

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF SCIENCE**

**Credit Unit Statement
Master of Science in Environmental Management (MSc(EnvMan))**

(applicable to students admitted in the academic year 2021-22 and thereafter)

1. General guideline for contact hours requirement in the MSc(EnvMan) Degree Curriculum

- (a) A 3-credit course has around 60-90 total study hours, including contact hours, study time, assignment and assessment.
- (b) A 6-credit course has around 120-180 total study hours, including contact hours, study time, assignment and assessment.
- (c) About 30% of the total study hours are actual contact hours in the form of a class, e.g. lecture and tutorial/discussion hours.
- (d) A 3-credit course has around 12-18 lecture hours.
- (e) A 6-credit course has around 24-36 lecture hours.
- (f) For some lecture-based courses, normally there will be tutorial/discussion sessions.
- (g) For courses employing a non-lecture or lab-based approach, e.g. field trip, IT-based or project-based courses, students are expected to devote about 60-90 hours for a 3-credit course, 120-180 hours for a 6-credit course, 180-270 hours for a 9-credit course and 300-450 hours for a 15-credit course.

2. Credit Unit Statement of the MSc(EnvMan) Degree Curriculum

The MSc(EnvMan) degree curriculum consists of six major types of courses based on the learning activities. The majority of the courses in the curriculum are 3 credits. Project and Dissertation are 9-credit and 15-credit courses, respectively, as they require more intensive student-staff interaction and/or greater student learning inputs than in a normal course. The total study load of this curriculum is approximately 1,200 – 1,800 learning hours. Examples of the contact hour requirements for the courses are described as follows.

(a) Lecture-based courses (3 or 6 credits)

Contact hours for 3-credit course: 12-18 hours of lectures and 0-6 hours of tutorial/discussion.

Contact hours for 6-credit course: 24-36 hours of lectures and 0-12 hours of tutorial/discussion.

These courses are taught predominantly by lectures and tutorials. Assessment is by a combination of examination (0-100%) and continuous assessment (0-100%). Continuous assessment tasks include written assessments (totalling no more than 9000 words for both 3-credit and 6-credit courses) such as assignments and written reports, class test, and oral presentations. Details of the assessment tasks can be found in the description of individual courses.

(b) Lecture with laboratory component courses (3 credits)

Contact hours: 12-18 hours of lectures and 3-6 hours of laboratory.

These courses are taught by a combination of lectures and laboratory/practical sessions. Assessment is by a combination of examination (0-70%) and continuous assessment (30-100%). Continuous assessment tasks include written assignments (totalling no more than 9000 words) such as essay, laboratory reports, and project reports. Detail of the assessment tasks can be found in the description of individual courses.

(c) Field trip courses (3 credits)

There are two field courses in the programme: ENVM7018 and ENVM7019.

Contact hours (ENVM7018): at least 12-18 hours of field visit. The field trip courses aim at giving students an opportunity to participate a series of field visit activities in Hong Kong and/or overseas. Students have to attend at least 6 sessions of activities (i.e. 12-18 contact hours) and finish some learning tasks (18 learning hours). Assessment is by continuous assessment (100%). Continuous assessment tasks include presentation and/ or written report (totalling no more than 3,000 words). Detail of the assessment tasks can be found in the description of individual course.

Contact hours (ENVM7019): at least 18 hours for a compulsory residential field camp and 3-6 hours of optional field trips. This field course aims to train up students' skills in ecological surveys for biodiversity assessments. Assessment is by continuous assessment (100%) which is a biodiversity assessment report (totalling no more than 3,000 words) involving field surveys in Hong Kong. Detail of the assessment tasks can be found in the description of individual course.

(d) Project-based course (9 credits)

Contact hours: Approximately 18 hours of discussion.

Being one of the capstone courses, this Project course aims at providing students with an opportunity to work as a team (2-3 students per group) to demonstrate the application of knowledge and skills to address a specific environmental issue in an innovative and creative way. The teachers will meet with the student almost monthly to discuss project progress. Assessment is by continuous assessment (100%). Assessment task is normally through research reports (around 5,000 to 8,000 words). Oral presentation (plus a poster exhibition) will form part of the assessment. Details of the assessment tasks can be found in the description of the course.

(e) Dissertation (15 credits)

Contact hours: Approximately 30 hours of discussion.

Dissertation is an individual study course. Being one of the capstone courses, this course aims at providing students with an opportunity to pursue their own research interests related to their specializations under the supervision of a teacher. The teacher will meet with the student regularly to discuss dissertation progress. Assessment is by continuous assessment (100%). Assessment includes dissertation report (at least 15,000 words, excluding reference list and appendices) and an individual presentation. Details of the assessment tasks can be found in the description of the course.

(f) Internship (6 credits)

Students have to undertake at least 160 hours of internship work.

Internship aims to offer students an opportunity to gain work experience in environmental field. Students have to undertake at least 160 hours of internship work arranged formally. Assessment is by continuous assessment (100%). Assessment tasks normally include the following outputs: a written report of no more than 3000 words and feedback from the internship supervisor and an oral presentation on students' internship experience. Details of the assessment tasks can be found in the description of the course.

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