

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG**CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT****Master of Science in Information Technology in Education**

The Master of Science in Information Technology in Education curriculum consists of three different types of courses which are taught using interactive learning modes. All courses (except the 12-credit capstone course) are 6-credit courses. We use 150 hours of student learning activity (including timetabled classes, online interaction, reading, studying, practical work, site visits, researching and writing assignments) as the norm for a 6-credit course and the contact hours is in a range of 24-30 hours. All courses are assessed with 100% continuous assessment, so output requirements are relatively high. The three categories of Information Technology in Education courses are summarized as follows:

1. Core courses (6 credits each)

These courses help students build up fundamental knowledge of information technology in education. Assessment methods are left to individual teachers who are encouraged to introduce assessment tasks which are appropriate to the stated learning outcomes of the courses. Assessment tasks will normally include group work, individual work, reports, e-portfolios, journals, portfolios, proposals, case studies, and classroom and online activities. The written work should be no more than 4,000 words for 6-credit courses, and class participation and performance is usually measured. Assessment will be by 100% coursework.

2. Specialist / Elective courses (6 credits each)

These courses are divided into three specialist streams, namely e-leadership, e-learning and learning technology design. These courses help students build up fundamental knowledge in that particular specialist strand. Assessment methods are left to individual teachers who are encouraged to introduce assessment tasks which are appropriate to the stated learning outcomes of the courses. Assessment tasks will normally include group work, individual work, reports, e-portfolios, journals, portfolios, proposals, case studies, and classroom and online activities. The written work should be no more than 4,000 words for 6-credit courses, and class participation and performance is usually measured. Assessment will be by 100% coursework.

3. Capstone Project and Research (12 credits)

All students are required to complete “Capstone project and research” as the capstone requirement.

The capstone course provides students with an opportunity to apply and extend their knowledge and skills developed through the study, and demonstrate mastery of the programme level learning outcomes.

There will be two options available for students to choose:

- Capstone Project A – A research-based project with the final deliverable in a format of a research paper suitable for an academic pursuit, such as, for inclusion in academic conference proceedings, a book chapter or a journal paper. The total word length of written output for various assessment tasks is 8,000 words, including a research-based paper of 6,000 words and conference presentation of 2,000 words.
- Capstone Project B – A development and evaluation project reflecting authentic practices from an education-focused industry, such as, e-learning in higher education or a corporate environment, education publishing industry, or a client-focused content development venture. Deliverables for this option will include (a) a final, developed and evaluated product, and (b) a paper reporting experiences in the development. The paper shall be in a format suitable for an academic conference. The total word length of written output for various assessment tasks is 8,000 words, including a development and evaluation project of 4,000 words, a project site or product of 2,000 words and a conference presentation of 2,000 words.

There shall be an equivalent of 36 hours of scheduled sessions in this course for students to (a) meet, share experiences, clarify expectations, receive guidance from their facilitator(s) and Capstone Project coordinator as groups and in respect to different stages of their project, and (b) participate in a conference to be specially arranged for the purpose of students presenting posters of their ongoing projects. In addition, 6 hours of contact time will be available for students to undergo one-to-one meetings with their facilitator(s), either in person or online and pursue consultations with other relevant stakeholders. In addition, an equivalent of 198 hours of independent work will be required for the completion. The total study load is 240 hours.

For research-based projects, the stages will include conceptualization of project stage, methodological design, ethics application, revision of instruments, data analysis as well as preparing poster presentations, writing up project reports and other deliverables. For development and evaluation-based projects, the stages will include requirement analysis, design of prototype, ethics application, development and implementation of the product, evaluation of the product, poster presentation and report writing. The capstone project will provide an exceptional experience for students to engage in developing their projects, reflecting and mastering knowledge and skills over an extended period of time from December until July. Also, the experience will provide students with an opportunity to be a part of a learning community to collaboratively extend what they have learnt in the programme to both academic research and professional practices outside of the University.