

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
Master of Science in Conservation
For 2020-21 Academic Year and Thereafter

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

The Master of Science in Conservation is a two-year part-time programme or a one-year full-time programme. The programme consists of four types of courses, which are taught using distinctive learning modes.

The majority of courses are 6 credits and a minority 3 credits, 9 credits and 18 credits. The number of required hours of student learning activities (including contact hours and other forms of student learning activities) for courses of different credit units is prescribed as follows:

3-credit course around 60 hours;

6-credit course around 120 hours;

9-credit course around 180 hours;

18-credit course around 360 hours.

Contact hours for each course vary, depending on the diversity of mode of learning and assessment. The total learning hours for the programme is 1992-2120 hours.

1. Taught Core Courses (6 or 9 credits each)

	Contact hours	Hours of other learning activities	Total workload
6-credit	20-36 hours	84-100 hours	120-136 hours
9-credit	42-55 hours	125-139 hours	180-194 hours

Taught Core Courses demonstrate the multifaceted nature of the conservation field through the study and analysis of a broad range of conservation theories and activities. These courses are the framework for the curriculum, providing the essential foundation for understanding the field of conservation. Teaching is conducted through a combination of lectures, workshops and local field studies. Assessment is based on 100% continuous assessment/coursework, in-class participation, in-class presentation, progressive assignment drafts and a final assignment submission (total written output around 3,000 words for 6-credit, and around 5,000 words for 9-credit).

2. Field Study Courses (3 or 6 credits each)

	Contact hours	Hours of other learning activities	Total workload
3-credit	18 hours	Around 42 hours	Around 60 hours
6-credit	40 hours	Around 80 hours	Around 120 hours

Field Study Courses are an integral and compulsory part of the programme and are designed to complement the taught core courses by taking students directly to international

sites of cultural heritage significance. Working with pre-arranged collaborative partners – academic institution, government agencies, NGOs, practitioners, or a combination – these field studies take students to overseas places where there are current conservation-related issues to be studied. The objective of these field study courses provides students with practical understanding of conservation related issues from real-life projects from an international scope. Assessment is based on 100% continuous assessment/coursework, active participation in the field study, as well as the refined submission of in-class presentations (no less than 1,000 words for 3-credit course and no less than 3,000 words for 6-credit course).

3. Dissertation (18 credits)

	Contact hours	Hours of other learning activities	Total workload
18-credit	10 hours	Around 350 hours	Around 360 hours

The Dissertation is a textual and graphic presentation of a student’s philosophical and technical understanding of a particular aspect of conservation. It is an opportunity for students to pursue their own research interest under the supervision of a teacher. The total study load is around 360 hours (including meetings with their supervisor of total around 10 contact hours and individual research) Assessment is 100% coursework including a dissertation (around 10,000 words).

4. Practical Training (6 credits)

	Contact hours	Hours of other learning activities	Total workload
6-credit	Minimum 72 hours	Around 48 hours	Around 120 hours

Practical Training offers students the opportunity to undertake practical on-site training in a conservation project or conservation-related activity, where students can apply their classroom learning in a real-life work environment. Students may be placed with an academic institution, a government agency, an NGO, or an approved consultancy practice in Hong Kong, Macau, Mainland China or an overseas country. The study load is around 120 hours including minimum 72 hours practical training in a real-life conservation-related project. Assessment is based on 100% continuous assessment/coursework, and successful completion of the placement, feedback from their placement host and their final report of no less than 3,000 words.