THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

Master of Education (MEd)

The major objectives of the MEd programme are to provide students with a general understanding of education as a field of study; to encourage focused mastery of a chosen area of specialization; and to equip students with the skills to understand and conduct educational research. The MEd Programme can be completed over one academic year of full-time study, or two but no more than four consecutive academic years of part-time study. There are two parallel strands within the MEd programme:

I. Generalist Strand
II. Specialist Strand

Candidates are required to complete a total of 60 credits to be eligible for the award of the degree. We use 150 hours of student learning activity (including timetabled classes, online interaction, reading, studying, practical work, site visits, researching and writing assignments) as the norm for a 6-credit course and the contact hours is in a range of 24-30 hours.

The **Generalist Strand** consists of a core course in educational studies (6 credits), a research methods course (12 credits), and either 6 general elective courses plus a project (6 credits each), or 4 general elective courses (6 credits each) plus a dissertation (18 credits).

Majority of the specialisms in the **Specialist Strand** consists of a research methods course (12 credits), 4 specialist courses, and either 1 elective course plus the dissertation (18 credits), or 3 elective courses plus a project (6 credits each). The exceptions are the specialisms of Chinese Language and Literature, English Language Studies, and Teaching and Learning Chinese Language which do not have the dissertation option. Candidates are required to complete a research methods course (12 credits), 4 specialist courses, 3 specialist elective courses and a project.

1. Methods of research and enquiry (12 credits)

Candidates are provided with a systematic introduction to educational research methods, with a particular emphasis on critical reading and understanding of a variety of approaches to research in education, including methods of data collection and analysis. It is a combination of lectures, workshops and seminars in the aspects of research skills training. Normally the total word length of written output for various assessment tasks is between 7,000-8,000 words or equivalent.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

2. Project (6 credits)

The project consists of independent study and a negotiated assignment, normally between 4,000 and 5,000 words in length. The purpose of this course is to provide students with an opportunity to build on or extend interests developed in other areas of education by undertaking an individual project by independent study.
Assessment: 100% coursework

3. *Dissertation (18 credits)*

The dissertation is normally between 12,000 and 20,000 words in length depending on the nature of the study, on an approved topic in the specialist area. Candidates are required to participate in a series of dissertation seminars. The dissertation option is not available for the Chinese Language Literature, the English Language Studies and the Teaching and Learning Chinese Language specialisms.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

4. *Specialist courses (6 credits each)*

These courses comprise the specialist knowledge areas for each specialism of the programme. Normally the total word length of assessment is 3,000-4,000 words or equivalent.
Assessment: 100% coursework.

5. *General electives (6 credits each)*

Elective courses introduce the intellectual frameworks of education presented by philosophers, historians, sociologists, and psychologists, and to other areas of study that give students a deeper understanding of topics related to the specialization. Electives also provide students with the opportunity to study things in which they simply might be interested, without any immediate direct relevance or usefulness, in order to broaden your general appreciation of education. Normally the total word length of assessment is 3,000-4,000 words or equivalent.
Assessment: 100% coursework.