

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**  
**Master of Science (Engineering) in Civil Engineering Credit Unit Statement**

The Master of Science (Engineering) in Civil Engineering curriculum offers two types of courses, namely taught courses and dissertation. The total study load of the curriculum is 72 credits of courses. The majority of courses are 6-credit courses comprising lectures and tutorials. The curriculum also has one 24-credit Dissertation as Capstone Experience. The total student learning hours of the curriculum is expected to be 1800 hours. The norm for a 6-credit course represents a range of 120 to 180 hours of student learning activity, whereas a range of 480 to 720 hours of student learning activity will be the norm for a 24-credit Dissertation. 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 field of civil engineering. 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 15:85 to 50:50.

The number of and level of assignments, mathematical calculations, computer programming, course projects and quizzes shall be appropriate for assessing the learning outcome of the students, but in all cases, a written output should not exceed 3,000 words.

**Dissertation (24 credits)**

The Dissertation provides Capstone Experience of the curriculum. The primary aim is to give individual students an opportunity to handle a practical engineering problem 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 project lies in the way in which the students plan and carry out the tasks, and apply their engineering knowledge sensibly and diligently to solve the problem. The way in which the students present their findings is equally important.

The contact hours of instructions is 24 hours. The total study load is expected to be in the range of 480 to 720 hours, including the preliminary report, oral presentation and dissertation. There are supporting course components, which might be in form of workshops and/or seminars and/or visits. The total written output for the dissertation is expected to be around 25,000 words. All assessment results will contribute to the final result of the dissertation and is 100% based on coursework.