

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Credit Unit Statement (CUS) of Taught Programmes

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| Faculty / Offering Unit: | <u>Faculty of Social Sciences</u> |
| Programme title: | <u>Masters of Social Science in the field of Population and Policy Analysis</u> |
| Applicable student cohort(s): | <u>Admitted in the academic year 2025-26 and thereafter</u> |

The Master of Social Sciences in the field of Population and Policy Analysis consists of three different categories of courses: (i) compulsory courses, (ii) elective courses, and (iii) capstone project, as outlined below.

Students are required to successfully complete a total of 60 credits, including 5 compulsory courses and 3 disciplinary courses (6 credits each), plus a capstone project (12 credits). Generally, the contact hours and study load for each 6-credit course are 150 hours (including 30-39 contact hours, and around 111-120 hours of other forms of student learning activities), the exact contact hours and output requirements for different categories of courses vary according to the learning modes employed. Students should meet with their supervisor for around 12 hours in total for the 12-credit capstone project.

In total, the contact hours of the Master of Social Sciences in the field of Population and Policy Analysis range from 252 to 324 hours, and the total study load is around 1452 hours.

1. Compulsory disciplinary courses (6 credits)

The Master of Social Sciences in the field of Population and Policy Analysis requires five compulsory courses. Teaching normally takes the form of a 3-hour lecture or a mixture of lectures, tutorials, workshops and seminars each week throughout a regular semester. Outputs normally come in a mix of in-class or take-home essays, projects and presentations, plus in-class tests and/or examinations, totalling around 4,000-6,000 words. (50-100% coursework, 0-50% exam)

2. Elective disciplinary courses (6 credits)

The Master of Social Sciences in the field of Population and Policy Analysis requires three elective courses. Students should take at least two elective courses offered by the programme, with the possibility to take one elective course from a list of selected courses offered by other programmes in the Faculty of Social Sciences. Teaching normally takes the form of a 3-hour lectures or a mixture of lectures, tutorials, workshops, and seminars each week throughout a regular semester. Outputs normally come in a mix of in-class or take-home essay, project and presentation, reports, plus in-class test, totalling around 4,000-6,000 words. (50-100% coursework, 0-50% exam)

3. Capstone project (12 credits)

The capstone project course is a component of the Master of Social Sciences in the field of Population and Policy Analysis to integrate and apply the knowledge and skills that students have acquired through the programme under the supervision of a teacher. Students will be in regular one-to-one consultation or small group meetings with their teacher (about 12 supervision hours), but are

expected to spend much of their time on research and writing. The total student learning activities are around 252 hours. Assessment takes the form of a presentation and a written project of a reasonable length, about 10,000 – 15,000 words. (100% coursework).