assessment tasks include coursework (totalling no more than 8,000 words) such as assignments, essays, laboratory reports, and project reports, and oral presentations. Details of the assessment tasks can be found in the description of individual courses.

(c) Project (12 credits)

Contact hours: 20 hours (at least 10 meetings with supervisor over two semesters)

This course aims at providing students with an opportunity to pursue their own research interest under the supervision of a teacher. The teacher will meet with the student regularly to discuss project

progress. Assessment (by 100% coursework) includes research reports or a dissertation (totalling no more than 20,000 words) (75%) and oral presentation (25%) on the basis of letter grades and grade points. Details of the assessment tasks can be found in the description of individual courses.

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