

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

**Credit Unit Statement  
Master of Science in the field of Space Science**

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

**1. General guideline for contact hours requirement in the Master of Science in the field of Space Science**

- (a) A typical 6-credit course has around 120 total study hours, including contact hours, study time, assignment and assessment.
- (b) About 30% of the total study hours are actual contact hours in the form of a class, e.g. lecture and tutorial/discussion hours.
- (c) A 6-credit course has around 24 to a maximum of 36 lecture hours.
- (d) For lecture-based courses, normally there will be tutorial/discussion sessions.
- (e) For courses employing a non-lecture or lab-based approach, such as project-based course, students are expected to devote 120-180 hours for a 6-credit course.

**2. Credit Unit Statement of the Master of Science in the field of Space Science**

Total number of student learning hours for the curriculum is ~1300 hours

The MSc degree in the field of Space Science consists of three major types of courses based on the learning activities. The majority of courses in the programmes are lecture-based, 6 credits. Examples of the contact hour requirements for the three categories of courses are described as follows.

**(a) Lecture-based courses (6 credits)**

Contact hours for 6-credit course: 24-36 hours of lectures and/or tutorials.

These courses are taught predominantly by lectures and tutorials. Assessment is by a combination of examination (0–80%) and continuous assessment (20–100%). Continuous assessment tasks include written assignments (totalling no more than 8,000 words) such as essays and project reports, midterm exams, and oral presentations. Details of the assessment tasks can be found in the description of individual courses.

**(b) Lecture with laboratory component courses (6 credits)**

Contact hours: 30-36 hours of lectures and/or tutorials.

These courses are taught by a combination of lectures and laboratory/practical sessions. Assessment is by a combination of examination (0–80%) and continuous assessment (20–100%). Continuous assessment tasks include coursework (totalling no more than 8,000 words) such as assignments, essays, laboratory reports, project reports, and oral presentations. Details of the assessment tasks can be found in the description of individual courses.

**(c) Project (6 credits)**

Contact hours: 22-24 hours

This course aims to provide students with an opportunity to pursue their own research interest under the supervision of a teacher. The teacher normally meets with the student weekly to discuss project progress. Assessment task (by 100% coursework) is normally through research reports or a dissertation (totalling no more than 15,000 words) (75%), with oral presentation (25%) forming part of the assessment. Details of the assessment tasks can be found in the description of individual courses.