THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

<u>CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT</u>

Master of Science in Library and Information Management

The Master of Science in Library and Information Management curriculum consists of five different types of courses which are taught using interactive learning modes.   All courses are 6-credit courses.   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.   All courses are assessed with 100% continuous assessment, so output requirements are relatively high.   The five categories of Library and Information Management courses may be summarized as follows:

1.   *Core courses (6 credits each)*

These courses help students build up fundamental knowledge of library and information management.   Assessment methods are left to individual teachers who are encouraged to introduce assessment tasks which are appropriate to the stated learning outcomes of the courses.   Assessment tasks will normally include group work, individual work, reports, e-portfolios, journals, portfolios, proposals, case studies, and classroom and online activities. The written work should be no more than 4,000 words for 6-credit courses, and class participation and performance is usually measured.   Assessment will be by 100% coursework.

2.   *Specialist / Elective courses (6 credits each)*

These courses are divided into four specialist streams, namely Archives and records management, Librarianship, Information management and Knowledge management.   These courses help students build up fundamental knowledge in that particular specialist strand. Assessment methods are left to individual teachers who are encouraged to introduce assessment tasks which are appropriate to the stated learning outcomes of the courses. Assessment tasks will normally include group work, individual work, reports, e-portfolios, journals, portfolios, proposals, case studies, and classroom and online activities. The written work should be no more than 4,000 words for 6-credit courses, and class participation and performance is usually measured.   Assessment will be by 100% coursework.

3.   *Research course (6 credits)*

The research course focuses on the development of specific research skills.   It helps students develop high quality research proposals for dissertations and independent projects. Assessment tasks will usually include research peer review, project/ dissertation proposal, and classroom and online activities. The written work should be around 4,000 words for this 6-credit course, and class participation and performance is usually measured.   This course is the co-requisite course for students opt for dissertation.   Assessment will be by 100% coursework.

4. *Internship course (6 credits)*

This course aims at placing students into working environments where their library and information management skills can be enriched in applied situations.   There is no lecture but the internship hours and preparation of internship report is demanding.   Students are usually required to share their internship experience via blog, and to present a report which summaries his/her entire professional experience in about 3,000 words.   Assessment will be by 100% coursework (in which the internship performance assessed by the workplace supervisor will also be considered).

5. *Capstone Dissertation (18 credits) and Capstone Project (6 credits)*

All students are required to complete either a capstone dissertation or a capstone project as the capstone requirement.

The capstone dissertation is an approved independent research / development project carried out under the supervision of one or more staff members.   In normal cases it should include an empirical element.   The dissertation should provide a thorough and critical analysis of the topic undertaken by the student.   There is no lecture and students are required to submit a written dissertation of 15,000 to 18,000 words on an approved topic from a field of study. Students taking dissertation are required to complete the co-requisite course *MLIM6340 Research seminars and workshops.*

The capstone project provides students with an opportunity to apply and extend their knowledge and skills developed through the programme as well as with the strategy to demonstrate achievements of the overall learning outcomes of the programme.   By signing up for the class facilitated by lecture, the students select their preferred lecturer to work with in their capstone project.

There shall be 8 sessions in this course where students meet and are guided by the facilitator(s) on different stages of the project.   For research-based projects, the stages will include conceptualization of each project stage, methodological design, ethic application, revision of instruments, data analysis as well as writing up project reports and other deliverables.   For product creation projects, the stages will include requirement analysis, design of prototype, ethic application, development and implementation of the product, evaluation of the product, and report writing.   Rather than teachers' giving lectures, this course focuses on each individual's projects and will be highly interactive.   Guided group activities, such as presentations, will be organized in the sessions to facilitate students learning from one another.   The course creates a facilitative environment of leading from experience, and a learning community which enables students to extend what they have learnt in the programme to both academic research and professional practices outside the University. Students are required to submit a project of 4,000 to 5,000 words.