

# **THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**

## **Master of Science in Computer Science**

### **Credit Unit Statement**

The Master of Science - in Computer Science curriculum offers three types of courses, namely taught courses, project and dissertation. The total study load of the curriculum (72 credits of courses) is under the range of 1440-2160 hours. The majority of courses are 6-credit courses comprising lectures and tutorials. The curriculum also has one 12-credit Project and one 24-credit Dissertation as Capstone Experience. The norm for a 6-credit course represents a range of 120 to 180 hours of student learning activity, whereas a range of 240 to 360 hours of students learning activity will be the norm for a 12-credit Project and 480 to 720 hours of student learning activity will be the norm for a 24-credit Dissertation. Taught courses are assessed through coursework, a written examination, or a combination of coursework and a written examination. The categories of courses are summarized as follows:

#### **Taught courses (6 credits)**

These courses aim at providing students with advanced education and training in the philosophy, methods and techniques of Computer Science. The total contact hours of these courses are normally 30 hours consisting of lectures and/or tutorials. The assessment is generally based on coursework assignments and written examination. The written examination is normally 2 hours. The coursework:examination ratio for courses ranged from 0:100 to 70:30.

#### **Project (12 credits)**

The Project provides Capstone Experience of the curriculum. It aims to provide an opportunity for students to apply what they have learnt from working on a project with support from their supervisor and fellow students, making their learning experience inclusive, enjoyable, and career beneficial. The total study load is expected to be in the range of 240 to 360 hours, including the project and supporting course components. The total written output for the project is expected to be around 9,000 - 15,000 words. All assessment results will contribute to the final result of the project and is 100% based on coursework.

#### **Dissertation (24 credits)**

The Dissertation provides Capstone Experience of the curriculum. The primarily aims is to give individual students an opportunity to handle a practical problem in computer science within the practical constraints and to present the findings in a precise and concise report under the supervision of a teacher. An important part of the dissertation lies in the way in which the students plan and carry out the tasks, and apply their computer science knowledge sensibly and diligently to solve the problem. The way in which the students present their findings is equally important.

The total study load is expected to be in the range of 480 to 720 hours, including the dissertation and supporting course components, which might be in form of workshops and/or seminars and/or visits with individual assessment such as quiz and/or dissertation report. The total written output for the dissertation is expected to be around 15,000 to 28,000 words. All assessment results will contribute to the final result of the dissertation and is 100% based on coursework.

Faculty of Engineering

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