

LI KA SHING FACULTY OF MEDICINE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Master of Medical Sciences (MMedSc)

Credit Unit Statement

The Master of Medical Sciences (MMedSc) offers a wide spectrum of disciplines in both basic science and clinical medicine. The curriculum is composed of three categories, viz. Core Course, Specialised Field of Study and Dissertation. Reference is drawn from the norm that each course carries 3 credit units embracing 60 hours of student study activities (including learning pursuit and experiences both within and outside the classroom, assessment tasks and examination). Candidates are required to take 12 credit units of Core Courses, 18 credit units of Specialised Courses in a selected Specialised Field of Study, and 39 credit units of capstone experience (dissertation), which comes to an aggregate of 69 credit units for the whole curriculum. The mode of teaching and assessment varies across courses and is designed according to the distinctive nature and requirements of individual courses. Assessment is a combination of continuous assessment and examination. The continuous assessment may include assignments, tests, reports, oral presentations and written examinations.

The three categories of the MMedSc curriculum are summarised as follows:

1. Core Courses (12 credit units; 240 learning hours)

The Core Courses aim at strengthening candidates' foundation knowledge in basic science disciplines and are structured for them to acquire essential skills including statistics, epidemiology, laboratory methods and bioinformatics, for the conduct of various types of biomedical sciences research. The teaching is mainly conducted by means of lectures and supplemented by tutorials, practical and workshops. Candidates are required to attend at least 80% of the teaching sessions of each course. Assessments include continuous assessment and final examination. The continuous assessment contributes to no more than 40% of the final marks. The final examination is in the form of 2-hour written examination which is held at the end of each course. Outputs may include essay, reports and oral presentations.

2. Specialised Field of Study (18 credit units of Specialised Courses; 360 learning hours)

The Specialised Courses provide candidates with opportunities to obtain in-depth knowledge in a particular discipline which enables them to engage effectively in biomedical research or technological services. The mode of teaching may include lectures, tutorials, workshops, practical/clinical attachment and literature review. Candidates are required to attend at least 80% of the teaching sessions of each course. Assessment is conducted through continuous assessment and final examinations. The continuous assessment may include written assignments, essay, oral presentations and research projects. The final examination may be in the format of multiple choice questions, short and long answer questions. Output may be in the format of essay, reports and presentations.

3. Dissertation (39 credit units; 780 learning hours)

The dissertation comprises a record of substantial experimental or clinical-based research work and/or a review of the existing literature and is conducted under supervision on a topic determined by the supervisor and the student. The dissertation (6,000-10,000 words) shall be presented in a form suitable for publication. The final dissertation accounts for 100% of the assessment.

The following table summarises the details of the three categories of courses under MMedSc curriculum:

Components	No. of Core/Specialised Courses Required	Credit Units	Learning Hours	Outputs	Assessment
Core Course	4	12	240	Essay, Presentation, Report (1,500-3,000 words)	Continuous assessment ( $\leq 40\%$ ) Examination ( $\geq 60\%$ )
Specialised Field of Study	1-6	18	360	Essay Laboratory work Literature review Presentation (2,000-3,000 words)	Continuous assessment and/or examination (100%)
Dissertation	NA	39	780	Dissertation (6,000-10,000 words)	Dissertation (100%)
<i>Total contact hours:</i>			400		
<i>Total learning hours:</i>			1380		