

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

Master of Global Public Policy

The Master of Global Public Policy consists of three different types of courses that are taught using distinctive learning modes. The majority of courses are 9-credit courses, but we also have a small number of 3-credit and 6-credit courses. The norm of total expected learning activities hour for a 9-credit course is 195 including 45 contact hours (consisting of intensive face-to-face instruction session and online learning session), other preparatory learning activities outside the classroom, and assessment tasks required with associated preparations. However, the actual learning activities hours and output requirements for different types of courses vary according to the learning modes employed.

Assessment methods include written work (e.g. memos, individual and group reports, essays, case analysis, and reflective papers), presentation (debate, poster, web, individual, and group), and written examination (short answers, and essay).

1. Class Discussion: Global Policy Challenges and Solutions (6 credits)

These courses have a shared purpose, which is to engage students directly in public policy issues through informed discourse and debate in class and pre-class online learning session (30 contact hours). Students are required to complete 100 hours of preparatory learning activities such as reading and data searching before the class, and participate in class discussion with outgoing students in the same cohort and incoming students in the next cohort. Assessment tasks will normally include contribution to discussions, presentation, and writing of synopses of discussions or/and policy paper (100% continuous assessment), totaling not more than 5,000 words.

2. Lecture Courses (3, 6 and 9 credits)

Students are required to complete eight courses that each cover a range of specialist areas in public policy, including Economic Foundation, Leadership in Public-Private Partnerships, Policy Analysis, Comparative Policy Context, Quantitative Research Methods, Policy Process, and Global Policy Challenges. Teaching normally takes the form of intensive face-to-face instruction session during the two weeks residential sessions at HKU or USC twice a year and online learning sessions. The contact hours, study loads and output requirements of courses with different credit values are listed as follows:

Lecture Course	Contact Hours (face-to-face instruction and online learning)	Self-preparatory Hours (e.g. reading, data searching & associated preparation for assessment tasks)	Assessment Tasks (by various methods)
3 credits	15 hours	45 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class participation - Individual /group project presentation - Writing of policy paper/report (around 4,000 words)

6 credits	30 hours	100 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class participation - Individual /group project presentation - Writing of policy paper/report (around 5,000 words)
9 credits	45 hours	150 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Class participation - Individual /group project presentation - Writing of policy paper/report (not more than 7,000 words) - Quizzes - 2-3 hours written examination <p>(50-65% coursework, 35-50% exam)</p>

3. *Public Policy Capstone (9 credits)*

The Public Policy Capstone, consisting of 45 contact hours and 165 self-preparatory hours, aims at providing students with an opportunity to learn working on a specific client-oriented public policy issue, assessing policy alternatives, writing an official report, communicating their findings & recommendations to the client, and standing prepared to defend & explain their policy prescriptions to a panel of experts. Students also learn how to collaborate on diverse teams using a variety of global communications and working platforms. Each student will be part of a small team to present its results in Hong Kong in February. That same person will then be assigned to another team that will present another project in LA in June. Different policy challenges, based on real world problems that will be typically developed by the faculty members in consultation with senior government officials or other representative clients, will be assigned to each team in the Hong Kong and LA sessions respectively and they are required to produce well-researched professional reports in each session (not less than 15,000 words in total). Students will receive about 22 contact hours of supervision for the capstone project (100% coursework).