

Appendix IV Credit Unit Statements

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

Master of Social Sciences in the field of Sustainability Leadership and Governance

The Sustainability Leadership and Governance programme shall extend over not less than one and not more than two academic years of full-time study; or not less than two and not more than three academic years of part-time study. Students are required to complete 60 credits, including 6 compulsory courses (6 credits each), 4 elective courses (3 credits each) and a capstone (12 credits). We adopt the norm of 150 hours of student learning activity (including both 36 contact hours and 114 hours for all other forms of student learning activity) for a 6-credit course. A 3-credit course and 12-credit course contains 75 and 240 hours of total student learning activity including 18 and 72 contact hours respectively. The total study load is around 1,500 hours.

Compulsory courses (6 credits)

A 6-credit compulsory course usually include a total of 36 hours of lecture / site visit / in-class activities such as discussion, case studies, seminar, debates in one semester. Assessment methods include essay, paper, report and presentation prepared by students working either individually or in groups depending on the learning objectives, with a total of approximately 2,000-5,000 words. (100% coursework)

Elective courses (3 credits)

A 3-credit elective course usually comprises a total of 18 hours of lecture / site visit / discussion with guest speakers in one semester. Assessment methods include essay, paper, report and presentation prepared by students working either individually or in groups depending on the learning objectives, with a total of approximately 2,000-5,000 words. (100% coursework)

Capstone experience course (12 credits)

The Capstone Project will provide the students with the opportunity to apply what they have learned in the classroom to real-life problem-solving concerning different sustainability challenges. Students in their group will work with a particular stakeholder in relevant professional community. The Capstone Project is a group-based learning-in-action exercise undertaken by a group of four students, with a focus on the development of planning, critical thinking and creativity skills. The Project lasts for two semesters, worth a total of 12 credits with 6 credits in the first semester and another 6 credits in the second semester, with a total of 72 contact hours and assessment milestones along the 10 month timeline that are recognised in the final grade after students have completed the full-year course. The capstone report shall be submitted by June 30 of the final year of study. The length of the capstone shall not exceed 20,000 words. Assessment methods include progress report, presentation and a capstone project report. (100% coursework)