

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Master of Science (Engineering) in Geotechnical Engineering Credit Unit Statement

The Master of Science (Engineering) in Geotechnical Engineering curriculum offers two types of courses, namely taught courses 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 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 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 geotechnical 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

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 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 project report. 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.

Faculty of Engineering

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