THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Master of Digital Urban Management

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

(applicable to students admitted
in the academic year 2025-26 and thereafter)

Overview

The Master of Digital Urban Management Programme, offered by the Department of Urban Planning and Design of the Faculty of Architecture and Urban Systems Institute, features a curriculum consists of three types of courses with distinctive teaching and learning objectives. It includes six Core Courses of 36 credits and three elective courses of 18 credits. In addition, candidates are required to complete a Dissertation or a Capstone Project. All courses bear 6 credits, with the exception of the 15-credit Dissertation/Capstone Project. The programme uses 150 hours of student learning activities as the norm for the 6-credit courses, and 375 hours of student learning activities (including contact hours) for the 15-credit courses. In total, there are 1,725 hours of student learning activity including approximately 236 contact hours. The three course categories are summarized below.

(1) Core courses (6 credits each)

These are the foundation and essential courses that provide students with the theoretical and professional knowledge in digital city management. Six courses fall into this category. These courses are delivered primarily by means of lectures and/or tutorials/seminars (normally 24 hours in total). Assessment methods are decided by the individual teachers to tally with the intended learning outcomes of the courses. Assessment tasks may include the writing of essays, reports, in-class tests, class participation, teamwork performance, examination and so on. The total written output varies among different courses and ranges from 3,000 to 8,000 words. Assessment is normally by means of 100% coursework.

(2) Elective courses (6 credits each)

These are the specialization courses in connection with digital city management to be selected and approved by the Department from time to time. The courses are organized in two specialisms, namely *Urban Policy and Management specialism* and *Urban Technology and Analytics specialism*. Students are required to take three elective courses. Choosing three elective courses from the same category will form a specialism of the curriculum. Students can choose not to focus on any specialism. For the 6-credit elective courses, the teaching pedagogy, delivery format and assessment methods are similar to those of the 6-credit core courses which normally represents 150 hours of student learning activity (including approximately 24 contact hours). Assessment is normally by means of 100% coursework. Assessment tasks may include the writing of essays and reports, class participation, group projects, practical assignments, examinations and so on. The total written output varies among different courses and ranges from 3,000 to 8,000 words. For the courses involving examinations due to pedagogical reasons, examination comprises 30 – 40% of the assessment.

(3) Dissertation/Capstone Project (15 credits each)

Students can choose either a dissertation or a capstone project.

i) Dissertation

The course contains 375 hours of student learning activity (including 20 contact hours). Each student is assigned a dissertation supervisor from among the teachers contributing to the programme. Briefings on research proposal, research design, and methodology/methods will be provided to facilitate dissertation preparation. Individual students are required to defend their research proposals and regularly report their progress to their assigned supervisors. It is assessed through continuous assessment and the dissertation should be between 10,000 to 15,000 words in length. The examiners may prescribe an oral examination of the subject of the dissertation.

ii) Capstone Project

The course contains 375 hours of student learning activity (including 20 contact hours). It aims to provide students with opportunities to integrate the acquired knowledge, skills, and techniques to support and enhance city management through the utilization of smart technologies. Students are expected to work on their own most of the time, though there will be weekly group meetings with their supervisors, for guidance and feedback. Assessment methods include a group report worth 60% of the mark and an individual paper worth 40% of the mark. The total written output in this course is 15,000 – 26,000 words (12,000 – 20,000 words for group project and 3,000 – 6,000 words for individual paper).

(November 2024)