

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

Master of Social Sciences – Behavioral Health

The Master of Social Sciences – Behavioral Health Programme consists of 4 compulsory courses, 4 elective courses, and a practicum or a dissertation. All of the compulsory courses and elective courses are 6-credit courses while the practicum and the dissertation are 12-credit courses. We use 150 hours of student learning activity (including both contact hours and all other forms of student learning activity) as the norm for a 6-credit course, but the contact hours and output requirements for different groups of courses vary according to the learning modes employed. Each 6-credit course consists of at least 30-39 contact hours and each 12-credit course consists of 60-78 contact hours. The total number study load is not less than 1,420 learning hours.

1. Compulsory courses (6 credits)

The 6-credit core courses take the form of one 3-hour lecture or 2-hour lecture plus one 1-hour tutorial each week throughout a regular 12-week semester. Assessment is by various methods including projects, presentations, quizzes and written assignments, totaling about 5,000 words. (100% coursework)

2. Elective courses (6 credits)

Elective courses refer to the elective courses offered by the Department of Social Work and Social Administration at advanced level. Different kinds of standard 6-credit elective courses offered normally take the form of one 3-hour lecture or 2-hour lecture plus one 1-hour tutorial each week throughout a regular 12-week semester. Assessment is by various methods including projects, presentations, quizzes and written assignments, totally about 5,000 words. (100% coursework)

3. Practicum (12 credits)

Students are required to complete a practicum or a dissertation. The practicum comprises 200 hours of prescribed work in healthcare settings under guidance by a supervisor, plus at least 20 hours of tutorials. It will last for two semesters, for a total of 12 credits. Assessment is by various methods including continuous assessment by the supervisor, individual self-reflection paper of about 1,000 words and a final group report of not more than 10,000 words. (100% coursework)

4. Dissertation (12 credits)

Students are required to complete a practicum or a dissertation. The dissertation demonstrates the student's ability to apply sound research methodology to investigate problems relevant to the field of study. It will last for two semesters, for a total of 12 credits. The title of the dissertation shall be submitted for approval by not later than March 31 of the final academic year of study, and the

dissertation shall be presented by not later than June 30 of the final academic of study. The length of the dissertation shall not exceed 20,000 words. (100% coursework)